

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES**

**November 27, 2006**

**PRESENT:**

Douglas W. Lyon, Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Mark Kaplan, Selectman  
Ruth I. Clough, Selectman  
Jessie Levine, Town Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

DJ Lavoie, New London resident  
Carolyn Dube, Argus Champion  
Debbie Cross, Intertown Record

Chair Lyon called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Meeting Minutes: Ms. Clough moved to approve the minutes of November 14, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Kaplan and approved 3-0.

Carbon Coalition: Ms. Levine referred to information from the Carbon Coalition, who will meet with the Selectmen on December 4, 2006. Ms. Levine said that Jim Rubens had given a presentation on the Coalition to the Rotary Club, leading up to the Coalition's push for a resolution to be included with the Town Meeting warrant.

Quicklink: Ms. Levine said that she would like to start working on the next Quicklink newsletter. The Selectmen suggested that the newsletter should include updates on: the roundabout, reverse 911, the easements at New London Inn and the lagoon property, the sewer department, recreation programs, tasers, and solid waste.

Pay Night Dinner: Ms. Levine referred to the Fire Department's request to serve alcohol during the Pay Night Dinner on December 4, 2006, pursuant to the Town's alcohol policy. Mr. Kaplan moved to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Clough and approved 3-0. The Selectmen noted that this will be Peter Stanley's last Pay Night Dinner as Fire Chief, although his retirement will not be until the spring.

Meeting Schedule: Ms. Levine said that she has a conflict with the December 11 Selectmen's meeting. The Selectmen cancelled the meeting.

Budget Committee: Mr. Kaplan reported on the Budget Committee meeting of November 15, which is continued to November 29. He said there was a good discussion with Police Chief David Seastrand about the tasers, and Chief Seastrand had described the steps and gradations of force. Mr. Kaplan said he expects that the baton will "go by the wayside" once tasers are incorporated into the Police Department's arsenal. The Selectmen discussed the merits of tasers in terms of officer safety and safety to the subject. Ms. Lavoie asked how much the tasers cost, and Ms. Levine said they are about \$1200-1500 apiece, or about \$18,000 total. She has recommended purchasing tasers for part-time officers at the same time. Chair Lyon said that makes sense from a training standpoint as well. Ms. Lavoie asked why, if the anticipated use of tasers is expected to go down with public knowledge, do we need to provide a taser for every officer? Chair Lyon replied that the Town would like every officer to have the taser when needed. Mr. Kaplan said if the odds of using the taser decrease, that is great, but he is not willing to risk the

officer's safety by not having him assigned a taser. Ms. Levine said she thinks the tasers should be treated like part of an officer's uniform, so that the officer is responsible for training, maintenance, and use of the weapon. Chair Lyon asked, "what's the alternative?" Mr. Kaplan said that he hopes good things will happen and bad things won't happen, but it is "our job" to provide the officers with the necessary equipment and proper training. Chair Lyon said that with respect to potential lawsuits, in the ten years that he's been a Selectman, the New London Police Department has never been accused of excessive force and has only been sued in one instance, and in that case the perpetrator had a gun.

Solid Waste: Ms. Levine said that she and Richard Lee were planning to visit the Berlin landfill on Wednesday, with the Meredith Public Works director. Mr. Kaplan said he would like to attend as well. Mr. Kaplan discussed the resolution of the NH District and the vote needed at Town Meeting.

There being no further public business, Mr. Kaplan moved to go into non-public session to discuss a real estate negotiation pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (d). Upon returning from non-public session, the Selectmen discussed a potential agreement with the New London Outing Club regarding the Recreation Director's time, and the Sewer Department meeting scheduled for later this afternoon.

**Building Permits:**

- John and Ruth Clough, 306 Whitney Brook Road (Map 039, Lot 007), permit for installation of new window in front of house – Approved (Permit 06-144) (Ms. Clough abstained)
- Town of New London, Elkins Beach (Map 077, Lot 012), permit to excavate gasoline impacted soil from town property adjacent to Pleasant Lake – Approved (Permit 06-145)
- Leroy Johnson, LLC, 353 Main Street (Map 084, Lot 089), permit to install warming hut for New London Inn, Town of New London Recreation Department, Dedicated Hut in "Memory of Bob Andrews" – Approved (Permit 06-146)

**Sign Permit Applications:**

- Temporary Sign Permit for the New London Historical Society for a 6 square foot sandwich board sign to be placed at the Information Booth indicating "Historical Society Holiday Open House" on Sunday, December 3, 2006 from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM – Approved
- Temporary Sign Permit for the First Baptist Church, 461 Main Street, for two sandwich board signs to be placed in front of the church and information booth indicating "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" on Saturday, December 2, 2006 at 7:00 PM and Sunday, December 3, 2006 at 4:00 PM - Approved
- Permanent Sign Permit for The Banks Gallery, 35 Newport Road, for two 8 square foot signs, one on existing sign post and the other on the building face indicating "The Banks Gallery American Art" - Approved

**Other Items for Signature:**

- Disbursement & Payroll Vouchers for the week of November 20 and 27, 2006 – Approved
- Department of Environmental Services Application for Annual Installment of State Grant Form 486-4 – Approved
- Warrant Yield Tax Levy for the State of New Hampshire - Approved

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There being no further business, the Board of Selectmen adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie W. Levine  
Town Administrator