



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES October 1, 2012

PRESENT:

Selectmen

Peter Bianchi, Chair

Tina Helm, Selectman

Janet Kidder, Selectman

Kimberly Hallquist, Town Administrator

Wendy Johnson, Finance Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

Dave Seastrand, Police Chief

Doug MacMichael, New London Resident

Bruce Hudson, New London Resident

Linda Hardy, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Richard Lee, Public Works Director

Chad Denning, Recreation Director

Jason Lyon, Fire Chief

Chair Bianchi called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The first item of business was to approve the minutes of September 24, 2012.

IT WAS MOVED (Tina Helm) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve the minutes of September 24, 2012, as amended. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion of Concern from Residents Regarding Target Shooting on Town Property

Ms. Hallquist noted that an abutter of the Shepherd Pit complained that someone was shooting in the pit and that bullets were heard going over their heads and hitting nearby trees. Chief Seastrand said that when the officer responded to the call from the Spear family, he found three people in the pit area. They were not near the shooting range but were closer to the crushed glass pile and were shooting at bottles they placed on the top of the crushed glass pile. The bullets were traveling in the same direction as the Spear's property on Baker Road. The Spears were apparently outside with their horse when they noticed the bullets and promptly went inside. Their assumption was that the police were doing the shooting, as they knew the police had a shooting range in that area.

Chief Seastrand explained that people often go into the pit as they feel that since it is town property, they are allowed to use it to site their guns and shoot. The area is not currently signed for "no trespassing." He felt they needed to get some control of the area so people do not get hurt. Chief Seastrand said that Richard Lee constructed a 3-sided berm for the police department's shooting range, which offers protection to others outside of the area. When unauthorized people use the range, they bring glass and other discarded materials (even microwaves) from the drop-off area, to shoot at. The Police Department often has to clean up a lot of this debris before they are able to use the range. He thought perhaps they could fence in the range and post it for "no trespassing." He thought a large sign that says "Town

Property”, “No Trespassing”, and “Authorized Personnel Only” would be good. It would enable the Police Department to enforce the common misuse of the area.

Chief Seastrand explained that the Spears thought the Police Department were at the range shooting a couple times/week when in fact they only shoot there once or twice/year. However, unauthorized people are apparently using the area with that frequency.

Ms. Helm said that the letter from the resident concerned her. She agreed that they should put some signage up to enable the Police Department to enforce the trespassing. Mr. Lee said that they have locked the gate at the entrance of the range and that authorized people will need to have a key to get into the area to access the crushed glass. Ms. Helm offered that perhaps more patrolling would be necessary in this area. She commented that the increased patrolling on Newport Road has helped cut down on speeding vehicles and felt that increased patrols would work in this instance as well. Chief Seastrand agreed to increase patrols in that area.

Chief Seastrand suggested that the old posts that were at Bucklin Beach could be put in at the range with a fence around the space, and they could post “no trespassing” signs. He said that there are other ways to gain access into the range area (such as from surrounding trails) so they would need to have the area posted with “No Shooting” signs as well. He felt strongly that a large sign on the outside of the range area should be put up to deter people from entering and shooting.

Chair Bianchi asked if there was an easement in place to allow people to use the road running near the range, to get to Sutton. Chief Seastrand said that he believed that the owner of a construction company owned the road and has access to it to get to another pit located beyond Shepherd Pit. This person has a key and will need to continue to have access to the road.

John Schlosser, a resident of Wilmot and President of the Pine Hill Ski Club, said that there is a great amount of recreational traffic that goes through the pit, whether it is for skiing in the winter or people walking their dogs down through to Ken West’s property, year-round. He thought the Board should keep this in mind when creating the wording for the signage in that area. Chief Seastrand said he would not want people walking dogs in that area as he didn’t feel it was a safe place to do so. Between the trucks going in and out to get glass and the possible shooting going on, it is not an ideal place to walk dogs.

Chair Bianchi asked Mr. Schlosser where the participants of the cross-country skiing program park. Mr. Schlosser said they park in Shepherd Pit. He added that this is their 7th year running the program and noted that the trails emanate from the pit. He did not think illegal shooting in the pit was a problem during the winter due to the cold and the amount of cars and people in the area. He opined that if a gate is put across the entrance to the pit, it would surely harm their ski program. Mr. Schlosser said that Shepherd Pit was chosen as the base of their program because it is large enough to accommodate the 65-100 members, who are permitted to ski 7-days/week. It would be a big deal to them if they were not able to use that space to park. Mr. Lee noted that the Public Works Department plows the area in front of the gravel piles in the winter so that they can access the gravel earlier in the spring. This also happens to be where the skiers park. Mr. Schlosser said on a busy day there could be between 20-25 cars parked. During poor skiing conditions, there could be as few as 3-5 cars parked.

Chair Bianchi said they have allowed parking, at no cost, to the Elkins Fish & Game Club in the area near the old dump. Chief Seastrand said he would have no objections to skiers parking in that area. He added that he would be willing to work with Mr. Schlosser and Mr. Lee to find alternative parking in the area. Mr. Schlosser said they have established a good deal of recreation in the Shepherd Pit area. He felt that perhaps 10 cars could park in the area they were discussing, but fewer if snow was added to the equation.

He remarked that the members of the ski club are mostly from New London and Wilmot and that starting the trails from this alternate location would change their trail system. He thought they should consider having signage that says “no shooting” instead of “no trespassing” so they could continue the program, which encompasses 16 miles of trails, groomed by members of the club who take it very seriously.

Ms. Kidder asked Chief Seastrand to think about this issue and come up with a compromise that would work for both parties.

Ms. Helm asked how effective it would be to post “No Shooting” versus “No Trespassing.” Chief Seastrand said he did not know how that would fit into the law. He would have to look into the statutes to see about sign placement and wording. He was willing to work with Mr. Schlosser and Mr. Lee to come to the best solution for everyone.

Mr. Lee said that “No Unauthorized People Allowed” might work as the ski club members could be considered “authorized people” if the Board allowed them to be in the area.

Chair Bianchi said he did not feel that the ski club should be using the town’s property for free in order to make a profit. Mr. Schlosser said that they do not make a profit; they have been registered as a non-profit since 2005, and they have to spend \$1,200/year in insurance. They have to go through many hoops to make sure they can remain as a non-profit. There is money needed to pay for the accountant and the insurance. These funds come from members and users of the program. Mr. Schlosser said that people who ski for the day could give a donation. Kids under 13 ski free. They are always looking for donations to maintain the grooming machines, pay for fuel, etc. The purpose is to provide a service but it requires a fee to be able to do the grooming, and maintain the program. They are trying to replace what NORSK (a cross-country ski operator) was providing, but noted that NORSK was a for-profit entity. Mr. Schlosser shared that the ski club has a \$10,000 per year budget and currently have just \$800 to get the program going this year. He added that they are upstanding citizens who are trying to do a good thing.

Ms. Kidder thought Chief Seastrand should come to an agreement with Mr. Lee and Mr. Schlosser. Chief Seastrand said that they would need to post “skiers must remain on trails at all times” if they want to avoid prohibiting all from that area. Mr. Hudson asked if the trails are used in the summer for hiking. If so, they would need to consider the year-round use of those trails and making the signage appropriate for these circumstances.

Correspondence Regarding the Cost to Remove a Tree within the Town’s Right of Way

Ms. Hallquist explained that it is the town’s policy that if the tree is dead or is in eminent danger of falling onto the roadway, the Town will pay to have it taken down. Mr. Lee said that if it isn’t dead, they won’t take the tree down. He did not know the property owners were going to cut the tree down until they had already done it. The property owners are now asking if the Town would help pay for it because it was full of ants. Mr. Lee said that if the property owners had called before cutting it down and the Town had had a chance to come look at it, they might have been able to split the cost with the owner. He noted that over the last few years there has been an average of about \$14,000 spent on tree take-downs. The Town pays the cost to cut the tree down, haul it away, and grind down the stump. The owner is asking for an after-the-fact sharing of the cost of the takedown of this one tree.

Mr. Lee said he did not know if the owner knew that the town should be involved. Dave Carey took down this tree for them. Mr. Lee said in the past, they have split the bill with the property owner if it is determined that the tree was a danger to the roadway. He suggested the owner break down the invoice into what that one tree cost to take down, as they had two trees taken down in total. Mr. Lee said he thought the tree take-down portion of his budget was about half spent.

Ms. Helm suggested that after the breakdown of the cost is provided to the Board of Selectmen, the Board could discuss the matter further.

Discussion Regarding Correspondence from a Resident who fell Over a Speed Bump at KRES

The Board noted receipt of a letter from a citizen who fell over a speed bump on school property. The person was under the impression that the town installed the speed bump and should have done a better job lighting the area to avoid such mishaps. The citizen is now aware that the town has no control over the area in question and he has been assured that there would be follow-up on his behalf with the School District.

Correspondence regarding appreciation of Mr. Lee and the Public Works Department for the Resurfacing of Forest Acres Road

Ms. Hallquist noted that e-mails have been received to thank Mr. Lee and his department for a job well done. E-mails were sent in from Bob & Sandy Brown, Dick Cavalliero, and Jeff & Barbara Troxell.

Chief Seastrand added that already there have been complaints about speeding on the road now that it has been resurfaced.

Consider reappointment of Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer.

Ms. Hallquist said that Don Bent would like to be reappointed as Health Officer, and Debbie Langner would like to be reappointed as Deputy Health Officer.

**IT WAS MOVED (Tina Helm) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to reappoint Don Bent as Health Officer, and Debbie Langner as Deputy Health Officer for another term.
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

New Hire for the Fire Department

Fire Chief Lyon noted that Sam Cahan has been hired for the full-time Firefighter position. He has a degree from Laconia in Fire Science, has been with the Fire Department for 7-8 years, and has worked per diem since Karl left the New London Fire Department in March of 2010.

Town Administrator's Report

Ms. Hallquist asked if the Board of Selectmen was prepared to give direction to the department heads for their budgets. She recalled that last year they gave the department heads a specific percentage increase as a goal to meet. She wondered how they come up with these benchmarks. Ms. Helm said that last year they were given a 1% increase to try and not surpass. Chair Bianchi explained that this was an increase in the operating budget only and had nothing to do with insurance or wages.

Ms. Kidder said it seemed that there was money budgeted that was not used. Maybe it is possible that rather than giving a percentage or amount to stay within, that the select board could allow the department heads to decrease their own budgets in some areas and increases it in others, as need dictated. She thought it would be helpful to have the recommendations come in as lean as possible.

Ms. Helm thought it had been helpful to the department heads to be given a guideline. Chief Seastrand said he likes to have some idea for a percentage so he can try to meet the target. He said his department is tight so this is helpful to him. He fears that if they come in at 1% or flat, they will then be asked to look at their budgets again and come in much lower. This would put them in a difficult situation.

Ms. Hardy asked how receptive they would be to spending about \$3,000 to upgrade the property tax software to enable online payments. Ms. Kidder thought there would be a cost savings by having bills paid online so she thought it would be something to seriously consider. She said she would like to see a presentation where this cost and the projected savings could be defended. Ms. Helm said she liked innovative thinking and thinking “outside the box.” Ms. Hallquist opined that this was something that Ms. Hardy might be afraid to ask for if the Board sets a strict guideline regarding budget increases. Ms. Hallquist noted that if the Board does not offer a set guideline of a percentage, department heads can think creatively and have a chance to at least make the case for the things they feel might be worthwhile for the town to consider. She went on to say that there is very little work in keeping budgets flat, as department heads will be able to use the same numbers from the previous years. It is more work for the department heads to think about what they really need and adjust their budgets accordingly, but it is worth the effort if the result is a well thought-out budget of what is best for the town.

Chair Bianchi noted that retirement costs have gone up drastically as well as other things they don’t know about, such as insurance. The select board will have to take all of these things into consideration. For any department, they will just tell them whether or not they can pay for the things they are asking for. There are trade-offs that need to be made for them to put the budget together. Chair Bianchi thought that the department heads should come up with the leanest budgets possible, with any outliers explained. He said that giving the department heads a specific percentage increase suggestion makes them prioritize the things they really need.

Mr. Lee said that he thought all the department heads move money around in their budgets. He noted that the paving amount in his budget has remained the same for the last 20 years even though the paving costs have gone up considerably. Because of this, they are just doing 1/3 less paving than they used to. He asked about the fence and a bridge near Elkins Beach that needed repair, and questioned if the cost for the repairs of each would need to come from his budget, or from somewhere else? Chair Bianchi said he couldn’t say at this time where the money would come from. He noted that many town properties needed attention, including the Town Office building which needs to be painted and repaired.

Ms. Hardy said that someone commented to her that there is no railing on the handicapped accessible ramp outside of the Town Office, and that there should be one. Ms. Helm said that this year they should let the department heads assess their needs and come in with as reasonable a budget as possible. Her primary reason for setting a percentage in the past was to save them time. Three years ago they didn’t set a cap and even though they allow for play with the cap the last two years, it gave the department heads a target to aim for. A lot of time is wasted when there is no guidance.

Chief Lyon said that since 2008 the Fire Department has used a zero-based budget. It is all itemized so it is clear what they are using the money for. The fire house is currently being painted by members of the fire department to save money. They were quoted \$58,000 to have the job done by someone else. They have spent just \$500 on paint for the outside of the building. Chief Lyon said they try to be fiscally responsible and try to minimize costs. He wondered about the date the Board of Selectmen needed the department head’s budgets. Chair Bianchi said they would figure that out at the end of that night’s meeting when they discuss schedules.

Chad Denning – Recreation Commission Updates

Mr. Denning said that regarding the Bucklin Beach upgrade, they sent out 12 Requests for Proposals (RFP) to contractors in the area and received just one proposal back, which was un-itemized and \$15,000 more than what was appropriated. To find out why there was so little response, he called two local contractors who either said there was not enough money appropriated to make the job worth their while, or that they were too busy.

Mr. Denning said that they are currently having a problem with the roof leaking at Bucklin Beach, which is creating mold. The building is still not ADA compliant and he asked the Board of Selectmen for guidance. Should he send out more RFPs? Visit other contractors? Chair Bianchi thought Mr. Denning should go back out for more proposals. Chair Bianchi observed that he did not feel that they'd get everything done for the amount of money they had to work with.

Chair Bianchi said they should make a list of priorities for the building and get those things done first. Ms. Kidder asked if they had tried taking an ad out in the Kearsarge Shopper. Mr. Denning said they didn't but sent it out directly to contractors. He said that the only thing besides the roof and the ADA-compliant bathroom was the installation of low-flow fixtures, which could be held off on if needed.

Ms. Kidder suggested that ads in the Shopper and the Union Leader might prove worthwhile. Ms. Helm said that the numbers he had presented to the Budget Committee last year came as a result from an estimate they had received. She wondered how the estimate they received now was so much higher. Mr. Denning said that that estimate they received last year had been broken down into just the things that would make the building operable. \$36,160 was appropriated.

Mr. Denning went on to explain the programming they have set up for the fall. He offered a list to the Board of Selectmen that included things such as swimming, yoga, tot time and dance at Whipple Hall, foreign languages, climbing classes, art classes, old-school PE, and Haunted Woods, among other things.

He offered that the use of Whipple Hall as a kind of community center would open up some additional options for the youth in town. Mr. Denning informed the Board that he is interested in offering a drop-in student center at Whipple to catch some of the after-school kids who are looking for a place to go. The center would be open from 3:00pm – 6:00pm, Monday through Friday, which would be facilitated with the help from students from Colby-Sawyer College. They would offer ping-pong, air hockey, foosball, checkers and chess, all of which is available at Whipple Hall, made available through donations.

Mr. Denning explained that currently, there is only the Camp Coniston program in town, which is geared towards elementary school children. In New London, the older kids either play sports or don't. Those who don't play sports have nothing to do after school. He is excited about the process to see how it will go. Ms. Helm asked if only Whipple Hall would be used. Mr. Denning said that he would like to make use of the other rooms in the building as well. There are other groups who will use the hall throughout the year and they don't want to have to tell the kids "you can't come tomorrow"; it has to be available every day. He would like the option to utilize the entire building as needed, and on a temporary basis. He would only move the equipment into the other conference rooms if needed. Mr. Denning felt strongly that the Town needed to provide the youth in the community with opportunities.

Ms. Helm asked if he envisioned comfortable chairs and more furniture being necessary. Mr. Denning said he thought about having some bean bag chairs but would make use of the things that are already there. He added that he would like to have a movie night, for instance, and thought it would be a nice opportunity to use the screen in Whipple Hall.

Ms. Kidder asked Chief Seastrand if there had been any problems with the Recreation Department being in Whipple Town Hall. Chief Seastrand said that there were not any problems. He felt it was going well with them next door and thought they were good neighbors. The only thing he was concerned about was the possible traffic flow that could arise from many people coming and going from the facility. He said that he has no experience with it, however, so he just doesn't know what to expect. Another concern he

had was extending the use of the building with regards to increased electricity and plumbing. This was something that should be considered.

Chair Bianchi said that the idea behind Mr. Denning moving the Recreation Department to Whipple Hall was to monitor things going on there and to keep an eye on energy usage. He felt this idea would be increasing the use of Whipple Hall and the overall expense of the whole building. Mr. Denning said that his reason to move the Recreation Department to Whipple was not solely to cut energy costs. He is glad to assist in this area, but his main purpose of moving was to utilize a facility that is often vacant. He couldn't think of a better place for kids to hang out in the community than right next to the police station. As a Recreation Department, he is trying to create opportunity.

Chair Bianchi asked how Mr. Denning would man the drop-in center. Mr. Denning said that he has two employees from Colby-Sawyer College in mind to work with him and that they would be paid from the revolving account.

Several mothers of middle-school-aged children in the community were present who were there to support this after-school program. One mother felt that there was interest in the community for this type of program and if they could find out the increased costs in electricity and heating, etc. they might get some sponsors to help pay for it. Another mother said that she didn't think people would be opposed to paying an activity fee per diem, or paying \$2 for a child to come watch a movie. It was noted that the college, high school and church groups often have to do community service and could help with the program for free. Another mother noted that there is a program at Hogan, but students have to be 14 years old to participate. That is the only activity available for these middle and high school children who don't play sports. It was felt that this was a need in the community and was something they would be interested in having their children participate in.

Chair Bianchi asked Mr. Denning if they would charge for the use of the program. Mr. Denning said that they certainly could but at this time he was just coming to the Board of Selectmen to present a need. He has thought about some pricing structures but he was not ready to present that information at that time. Mr. Denning offered that he'd like to see this program just break even. Chair Bianchi asked if this program would be a drain on the revolving account if he did not charge a fee. Mr. Denning said that he offsets this kind of program with other programs that charge a fee and make a profit, so he can offer things in the town for free.

It was noted by one mother that she would be willing to pay for her kids to participate in the program. It was noted that there was much interest in it and that to offset the presumed increase in cost, they could offer a family cost or subscriptions to those who are interested in participating or donating. Ms. Helm said that this move to Whipple Hall is part of a great experiment to gauge the need or want for a community center in town. They don't want kids hanging out on the streets and she was in favor of this process of thinking "outside of the box." She'd like to see how it works and give it a shot.

Chair Bianchi wanted to see program plans, hours, and what would be happening. He wanted some hard facts and figures of what he would anticipate doing and the increased usage of the building. Mr. Denning said he could give projections but that nothing concrete would be available. It was offered by one mother that they could start small and see how it goes. They could start with being open from 3:00pm – 6:00pm with certain activities and see how it works. Mr. Bianchi felt they needed to set some goals and have a model of what they are trying to do, including what space they would use.

Ms. Helm shared that they were having an open meeting that Saturday morning at 7:30am at Whipple Hall to discuss the involvement of the town in the 1941 building. She thought having the Recreation

Department using the space at Whipple Hall was a good experiment to find the needs in the town for a community center.

Chief Lyon said he was fully supportive of the drop-in center. In the CIP there has been money set aside for sprinkling the Town Office and the second floor of Whipple Hall, which were not yet sprinkled. From a planning perspective, this would be something good to talk to Tom Cottrill and the Planning Board about, as it will be a change of use. From a fire code standpoint, he has to be consistent if there is a change of use. If there is a long-term plan, they can work to get on the same page and will need to require the same things for the town buildings as they would any other people utilizing buildings in town.

Mr. Denning said he would come back to the select board with more information in a week or so. He would also talk with Chief Lyon about the code requirements at Whipple and what the possibilities were.

Phillips Preserve Easement

Ms. Hallquist noted that Town Counsel (Bart Mayer) had responded with his suggestions on the language within the easement deed as proposed by Ausbon-Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT). He had the same concerns as Ms. Hallquist did, with some additional points. Ms. Hallquist said she would talk with Mr. Deegan of ASLPT and let him know of the town counsel's position on some of the language as suggested by ASLPT. Chair Bianchi explained that the Town needed to protect themselves into the future.

Pathways Engineering

Ms. Hallquist noted that there would be a meeting to continue negotiations with Pathways Engineering on Wednesday at 8:30am.

Re-Keying Locks

Ms. Hallquist said the information came in from Heather Weinstein at the Public Works Department, who compiled some information from various companies. It was discovered that they were all pretty similar in cost. The Board agreed that re-keying some of the DPW buildings locks was critical and should be done as soon as possible.

Roofing Contractor List

Ms. Hallquist asked for a few additional names of possible roofers who could replace the piece under the cupola at the Town Office building. Bid requests would be sent to these people.

Marshall's Garage

The Board noted receipt of a letter from David Marshall, Marshall's Garage, Inc., that requested confirmation that his use of the Annex Building at the rear of his property is in compliance with all town ordinances and regulations. Mr. Marshall needs this confirmation in connection with state inspection licensing requirements. Ms. Hallquist noted that if the Board knows that the property is in compliance it can so vote and issue the letter. If there is any question on the issue, the matter can be forwarded to the Planning & Zoning Administrator for further investigation before a decision is made. She noted that she didn't know the history of the building so she could not offer any insight into the issue. Ms. Kidder said that Mr. Marshall is grand-fathered as he has had his garage there for many years and thus should be considered in compliance with all town ordinances and regulations. Mr. Bianchi and Ms. Helm agreed with that conclusion.

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Tina Helm) to issue a letter of compliance as requested by Marshall's Garage. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Bandstand Committee

Ms. Hallquist asked the Board of Selectmen if they would like to move forward with this issue with regard to the Mendelson Trust questions. Ms. Kidder thought that Town Counsel needed to give his opinion on it. Ms. Helm said there was no need for him to come to the office but could offer his advice as he knew the situation well. Town Counsel will be contacted for advice on the next step for resolution of this matter.

Ambulance Agreement

Ms. Kidder asked Chief Lyon if there had been any progress with the ambulance agreement. Chief Lyon said that they have not had back-up ambulance service for the entire summer. He noted that 80% of the calls from Springfield were not attended to and that Lebanon had to send their ambulances. From a monetary standpoint, he thought they were getting a good deal but was afraid that something tragic would have to happen to make people realize that the plan should have a good back-up service in place. He said if the contract is signed as presented, the service would continue to be what it is. It was noted that should a town who is currently receiving service decides to break away from the service, New London would be hit harder with a higher responsibility for payment, to cover the loss of the departing town.

Garden Club Thank-You

Ms. Helm asked if a letter was ever sent to the Garden Club to thank them for their work keeping the area at four-corners mowed. Ms. Hallquist said she did not believe a letter was sent but that she would send one.

Committee Meetings

Ms. Helm reported on the last Planning Board meeting. She remarked that Ms. St. John did a great job and came ready with detailed information. There was a minor subdivision plan for the Bucklin homestead on Morgan Hill Road. They wanted to divide the property into two lots as their efforts to sell the lot as a whole was unsuccessful. This has the potential to go into a major subdivision later on due to the large acreage of one of the lots.

There was also a Vernon subdivision discussion for family-owned land on Pingree Road. The family is trying to divide the property. There was discussion of the Morgan Hill Bookstore, which has a potential buyer. They want to have a yoga studio on the 2nd floor and continue with the bookstore on the first floor. The Planning Board discussed that parking is an issue already and they did not make any resolutions because there are not enough parking spaces for the use of the building as a bookstore. There was a lot of discussion about encouraging retail businesses on Main Street by being more lenient about parking. The owners of the bookstore have had it for 18 years and have never had a parking problem. Ms. Helm thought they should think about parking, in general, within the town. Ms. Kidder felt the parking was very restrictive and did not address the businesses that do not have parking. Ms. Helm said that having lived on Main Street for 12 years; she has never seen a problem with parking at the bookstore even though they had their best retail year ever this year.

Ms. Helm said that there were also a few tree-cutting requests. A request by the Cundy family had to be tabled because no one had been able to look at the trees and the map provided by the owners was confusing.

Ms. Helm added that no one from the Planning Board had come to the meeting with recommendations for representatives to the RPC. After sending an email reminder to the Planning Board the following day, she received the following suggestions for possible representatives: Sue Andrews, Phyllis Piotrow, Peter Stanley, Stephan Timbrell, John or Kitty Wilson, Debbie Stanley, John Root, Bob Crane, John Clough,

Dale Conley, Laurie DiClerico, Celeste Cook, Karen Ebel, Pam Perkins, Bo Quackenbos, and Marilyn Kidder. Ms. Hallquist said she would send a letter to each of these people asking if they were interested.

Ms. Kidder asked if Ms. Helm could talk to the Planning Board about the short-term sign ordinance so Colby-Sawyer College and the hospital could be allowed to hang banners occasionally, to highlight milestones or events. She thought the Planning Board should be asked to revisit and relax the sign ordinance. Ms. Hallquist said that after reviewing the ordinance, she felt it was reasonable to approve the hanging of the Colby-Sawyer flags on their on-campus light posts as a permitted use. The college made this request at the prior Board meeting.

On a side-note, Ms. Helm noted that the real estate company that purchased the New London Shopping Center, Crossroads Associations located in Natick, MA, has a president named John Huber. Mr. Huber's son, Jonathan, is also involved in the business. As it happens, Ms. Helm had Jonathan in her first pre-school class when she owned and operated a pre-school. He has contacted her and wants to meet to discuss their plans for the town.

Budgets

Ms. Hallquist indicated that January 23 was the date that the Selectmen's budget is due to the Budget Committee. The Board of Selectmen decided that they would request the department head's budgets by November 13th. This will give the Selectmen seven weeks to deliberate and put their budget together.

Upcoming Meetings

CAC meeting – October 6 at Whipple Hall – 7:30am

Ms. Helm provided a list of possible questions to present at the CAC meeting, which will focus on the possible usage of the 1941 building by the town. The selectmen discussed her questions, and decided on three that would be the focus of the discussion. She felt the meeting should be a listening meeting on their part. They would have photos of the building for meeting attendees to see. Chair Bianchi suggesting having a blow-up of the tax map for the lot to show as well. He felt that the footprint map Dan Wolf provided was confusing. Ms. Helm hoped they would get a good number of people at the meeting even though it was Columbus Day Weekend. It would be explained that any committee the Board may decide to appoint to study this issue would need to work quickly as they were under a time-constraint to get a proposal to the school district, by October 26th, the deadline set by the School Board in the Request for Proposal.

Chair Bianchi said that for a building to be given to anyone, it has to be voted on at a school district meeting.

The next Board of Selectmen's meeting would be on October 15th at 8:30am.

IT WAS MOVED (Kidder) AND SECONDED (Helm) to go into non-public session, pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) to discuss personnel issues. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Helm: Yes, Bianchi: Yes, Kidder: Yes

Upon returning to public session, a motion was made to seal the minutes from non-public session.

IT WAS MOVED (Tina Helm) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to seal the minutes of the non-public session on October 1, 2012. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Application for Building Permit:

- Thomas & Carol Kinzler, 212 Poor Road (Map & Lot 091-002-000) kitchen renovation – Permit #12-097 – Approved.
- Harry Snow III, Cottage Lane (085-018-000) build duplex unit – Permit #12-098 – Approved.
- Harry Snow III, Cottage Lane (085-021-000) build duplex unit – Permit #12-099 – Approved.
- William Granger, 493 Pleasant St. (061-007-000) demolish greenhouse/shed – Permit #12-100 – Approved.
- Edward & Melody Johnson, 1359 Route 103A (Map & Lot 128-009-000) move garage & add shed – Permit #12-101 – Approved.
- Gary Anderson & Cornelia Boyle, 750 Little Sunapee Road (Map & Lot 021-001-000) demolish old shed – Permit #12-102 – Approved.
- Stephen Jesseman, 63 Hastings Landing (Map & Lot 116-006-000) build 12x22 ½ garage addition – Permit #12-103 – Approved.
- Colby Sawyer College, 541 Main Street (Map & Lot 085-033-000) install 9400 s.f of solar panels on Ivey, Windy Hill, Lodge & Lawson buildings – Permit #12-104 – Approved.
- Peter & Jacqueline Dunning, 234 Brookside Drive (Map & Lot 122-026-000) extend & enclose screen porch – Permit #12-105 – Approved.

Application for use of Archive Office:

- Community Action Program – use Archives for meeting of fuel assistance applicants – 9AM – 12 – every other Tuesday – October – April – Approved.

Application for use of Whipple Memorial Town Hall:

- David Cleveland Christmas Carol Production – Dec. 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 2012 – Approved.

Application for use of Sydney Crook Conference room:

- Duplicate Bridge Group – Monday's beginning of June – end of September – 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Approved.

Other Items to be signed:

- Disbursement voucher
- Wastewater Tax Abatement for St. Andrew's church – approved
- Application for highway safety grant – Approved.

**IT WAS MOVED (Tina Helm) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to adjourn the meeting.
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary
Town of New London