



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES November 30, 2009

PRESENT:

Larry Ballin, Chair
Mark Kaplan, Selectman
Tina Helm, Selectman
Jessie Levine, Town Administrator

ALSO PRESENT:

Russell Aney, Energy Committee
Bob and DJ Lavoie, New London residents
Allison McLean, New London resident
Jay Lyon, Fire Chief
Richard Lee, Public Works Director
Chris Currier, Police Detective
Sandra Licks, Tracy Library Director
Megan McDaniel, Tracy Library Head of Adult Services
Carolyn Fraley, Finance Officer
Tom Cottrill, Planning Board Chair
Karen Ebel, Planning Board
John Tilley, Planning Board, Alternate
Emma Crane, Conservation Commission/Planning Board
Michael Doheny, Planning Board
Debbie Cross, the Villager

Chair Ballin called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Town Lighting Conversion: Russell Aney from the Energy Committee was given the floor to give a brief presentation of his findings for a possible Town building lighting conversion. Mr. Aney started off by explaining that Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) has a program that allows its customers to receive free lighting audits. For the Town of New London, he requested audits for all of the municipal buildings. About a month ago they walked through almost all of the buildings to find opportunities for cost-effective lighting measures that could be taken to conserve energy and save money. The lighting service vendor being used by PSNH determines, based on the current fixtures, if they can replace them with modern fixtures or lamps that will yield a reduction in the energy costs. Mr. Aney said that they have to determine the current usage for the fixtures in question, as it doesn't cost anything if the fixture is not being used. The longer a light is being used, however, the more opportunity there is to save money by installing the new lower-energy consuming lamps. Atlantic Energy Solutions was the company that prepared the report of the findings. Mr. Aney gave a portion of the audit to the Board of Selectmen and those attending the meeting to review.

Mr. Aney said that in walking through the buildings, they noted that the Town Office did not have any really good cost-effective opportunities from a lighting perspective, since the renovation in 2000 addressed most of the lighting needs. Surprisingly, they found the majority of light savings potentials in the Fire Station, which was also recently renovated. He explained that while they don't keep their lights

on all the time, the lowest-costing lighting fixtures were used to help save money, initially. Mr. Aney said that although the fixtures were the lowest cost, they were not the lowest cost to operate. He said that they would like to replace some of the lights with compact fluorescence.

Based on this audit, it was Mr. Aney's belief that over \$2,000 and perhaps as much as \$5,000 per year could be saved on the Town's electric bill. After rebates, the investment would be paid back over 1.2 years. Given the life span of these measures, it represents 5-10 years of value. Atlantic Energy Solutions suggested pursuing the areas in the Town which were numerated on the first page of the report.

Mr. Aney noted that this program includes PSNH paying for half for the upgrade, which at a total cost of about \$15,000, would bring the Town's responsibility to \$7,700. This balance could be paid for a number of ways. The Town could pay cash out of their own funds. It could also be paid for through PSNH's "Smart Start" program that includes a 0% financing program. When using this program, however, PSNH takes 10% from the rebate amount and adds on a 5% fee. Mr. Aney added that the balance could be paid by putting 100% of the energy savings towards paying down the loan amount. He explained that they could take 25% of the energy savings as cash flow for the Town and use the remaining savings to pay down the loan. Mr. Aney opined that this would not be a bad thing to do but that they still have to run the numbers to see what makes the most sense.

Ms. Levine commented that there is currently \$25,000 remaining in the Town's Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, and the Selectmen are agents to expend that fund, so they could vote to use it for this project. Ms. Helm asked if there were any other demands for these funds. Ms. Levine said that there were not any demands for the remainder of 2009.

Chair Ballin asked if the rebates were for materials only. Mr. Aney said that the rebate also included installation of the products from engineers that were hired by Atlantic Energy Solutions.

Chair Ballin asked about maintenance of these new measures. Mr. Aney said there are warranties from the manufacturers and also a "yes" warranty. He noted that it was all spelled out in the terms of the contract. Mr. Aney added that PSNH also has a 50/50 program, based on a prescriptive measure or price. He explained that there were competitive lighting contractors who were able to get a rebate of 30-35% off of their own pricing. Sometimes those prices are less than the 50% off what PSNH could offer. Mr. Aney said that they have two more free energy audits going on this week and either could be financed through the Smart Start program. He said that PSNH hoped to have this work, if hired, completed by the end of the year. Chair Ballin asked how long they expected to take making the improvements. Mr. Aney said that it would take only a couple of days.

Chair Ballin asked the Department Heads in the room for their opinions. Fire Chief Jay Lyon said that as far as energy savings goes, this was a great thing to do. He explained that motion sensors could be used in the fire house so that the lights would go off when no one was there. He felt this suggested feature would be very worthwhile and money-saving. Mr. Aney noted that the upgrade does cover both fixtures and controls. Richard Lee, Public Works Director, said that new fixtures would be useful.

Mr. Lavoie asked if the replacement lighting would be of the same lumens. Mr. Aney said it would, but some other methods of lighting would be used such as high performance TA fixtures and Compact Fluorescence. He explained that they do not cover portable fixtures such as desk or floor lamps. For these upgrades, the Town can purchase subsidized compact fluorescence lights, separately.

Chair Ballin said that they wouldn't agree on anything at this time, as they may find a more attractive number later in the week after the other audits had been completed. The Board will wait to hear the results of other proposals from Mr. Aney. Chair Ballin felt the Board needed to talk about it more but

they all felt that it was a good initiative. The entire Board of Selectmen and Ms. Levine thanked Mr. Aney for taking the time to investigate this project.

Permission to Use the Transfer Station: Allison McLean noted that she was speaking on behalf of the Kearsarge Middle School Ski Team, which was in the midst of fundraising that she had gotten involved with just a few days ago. She explained that the ski team was in the process of starting a fundraising program to pay for bibs and other materials and equipment needed to participate in the ski program. Ms. McLean explained that the ski team was a popular club that was sponsored by the school. She said that there were 30 kids on the team this year and that each of the seven towns in the district were represented by kids on the team. Ms. McLean said that one of the fundraising ideas was to have a "Penny Drive," where buckets and other containers are provided for people to throw their spare change into, throughout the stores in the area. They also hoped to put some students at the Transfer Station from 9 AM - noon on Saturday, looking for people to provide donations. Their thought was to have about 4-5 kids at the Station with parent supervision. The kids would have signs and containers and would ask for donations. She realized earlier this week that they needed Town permission to use the Transfer Station, and also found out that a permit was required for fundraising events.

Chair Ballin said that although he applauded the initiative of the youngsters and parents, he did not think that the Transfer Station was a good place to do such a thing. He said that it was a very busy place, especially on Saturdays, and already was a bottleneck. He opined that they don't need more confusion in that area. He was concerned with safety issues with the students. Chair Ballin said that there were good places in Town to do this sort of fundraising, but he wasn't sure that the Transfer Station was one of them. Ms. McLean said that she understood Chair Ballin's sentiments and said that she also had some of the same feelings. She noted that the ski team had this idea and she was asked to seek permission from the Board of Selectmen. Chair Ballin said that he would be concerned if something unfortunate happened. Ms. McLean said that she would convey this to the team.

Ms. Levine explained that if they were only going to leave jars at stores, no permit was required, but if there would be an actual event, such as students seeking donations from individuals, then a permit would be required. Tom Cottrill, Planning Board Chair, asked if the politicians who go to the Transfer Station to promote themselves have to get permission from the Town. Chair Ballin said that they do not; they just show up.

Ms. Helm said she was very concerned with kids weaving in and out of cars. She would support them fundraising around Hannaford or the Colonial Pharmacy. She congratulated the fact that they want the kids to be a part of the acquisition of the money and not just sticking a jar somewhere. Mr. Kaplan agreed with the comments that were given. Ms. McLean thanked the Board of Selectmen for listening to her request.

Non-Public Session: At approximately 6:20 PM, Chair Ballin moved to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91:A-3 II (c): "Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting." The purpose of the non-public session was to discuss the contract with the Town Planner. Roll call: Ballin – yes; Helm – yes; Kaplan – yes. Chair Ballin invited the Planning Board members present into the non-public meeting. Everyone else departed the room.

The Board of Selectmen returned to public session at 7:00 PM and noted their decision to support the Planning Board's request to reinstate the Town Planner budget to no higher than \$20,000, and to work with the Planning Board over the following year on possible staff changes.

Approval of Minutes from November 16, 2009: Mr. Kaplan and Ms. Helm both noted minor editorial changes to the minutes. IT WAS MOVED (Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Helm) to approve the minutes from the Board of Selectmen's meeting on November 16, 2009, as amended. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Employee Benefits: Ms. Levine said that this issue had arisen since LGC increased health insurance premiums by 16.4% for 2010, which amounted to just about a \$90,000 increase in the Town. She had agreed to find some other options for insurance and was ready to present her findings. Ms. Levine noted that Town employees had been great and had met several times to discuss the issue. She said that many of them also responded to a survey regarding making some changes to the insurance. Ms. Levine explained that most people do not want any change to the health plan and would like the Board of Selectmen to support an increase in the budget to cover the increased cost of the premiums. She noted that the Department Heads understood and agreed that it was most likely not the best course of action for either the Town or the employees to ask for this.

Ms. Levine felt strongly that if they kept the current BlueChoice 3-tier plan with the \$10 co-pay and asked for the Town to fund the increase, and without a pay increase, it would end up taking money out of the employees' pocket, as the 16% increase would be shared by both Town and employee. She also felt that increasing the employee's share of the premium would be very costly to the employee and not of much benefit to the Town.

Carolyn Fraley and Ms. Levine have met with representatives from Primex and LGC and were able to analyze the other plans available. Ms. Levine said that she has created many spreadsheets and has analyzed all the options to a high degree. Her ultimate recommendation, which was supported by the Department Heads, was to offer two choices of plans: one choice would be changing from Blue Cross 3-tier, \$10 co-pay program, to a Blue Cross 2-tier, \$20 co-pay plan, and keeping the existing cost share allocation to 2% for a single employee, and 8% above that for a two-person or family plan; and the second choice would be a Matthew Thornton HMO with a \$20 co-pay, which is a less expensive plan. She suggested creating an incentive to choose this plan, such as the Town paying more of the premium. She suggested that the Town pay 98% for a single employee and 95% for a two-person or family plan.

Both of these recommendations were on a spreadsheet that Ms. Levine distributed to the meeting attendees and the Board of Selectmen. She added that since the employees met this afternoon, she had also looked at a Matthew Thornton \$5 co-pay plan, and she added this option to the spreadsheet. Ms. Levine noted that the three shaded columns showed the employee share of plans, and the two columns at the end showed the financial impact to the Town from the various plans. Her recommendation was to offer the two choices coupled with a merit pay increase for 2010. Ms. Levine reminded the board that in 2009, employees did take bigger impact due to a reduction of prescription benefits in the health insurance plan, which saved the Town \$30,000 last year, and employees were given a very modest pay increase of 1.2%. As the deductions from the employee's paychecks increase, she'd like to keep employees on track and does not want them to fall back. She said she was not asking for a cost of living adjustment, but would like to couple the health insurance with a merit pay increase. Ms. Levine noted that she would like to have a 1.5% increase, and perhaps even a little more.

Ms. Levine noted that \$41,000 was removed from the budget earlier this year for merit pay. If not all employees wanted to move to the Matthew Thornton HMO and moved to the 2-tier plan, the worst case exposure to the Town would be a \$70,000 increase as opposed to the \$90,000 increase it would be to keep the current plan. She noted that none of the options, except deductible plans, would save money for the Town this year; it was a matter of keeping the increase as low as possible while still giving the Town employees a good health plan.

Ms. Levine noted that if they kept the same plan but increased the employees' contribution only 0.5%, it would pose a much greater out-of-pocket expense to the employees, but would only give the Town a \$1700 savings. Chair Ballin asked if it was shown anywhere an increase for the two proposed plans from last year. Ms. Levine stated that the LGC increase calculated per year was town-by-town, not plan by plan, so it was likely that the Matthew Thornton plan increased by 16.4% as well. Chair Ballin asked if they were possibly jumping onto something that may go up next year as well. Ms. Levine said that the same actuarial process was figured on the whole pool rather than a plan by plan, so any health plan that the Town chooses could ultimately be subject to the same percentage increase. Ms. Levine noted that the Town had already adopted the least costly (to the Town) prescription plan, so there are no more options available to reduce the cost in that area.

Ms. Levine added that the figures she was presenting included the buy-out of employees who chose not to use any health plan offered by the Town. She explained that the Town pays the employee 50% of the cost of the premium for the plan to the employee. They pay the employee cash for half what the premium would have been if they stayed on the Town's plan, which still saves the Town money. She explained that under the current rates, buy-out costs totaled \$42,000 per year, which represented \$84,000 per year in premiums. Ms. Levine noted that there would still be a buy-out increase because even the less expensive plan in 2010 was an increase over the current plan.

Ms. Levine said that the employees were not necessarily supportive of the proposal that she is bringing to the Selectmen tonight. Their rationale to stay with the current plan was that when last year's health rates went up, the Board of Selectmen changed the prescription plan, increasing the employees' out-of-pocket expenses and saving \$30,000 for the Town. In 2009, the premiums actually went down by 5.8%, so if were to average out last year's change with this year's, it would be a two-year average of 5.3% increase, compared to 7.2% over five years and 9.8% over the past 12 years.

Percentage Increases in:	Health	Dental
1999	9.7%	12.6%
2000	5%	4%
2001	9.3%	9.5%
2002	27.5%	0%
2003	5%	5.2%
2004	8.9%	9.3%
2005	15.8%	3.6%
2006	5.8%	4.2%
2007	12%	0%
2008	7.8%	2.6%
2009	-5.8%	3.7%
2010	16.4%	5.5%
Overall average	9.8%	5.0%
5-year average	7.2%	3.2%
2-year average	5.3%	4.6%

Employees took a hit last year with the prescription plan, and this year's increase is not high when one takes into account last year's substantial decrease. Ms. Levine noted that on the bottom right-hand side of the spreadsheet, there were some anonymous remarks from employees on how last year's change in the prescription plan impacted them:

Impact of changing from 3/15 to 10/20/45 Prescription Plan in 2009:

- \$20/year to \$280/year
- \$150 increase
- \$4/year to \$180/year (employee could not afford the increase and is now receiving a less effective generic drug at \$40/year)
- \$72/year to \$220/year
- \$16/year to \$320/year
- \$482 increase
- \$600 increase

Chair Ballin asked Carolyn Fraley, Finance Officer, how much a problem it would be to manage two healthcare programs for the employees. She remarked that initially it could be complicated but after it was up and running, it would not be a problem. Chair Ballin asked if they would be sacrificing the time that the Town has spent with current vendor. Ms. Levine said they would still stay with LGC. She added that employees would have to fill out paperwork to get new cards for the new programs, but other than that there should not be much administrative burden.

Ms. Levine reviewed the plan options again, noting that Sunapee offers the Matthew Thornton plan with a \$5 co-pay, which means less out-of-pocket for employees. The employees' annual share is a little higher but they are trying to give their employees an option of a lower annual premium but it is a trade-off between a lower co-pay and lower premium.

Chair Ballin asked for comments from audience. Ms. Fraley said that she thought that offering a choice between two plans was a fair way to go about it and that it was a good choice.

Chair Ballin felt it was a good choice as well. He opined that insurance was very expensive and that it was a wonderful and valuable benefit for employees. He hoped it would help to retain employees. He said that it would be great to pay the whole thing but that they are also responsible to taxpayers to not push their budgets out of line with their tax bill. He applauded Ms. Levine for the work she has put into this so far and was hoping that the employees would buy into it.

Ms. Levine said that this proposal did not go over well with the employees. Chair Ballin said that it was to be expected. He opined that the HMO was a better way to manage people's own healthcare issues. Ms. Fraley noted that employees could always try it for a year and go back to something else if they don't like it. Ms. Levine said that it is frustrating for employees to think that the healthcare programs could change every year. Ms. Fraley said many towns and businesses switch yearly. Ms. Levine said she asked Ethan Ballin, who is an employee in Franklin, and he said that Franklin seems to have changed their plan every year. She said that from the employees' perspective, the worst part is the uncertainty of the process. It is currently unknown whether the Board of Selectmen was going to support the proposal, and if they do, whether the Budget Committee will go along with it. She suggested that the Selectmen need to make their decision and present it to the Budget Committee and stick to that decision. She said that she was glad that employees had come to the meetings to see the process play out.

Chair Ballin said that he was in favor of the two vendors and also the merit pay increase because the employees deserve it. He felt that they should craft the merit raise as sort of a bonus at the end of the year or in the middle of the year as opposed to a raise. Ms. Levine asked why he felt this way. Mr. Ballin said that bonuses do have an actuarial increase as a raise does so that the pay would not be cumulative. Ms. Levine said that was exactly why she has proposed a merit raise so that salaries do continue to increase annually and employees do not fall behind in their salary. She said that recently a survey of pay increases in other towns was distributed, which she will share with the Selectmen. While very few towns are

granting a cost-of-living adjustment, other towns are still giving pay increases related to merits and step programs. For example, Sunapee is budgeting a 2.5% step in 2010, and last year gave both a 2.5% step and a 4% cost-of-living adjustment, compared to New London's 1.2% adjustment. Ms. Levine said that Newbury is also budgeting a 2% merit increase in 2010.

Mark Kaplan asked if there was any difference in the two plans in terms of service. If the employee wanted to go to a certain hospital or doctor, was that still an option or will they lose out by switching? Ms. Levine said that she has suggested that employees talk to their Primary Care Provider (PCP) about this. Those moving to the two-tier Blue Cross program should not have to change doctors because it would still be covered. If they go out of network they'll have to pay a higher deductible. Matthew Thornton requires a PCP referral for everything, but most healthcare providers in this area take Matthew Thornton. Mr. Kaplan asked if employees understood that. Ms. Levine believed they did.

Chris Currier said that there was some concern among employees who have upcoming appointments and surgeries that had been planned already for next year. They were uncertain how to proceed as far as when this changeover happens and how things that are already scheduled would occur. Ms. Levine explained that January 1 would be the trigger date on the changeover. She recommended that employees talk to their healthcare providers and also use LGC if there were any problems with the plans as they are their advocates. Ms. Levine also noted for the Selectmen that another reason for a raise instead of a bonus was that as of January 1 these increased healthcare costs will come out of the employees' paychecks, and there will not be any salary adjustments until after Town Meeting in March.

Chair Ballin asked if Ms. Levine was looking for a vote on this issue tonight. Ms. Levine said that she was. She would like to be able to include this information at the next Budget Meeting slated for December 14.

IT WAS MOVED (Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Helm) to move forward with the two choices of health plans recommended for Town employees. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED (Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Helm) to recommend to the Budget Committee a merit increase of 1.5% per employee. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. Ms. Levine noted that she would return with more specific salary requests. Mr. Kaplan said that he was glad that this increase was asked for because this health care increase was a big one and the employees would have to bear a big burden otherwise.

FEMA Flood Map Resolution: Ms. Levine noted that a resolution was necessary to adopt the new FEMA flood maps. The Board of Selectmen approved and signed the resolution.

Pleasant Lake Dam: Ms. Levine distributed a copy of a letter from NH Department of Environmental Services regarding the upgraded classification of the Pleasant Lake Dam. She is going to respond in writing and ask for an extension for one year so they can budget for engineering costs in 2011 instead of 2010. The State sent a letter to the Town on October 28, 2009, based on an inspection that had been done in June 2008. The letter stated that if they disagreed with the terms mandated, that the Town could hire an engineer to appeal the State's decision and show that it is not a dam of the level they have deemed it.

2010 CAC Meeting Schedule: The Board of Selectmen set the following CAC dates for 2010 and noted that they are subject to change: Feb. 6, March 6, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, Sept 11, Oct 9, Nov 13, and Dec 11. The meetings are to begin at 7:30 AM in the Syd Crook Conference Room at the Town Office. Chair Ballin said that these dates would be given at the next CAC meeting. He felt that they should tentatively go with 2nd Saturday of each month.

Del Guidice – Interest Abatement Request: Chair Ballin explained that this was a request to abate interest accrued on real estate taxes due to a late-paid tax bill. He didn't see that it warranted the Selectmen granting an abatement. Mr. Kaplan said that such things happen when papers are passed around June 1 when the tax bills go out. He said that it was quite possible that the tax bill went to the seller who received a check for the property taxes and doesn't feel responsible to forward the tax bill to the new owner. The new owner, who didn't receive the bill, was not notified. Mr. Kaplan said that this is really the lawyer's responsibility to handle this matter and it is not the Town's responsibility. The lawyers need to be responsible. Chair Ballin agreed. He added that it is the responsibility of the people who are at the closing. It is not the problem of the Town so they should deny the request.

IT WAS MOVED (Helm) AND SECONDED (Kaplan) to deny the interest abatement request by the Del Guidices. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Single-Stream Recycling: Ms. Levine said that she has some additional information requested by the Selectmen. Chair Ballin said that he would like more discussion with Richard Lee and John Early prior to making a decision. Mr. Kaplan said he wanted more information on the subject. He felt it would cost a lot of money. Ms. Levine handed out additional information. She noted that there would be increases in recycling and for the tipping fee, if it was charged. She said that if they recycle 25% more, they would have increased their cost avoidance and paid less to dispose of the recyclables than trash.

Ms. Levine said she didn't feel they would increase recycling without going to either "Pay as You Throw" or Single Stream Recycling and shared that they have been trying to come up with ways to increase recycling in the Town for years. She felt this was a good way to make it happen. Chair Ballin's concern was that they not sign a long-term agreement with the Coop to avoid being responsible for capital charges for incinerator maintenance, etc. as well as for money lost in real estate investments they've made in the past. He said he was okay with the idea but had some questions of validity of what they were really doing with the materials that they are receiving as recyclables. He wondered if it was being sent overseas or whether it was being pushed off a ship somewhere in the ocean.

Mr. Kaplan said that there are currently 500+ tons of materials that the Town is getting paid for to recycle. By joining in this program, they are taking 500 tons away and getting nothing for it. Ms. Levine disagreed and said that there is the prospect for revenue from the single stream project, and there is currently no or very little revenue coming in from the regular markets. Mr. Kaplan went on to share that New London has a history of considerable money being recovered from saving or recycling. He opined that in addition to possibly losing the revenue from the Town's recycling efforts, the cost to transport the waste will cost the Town more. He wanted an analysis of the transportation costs and said that his point was that they have a great many people in Town who are segregating their recyclables. As soon as they don't have to do that any more (for single stream recycling) the separating of the items still have to be done. Someone still has to do it. He felt that no gain would be made by doing this.

Ms. Levine responded that this program wasn't being suggested in order to make a financial gain. She said that it depended on what the goals were. Was the revenue important or was reducing the waste stream that goes to the landfill important? She opined that single stream can help reduce the amount going to the landfill. If it was viewed as a way to maximize revenue, it would not work. She said that it was not a profit maker but it should decrease what is being sent to the land fill at \$68/ton.

Chair Ballin asked if this was a good time to introduce the "Pay as You Throw" and "Single Stream." He noted that the volume of trash going to the landfill would decrease dramatically. He also commented that he wasn't opposed to a user-based or fee-based structure. Ms. Levine shared that Mr. Lee suggested introducing the Single Stream program first and then "Pay as You Throw" next.

Chair Ballin said that they hadn't met much resistance to charging for E-waste and felt this should be talked about more with Mr. Lee. He opined that maybe this was a time to come up with a long-term discussion about trash and waste. Ms. Helm asked for more information about the "Pay as You Throw" program. Ms. Levine suggested inviting Liz Bedard, who was very familiar with this topic, come and talk to them at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Main Street & 10-Year Plan: Chair Ballin announced that due to their hard work, they are back on the 10-year plan for the State to repair Main Street. He and Mr. Kaplan went to a meeting a week ago and had prepared a plea to the Department of Transportation (DOT) to put Main Street back on the list. Before they could state their case, they were notified that Main Street had been put back on the list. Chair Ballin said that one thing that weighed heavily on this decision from the DOT was the fact that the Town was willing to be an active partner to get the project done. Chair Ballin said that they have been put into the program for \$2 million and the State has added \$40 million statewide. Chair Ballin said that they need to understand that New London is ready to go. If the State decides to do it next spring, they need to know that New London will jump through hoops to make it happen.

Mr. Kaplan noted the next important meeting is to be held December 9 at which the DOT will finalize the list. Chair Ballin said that both he and Mr. Kaplan will go to the meeting in Concord to make sure that New London is not bumped again. Ms. Levine was asked to check to make sure the meeting would be at 2 PM at the DOT building. Ms. Helm said that she may be able to attend if her schedule would allow.

Colby-Sawyer College Generator: Ms. Levine referred to the memo that she submitted to the Board of Selectmen asking that instead of buying a portable generator out of the FEMA funds, that the Town contribute to a permanent generator to support Colgate Hall and the radio station that could be used in another emergency. The money to be used for this would come from the FEMA funds they received.

IT WAS MOVED (Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Helm) to approve a contribution towards the purchase of a permanent generator for Colby-Sawyer College, with funds received from FEMA, as described in the memo presented by Ms. Levine. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

PB Meeting Summary: Ms. Helm reviewed the November 10 Planning Board meeting, which Ms. Levine attended and discussed the 2010 CIP. The Conservation Commission wished to cap their land acquisition fund at \$500,000 on their CIP. They would need to reinstate \$119,000 to do that. The Planning Board supported contributing \$25,000 to that fund in 2010. The Planning Board also reviewed the first draft of the Energy Chapter. Considerable discussion was had between the Energy Committee members and the Planning Board and the Energy Committee, along with Town resident Gerry Gold, would like to take some time to rework the content. It was noted that the Energy Committee did not have a strategic plan and felt that the Board of Selectmen might offer the committee some direction in order to move toward a goal of approving such a plan. They wanted to have a directive from the Board of Selectmen to say "create a strategic plan." There were some changes to upcoming Planning Board meetings. The November 24 meeting would start at 7:00 PM not 7:30 PM due to a lengthy agenda. The next Master Plan meeting would be held on December 22, not December 8, to give the Energy Committee time to work on chapter.

Ms. Helm reported that the November 24 Planning Board meeting was quite lengthy. The Clevelands gave the Planning Board permission to submit a mylar and easements for the Colby property, which had never been properly recorded. Peter Stanley spoke to the Planning Board about complying with RSA 676:3 regarding notices of decisions, and he proposed a simple process proposal to make it happen. The Planning Board continued the discussion of 2010 Zoning Amendments and the final draft will be reviewed at the next regular meeting in January. Also, PSNH received permission to cut trees on scenic roads. Requests to cut trees in the shoreland overlay were approved on Lamson Lane and Little Sunapee

Road. New London Hospital's final site plan review was included in the meeting, and Lori Underwood presented areas that had changed from the original site plan. The Planning Board voted to revoke the Milmore Subdivision plat that had been approved in April 1991. They discussed using registered letter return receipt in the future to insure that notices had been received. David Cahill appeared at the Planning Board meeting to request permission to remove nine cottages and holding tanks from his property on Pleasant Lake. Lastly, the 2010 Town Planner Agreement discussion closed the meeting.

Budget Meeting November 16, 2009: There were no comments.

Economic Dev. Committee November 20, 2009: Chair Ballin said that they want to put something into the Master Plan and the Town Report. They discussed the role in the developments in Town that may pop up. The next Economic Development meeting is planned for 10:30am on December 18 with Bruce King. Ms. Helm asked if they would like her to plan to come to the Economic Development meetings. Chair Ballin said she that she was welcome to attend if she was so inclined.

At this time, Mr. Kaplan noted that he had been thinking about the fact that the Selectmen and Ms. Levine have a lot on their plate. He wanted the four of them to think about the upcoming months where they will go through some dramatic changes: the bond for sewer, the donor town legislation, fiscal year changes, including changing town meeting and quarterly payments of taxes, repairs to Main Street, the Elkins grant, sidewalk grant, etc. He said that this lies heavily on Ms. Levine's shoulders. Mr. Kaplan noted that this was all coming up and when each item comes up, there is no way to turn them off. These are large projects that will be done once and not done again and they take a long time. He opined that it wasn't going to be easy. Chair Ballin said that they all knew and understood this. Chair Ballin commented that he agreed with Mr. Kaplan and has full faith that Ms. Levine can handle everything that she has been given, along with her duties at the LGC.

Employee Holiday Gathering Wellness Event: This gathering will be held at 12:00 PM on December 18 at the Flying Goose. Chair Ballin noted that there would be no alcoholic beverages served.

Joint Board of Selectmen's Meeting – December 3 at 5:00 PM – Tracy Library: Chair Ballin noted that regular attendee of these meetings, Bob Wright, had recently experienced the loss of his wife. Her services were planned for the same day as the joint meeting. Ms. Levine said that she would get snacks for the meeting and a card for everyone to sign for Mr. Wright. Chair Ballin noted that Jerry Frew would be at the meeting, and that Russell Aney from the Energy Committee would be there to talk about having an energy audit done of the old middle school.

CAC Meeting – Saturday, December 5 at 7:30 AM: Chair Ballin noted that they had received RSVPs from Randy Foose, Dave Kidder, and Bob Odell. Ms. Helm said that she would not be there. Mr. Kaplan suggested including something on the agenda that brought up the fact that New London was put back on the 10-year DOT project list by acting in their own behalf and to bring to light that the representatives hadn't helped in the matter. It was noted that Randy Foose had voted for the donor town program. Mr. Kaplan said that the CAC members wanted to have the representatives come in to talk to them. Chair Ballin opined that they could have a civil conversation letting them know that New London can get things done with or without them. Ms. Helm noted that the representatives need to be with them on the donor town issue.

Wilmot Selectmen, December 9 at 5:00 PM: Ms. Levine said that she had asked to be on the Wilmot Selectmen's agenda to talk with them about the possibility of extending the sidewalk from the town line to the store. She wanted to let them know that the construction could be done in conjunction with the Town's project.

Sewer Meeting, December 10 at 5:30 PM: Ms. Levine said that this was a key meeting where the engineers would be reporting on preliminary estimates for the project.

Application for Building Permits:

- Amendment – Samantha Brown – 1070 Lakeshore Drive (Map & Lot 065-008-000) reduction of steps and overhang – Permit #09-062 – Approved.
- Amendment – Valerie White – 684 Camp Sunapee Road (Map & Lot 033-016-003) additional bedroom and add to sunroom – Permit #09-119 – Approved.
- Amendment – Steven Landrigan – 22 Milkhouse Road (Map & Lot 122-003-000) ground mount solar panels – Permit #09-125 – Approved.
- David R. Cahill, John MacDonald, Mary Miller – 52 Elkins Road (Map & Lot 077-011-000) remove seven cottages – Permit #09-130 – Approved.
- John & Donna Ferries – 147 South Cove Road (Map & Lot 045-028-000) add storage shed & renovate garage – Permit #09-131 – Approved.
- Pamela J. Sanborn – 180 Burpee Hill Road (Map & Lot 071-025-000) build 10x16 shed – Permit #09-132 – Approved.
- David & Sue Ellen Andrews – 114 Turkey Hill Run (Map & Lot 051-025-000) upgrade roof to standing seam – Permit #09-133 – Approved.
- PSNH – South Pleasant Street (Map & Lot 084-027-000) build new utility substation and control shed – Permit #09-134 – Approved.

Application for use of Sydney Crook Room:

- Adventures in Learning: Wednesday mornings 4/16/2010 – 5/19/2010, Thursday afternoons 4/15/2010 – 5/20/2010, Friday afternoons 4/16/2010 – 5/21/2010

Application for Sign Permit:

- Temporary: NL Area Center for the Arts – sign at Chamber Booth – Stories & Carols Dec. 13, 4:00 PM @ Whipple Town Hall – Approved.
- Temporary: NL Recreation Dept & Wilmot Learning Place – sign at Chamber Booth – Parents Night Out – Dec. 4, 11, & 18 – 5:00PM @ Hogan – Approved.
- Temporary: OCIC – sign at Chamber Booth – Comedy Night 1/16/10 – Approved.

Other:

- Disbursement voucher weeks of November 23 & 30, 2009 - Approved.
- Cartographic Associates, Inc. GIS Services Maintenance Agreement 12/22/09 - 12/21/10 – Approved.
- Resolution – RSA 674:57, Flood Insurance Study – FEMA – Approved.

IT WAS MOVED (Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Helm) to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting of November 30, 2009. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary
Town of New London