



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

June 6, 2011

PRESENT:

Mark Kaplan, Chair, Board of Selectmen
Tina Helm, Selectmen
Peter Bianchi, Selectman
Linda Hardy, Interim Town Administrator

ALSO PRESENT:

Karen Ebel, New London Resident
Hardy Hasenfuss, New London Resident
Erle Blanchard, New London Resident
Doug MacMichael, New London Resident
Archie Mountain, reporter for the *Argus Champion*
Pat Trader, reporter for the *Intertown Record*
Bob & DJ Lavoie, New London Residents
Renate Kannler & Bruce Hudson, New London Residents

Chair Kaplan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. He welcomed the candidate who was chosen to fill the vacant position of Town Administrator, Kim Hallquist. Ms. Hallquist was one of 87 applications for the position and it was determined that she was the best. Chair Kaplan indicated that she had met with the administrative team and the department heads and was anxious to get started. She will begin officially on June 20th. Ms. Helm noted that meeting attendees, Karen Ebel and Erle Blanchard had been on the subcommittee who had interviewed the top candidates and recommended their top three. She thanked them for their help in the process. She also thanked Hardy Hasenfuss who helped guide them through the process.

Ms. Hallquist shared a little of her background. She currently works for LGC as a staff attorney. Prior to that, she was the Town of Carroll's administrative assistant. She indicated that Carroll was a smaller town than New London and added that she enjoys municipal work and that it is her passion. Ms. Hallquist said she was looking forward to working 1:1 with citizens again.

Approval of Minutes

May 23, 2011

IT WAS MOVED (Tina Helm) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to approve the minutes of May 23, 2011, as amended. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

There was a question regarding a name of someone listed as attending. Pete Dunning was listed but no one knew if this was actually the right name. Kristy would check the sign-in list to see if the name could be deciphered.

Page 2, after "in the grant" it should be "there..."

Page 3, there "weren't" any provisions.

May 25, 2011 (Public and Non-public)

**IT WAS MOVED (Tina Helm) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to approve the public and non-public meeting minutes of May 25, 2011, as circulated.
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Old/Pending Business

Town Administrator search update – Chair Kaplan noted that Ms. Hallquist will begin on June 20th and added that the Board of Selectmen will do their best to support her throughout her endeavors with them.

School payment explanation update – Chair Kaplan said that there was a \$600,000 increase in the Town's bill for the school for the following year. The school district sent a series of pages which suggested that the reduction of revenues from the state and federal governments seemed to be the culprit.

Mr. Blanchard asked what the cost per student was. Chair Kaplan figured it out to be about \$16,700 per student (419 students).

Mr. Lavoie asked what the \$600,000 extra did to the tax rate. Chair Kaplan said that it causes the local school rate to go up .60, but noted that New London's town tax rate would not be affected by it.

Ms. Helm indicated that there were some people who are concerned about changing Town Meeting to May, because they think the school vote will be poorly attended. The school vote must happen in March. She felt that it would actually be a positive move as people would be able to get more involved and think about the school vote. Ms. Helm said they would try the May Town Meeting for one year. If it turns out that voting is poor for both the school and the town vote, they may decide to go back to March. Ms. Helm thought the Town should help get the voters interested in the issues having to do with the school. Mr. Bianchi said he was more pessimistic and didn't think voter turnout would be successful for the school vote in March.

Ms. Lavoie asked if people could vote by absentee ballot for the school vote. Ms. Hardy said that they could. Mr. Blanchard asked if the Town could send out announcements about the school vote. The Board of Selectmen said that they could. Mr. Blanchard said that the push for involvement has to start with the Town.

Interim Town Administrator Report

Elkins Subcommittee

Ms. Hardy said that she had previously given a list to the Board of Selectmen of those residents interested in being on the Elkins subcommittee. In all, there were 15 members, including Nate Miller who works with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Region Planning Commission and was involved with the plans that helped New London win the grant. Mr. Bianchi said the first meeting of this subcommittee would have to be noticed, as it was an ad hoc committee of the Board of Selectmen. He added that minutes should be taken. He opined that someone from the Board of Selectmen should be on the committee. Ms. Helm didn't think it necessary to have representation by the Board of Selectmen, but that it would be good for them to attend some of the meetings.

Mr. Bianchi said that the people want to get started with coming up with ideas before October, when the money is ready and an engineer is hired. He also felt it important that they have the committee contact the person from DES in charge of this project, to know what the guidelines are on how much they can change the plans and still be funded by the grant. Kaplan said that it was up to them to make the proposals and if the State does not accept the changes, they would let the Town know. Mr. Bianchi thought they should have the specifications ahead of time and before an engineer has begun working. Ms. Helm agreed with Mr. Bianchi and thought they should be in constant contact with the DES with regards to the plans.

Mr. Bianchi felt it was the Board of Selectmen's duty to set a date for the first meeting of the Elkins subcommittee. June 20th was determined to be the date the committee would meet, at the beginning of the regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Haze Dam Letter of Deficiency

Ms. Hardy noted that the Town had received another letter of deficiency regarding the Haze Dam. Mr. Lee (Public Works Director) had indicated that he could take care of making the dam compliant, per the specifications spelled out in the letter. It was determined that Heather Weinstein, administrative assistant at the Public Works Department, could fill out the paperwork as necessary, with oversight from Mr. Lee.

Signage on State Roads

Ms. Hardy said she also provided copies of the letters for signage on Newport Road that had been requested by a number of residents. The Town has not petitioned the State yet, but wanted to do so. Ms. Helm recalled that the proposal was to either install another sign or to move a 30mph sign near the Post Office to be opposite of Kenwood so it was visible as one drove closer to Spruce Lane. Mr. Bianchi said they should request permission for the signs on Route 11 and 114 across from Bucklin beach at the same time. Chair Kaplan thought they should confirm with someone first to find out what signs may already have been put up.

Emergency Management Director

Ms. Hardy said that there was an appointment card for them to sign for Chad Denning (Recreation Director) to be the new Emergency Management Director. There were also two part-time police officers who needed to be appointed by signature.

6:45 – Presentation by Jim Presher of the Concord Co-Op – Single Stream Recycling

Jim Presher introduced Liz Bedard, consultant to the Co-Op, who accompanied him. Mr. Presher had been working through Ms. Levine previously and wanted to talk to the Board of Selectmen to make sure they were available to discuss the Co-Op and their pending agreement. He understood that the single-stream recycling program was passed at New London's Town Meeting. He said that they are waiting until they get 25,000 tons of recyclable materials before they can go forward with building the recycling center. Mr. Bianchi wondered what they were expecting for tonnage from New London. Mr. Presher said they were anticipating 1200 tons. Ms. Bedard said that although New London has had a fabulous recycling program for years; the simplicity of this program would hopefully increase recycling in town.

Mr. Bianchi said he spoke with Mr. Lee that day. He said that after taking out the glass and the clothing, they would be lucky to have 600 tons of recycling to offer. Additionally, in the last year the Town made \$61,000 from their recycling efforts and that they are recycling about 24% of their waste stream. He noted that in the agreement there was a mentioning that New London had to collect "All acceptable recyclable materials..." and that the Town must bear the cost of collection and deliveries. He didn't think it made sense for New London to enter into this contract. Mr. Bianchi added that whichever company accepted the single stream recycling would need to be separated at some point, which would cost money. He wasn't sure this program would benefit the Town of New London.

Mr. Presher said that regarding revenue, he assumed they operate bailers and that there are employees who have to fill, move them, and that electricity has to be used to run them. Labor costs for this would be avoided by using single stream recycling. They won't have to separate or bale any more. Ms. Bedard said that they handle recyclables the same way they do for trash; they drop it off in one spot. Chair Kaplan said that they were told they would need three people for labor, but it sounded like just one would be enough. Ms. Bedard said that labor used was up to the towns. At the home level, recycling can be as easy

as handling trash. She shared that oftentimes people say they recycle but tend to only recycle the “easy” things like newspaper. Single stream recycling increases a Town’s recycling and decreases the amount of trash having to be thrown away. She said they did an economic analysis for New London and found there was an economic benefit to using Single Stream. Mr. Bianchi said they have to pay to truck the recyclables to the Co-Op, which was an added cost. Ms. Bedard said that both systems (New London’s current system and Single Stream) have costs. Chair Kaplan opined that the Town would lose more money with Single Stream, as they would not be getting revenue from their recycling efforts. Mr. Presher said that the revenue they got from the Co-Op could be close to what New London is currently getting. Ms. Bedard said that in New London’s figures, they would need to remove the revenue for scrap metal, as they do not accept that. This would help compare apples to apples.

Mr. Presher said that they would pay about \$76 per ton for their single stream materials. Mr. Bianchi said it was their idea to go ahead with this and in the interim bring their recycling to Belmont. It was determined that they would get much less per ton for paper as they could through the Co-Op. Ms. Bedard said that other facilities would take the recyclables to more than one place, each of which taking a bite out of the profit. Mr. Presher said it is important to realize that when the market goes down, they can still budget flat numbers while using their facility. In the past when the market went down, people got less revenue for recyclables AND had to pay to recycle. That wouldn’t happen with the Co-Op. There are reserves in place to handle fluctuations, and any discrepancies would be spread out the following year throughout all the other towns.

It was estimated that without scrap metal, the town would be able to provide about _____ tons of recyclable materials. New London is able to keep their glass if they want, as they crush it to use in construction projects.

Mr. Bianchi said their three large trash producers in town were the hospital, the college and Hannaford’s. He understood that the college would be going to single stream in the fall. Remembering the part in the contract about collecting “all acceptable recyclable materials” he wondered what would happen if they don’t have their additional waste. Mr. Presher said the Town was only responsible for the recyclables they are responsible for or can access. If the college goes to their own system, their recyclables are not accessible to the Town. Mr. Presher added that more people will recycle more material if it is made easy, so the trash costs will go down. They have seen this across the board. Ms. Bedard said that there were many savings and felt the economics could balance the revenues the Town is used to getting. She noted that 32 towns have already signed up for this program.

Ms. Bedard asked about the Pay as You Throw (PAYT) program and wondered if the figure Mr. Lee gave (1,200 tons) was in anticipation of it. She said that once the PAYT program is implemented, towns go up to 50%+ recycling. She added that if they have a PAYT program, single stream is the best way to go because it makes recycling as easy as possible for people who have to pay to throw their rubbish away.

Mr. MacMichael said he recycles every day in his work. If they make recycling easy they could help out the people from the Co-Op. However, if they don’t make it easier to recycle at the transfer station, he won’t be inclined to recycle as much. He opined that they will have to do something to accept more recycling. Mr. MacMichael said he takes about 100 pounds of glass and a great amount of cardboard each day to the highway department. He does this so he doesn’t jam up the transfer station with his truck. Ms. Trader noted that this wouldn’t be a problem if people could just dump all their recyclables in one place rather than having to sort them. Mr. MacMichael said he was happy to recycle but felt it was hard right now with the way the transfer station was set up.

Mr. Presher said people use the transfer station regularly and he remembered they were going to try to streamline the trash/recycling drop-off. Ms. Bedard said this streamline of single stream makes it easy for everyone. Through technology, they can successfully segregate the recyclables and send them to market to get good pricing. She showed a floor plan of the facility and explained that the design started out on the west coast about 12 years ago. A lot of air is used to move recyclable materials where they need to go, and computers read the resin of the plastics to sort them. Mr. Presher said that there were about 125 of these facilities throughout the country and added that The Concord Co-op already has the \$15 million dollars to build the facility.

Chair Kaplan wondered the reason for the NH bank at 4% interest was in the paperwork. Mr. Presher said that they would bond half of the project, as there is security in having cash on hand. Ms. Hardy said the Town just bonded for the library for 2.6%. Mr. Presher said that was good news and thought they could hopefully get a similar rate.

Mr. Presher pointed out that there would be higher revenues awarded to those who sign up in the beginning of this process. Ms. Bedard said that there were two ways to terminate the contract. If the revenues go into the negative, the Town would have 60 days to terminate the contract. Mr. Bianchi said that once they move to Single Stream, they can't go back because they won't be set up to accept recyclables in their town any longer. Chair Kaplan agreed.

Mr. Bianchi said that common sense tell him that if they have to send their recyclables to a facility to recycle, they have to pay someone to separate them. Using the current system in New London, the homeowner does the sorting at no cost.

Mr. MacMichael said that his father, Bob MacMichael was a selectman when recycling started and they never thought it would take off the way it did. They were overwhelmed with the number of people recycling. Ms. Lavoie asked if Mr. Lee wouldn't need new equipment or a new building to continue recycling the way they are now. Ms. Helm agreed and said that they will be running out of storage space as they need to collect a certain amount of the materials before they can take it to be recycled. They'd need to build another facility to hold the recyclables.

Ms. Bedard pointed out that in a couple years New London may decide they need to sign up because they are faced with having to build a new town facility. In order to get the best revenue they have to be a partner when the facility starts. The other towns that wait until the facility is up and running, don't. She said the city of Concord "put them through the wringer." They evaluated the program inside out and backwards and did it again, and had a third party evaluation and only then did they sign on. Their whole Finance Department, CMA engineers and an independent engineer from Vermont have all reviewed the program and have found it to be a viable plan.

Mr. Presher said they have taken so long to get to 25,000 tons because they have to meet with selectmen multiple times, and must wait for town meetings to gain approval. They have to answer thorough questions from people who care about their towns and get comfortable with the idea. Mr. Presher said that the bottom line is that he cares about the tax payers. He described how the Co-Op would be run with voting members of each town, and they would hold a town meeting.

Mr. Blanchard asked where the project sat currently. Mr. Presher said the facility was not yet built. They can proceed when they have 25,000 tons confirmed. He is at 23,000 - 24,000 tons right now. These numbers represent municipal tonnage guaranteed for 15 years. Casella will operate the facility for the first 5 years. The utility, road and site work needs to be done and then they will need to set up the building. It

would be located off Exit 17 off 93 in Penacook. Permits are all in hand. 1 year after they get 25,000 tons, they will be operational.

Mr. MacMichael asked if they would accept tires. Ms. Bedard said they would not.

Mr. Bianchi asked why they have chosen to deal with Casella. Mr. Presher said that they have done this kind of work in the past and they can get out of their contract with Casella after three years if they determine they are ready to do it themselves. In this way, they could save even more money. They want to have the experts do it first and once they acquire that expertise for themselves, perhaps the towns will want to take it over and save a little money.

Mr. Bianchi said they are going to have a new town administrator starting soon. She worked for LGC as an attorney and that perhaps she would review the contract and give her opinion. Ms. Bedard noted that 6-8 other attorneys have gone through this before their towns signed. Ms. Helm said she would like to read the contract before signing. She said previously that they should come to some resolution by the end of June. She didn't feel comfortable finalizing it without having one final conversation with Mr. Lee. Chair Kaplan said he was cognizant to the fact that if the town grows even slightly, they will hit a point that they won't be able to continue recycling the way they have been doing so.

Ms. Helm said that the transfer station only accepts #1 and #2 plastic bottles. Ms. Bedard assured Ms. Helm that by using single stream, all 7 grades of plastics (including lawn chairs and laundry baskets!) would be accepted. Mr. Presher said that they feel single stream recycling is the best thing for the town and explained that every ton counts.

Committee Meetings and Reports

Planning Board, May 24 – Ms. Helm said there was a tree-cutting situation that was approved, as well as a request for an annexation and a lot line adjustment on Lamson Lane. The longest discussion was the request from Sandra Rowse who wanted to have a minor subdivision, dividing one lot into two over a class VI road. Some abutters were present and it was approved with contingencies.

Sunapee Sewer, May 26 – Ms. Helm said they had an animated discussion and are trying to move the engineering forward. Sunapee has been granted their DRA funding. Chair Kaplan contacted the people he sent their pre-application to, which was approved. He was told that they have to do the regular application now. They plan to have Neil Cheseldine help with the application. If all goes well, they hope to hear from the State early in the fall if they have received the money, which would be a 25% grant on the \$5.5 million dollar loan.

Mr. Bianchi asked if Bart Mayer had been contacted to have him rework the Sunapee/New London inter-municipal agreement. Mr. Mayor needs to contact Sunapee's attorney to work this out. Ms. Hardy said she would pass this request on to Mr. Mayer.

Upcoming Meetings and Special Events

CAC Meeting – Chapin COA Center 06/11/11 - COA will make a presentation so the Board of Selectmen will not need to. It was believed that COA's presentation would not last the entire hour and a half.

Abatements – Selectmen's Meeting 06/13/11 – Norm Bernaiche (Town Assessor) will be coming in to present these.

Planning Board Master Plan Session 06/14/11 – Ms. Helm plans to attend.

Russ Aney – Selectmen's Meeting 06/27/11 – Mr. Aney would be reporting back with regards to the quotes he has received for work to be done in the attic of the Town Office to conserve energy.

NO Selectmen's Meeting on July 4, 2011

Other Business

Ms. Hardy requested to go into non-public to discuss a personnel matter.

IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Tina Helm) to go into non-public pursuant to RSA:

Items to be signed

Application for Building Permit:

- Eric & Sarah Braun, 237 Brookside Drive (Map & Lot 122-028-000) replacing deck – Permit #11-041 – Approved.
- Danielle Carey Trust, 645 Burpee Hill Road (Map & Lot 056-007-001) build 30x50 storage barn – Permit #11-042 – Approved.
- Charles & Miriam Nelson, 493 Burpee Hill Road (Map & Lot 070-012-000) build 10x14 closed in porch – Permit #11-043 – Approved.
- Carl & Frances Bannon, 1590 Little Sunapee road (Map & Lot 030-019-000) after the fact clean-up of fallen structure – Permit #11-044 – Approved.

Application for sign permits:

- Temporary: Summer Music Associates, sign at information booth weeks of: 5/28 – 6/18 – 7/7 – 7/23 – 8/11 – approved
- Temporary: Wilmot Bandstand Committee - sign at information booth – Approved.
- Temporary: St. Andrew's summer church fair – sign at information booth – Approved

Application for use of town commons:

- St. Andrews Church Summer Fair – 7/1 & 7/2 – on NL Inn commons – Approved.

Tax Abatements:

- Wilson, William (Map & Lot 103-025-000) 89 Sunset Shores – abatement denied
- Moreland, Steven & Patricia (Map & Lot 112-020-000) 326 Wilder Lane – abatement denied
- Richards, Frank & Martine (Map & Lot 103-011-000) 37 Moyah's Lane – abatement denied
- Hansen, Christian (Map & Lot 039-009-000) 325 Whitney Brook Road – abatement granted
- Schauff, Dietrich & Ellen (Map & Lot 045-040-007) 55 Spruce Lane – abatement recommended
- Graf, Heidi (Map & Lot 058-027-001) 24 Spruce Lane – abatement recommended
- Sweeney, Joan (Map & Lot 045-027-002) 14 Conifer Lane – abatement recommended
- Vota, Theresa (Map & Lot 045-040-006) 53 Spruce Lane – recommend denial
- Myers, Donald & Rosalyn (Map & Lot 045-040-015) 75 Spruce Lane – recommend denial
- Hudson, Bruce & Kannler, Renate (Map & Lot 059-013-009) 64 Conifer Lane – recommend denial
- Dalrymple, Kathleen & Richard (Map & Lot 045-027-013) 21 Conifer Lane – recommend denial
- Yuskaitas, Anthony & Beverly (Map & Lot 006-003-000) 868 Morgan Hill Road – abatement granted
- Lazdowski Paul & Joanne (Map & Lot 103-015-000) 67 Moyah's Lane – recommend denial
- Cutts, Caryl (Map & Lot (070-033-000) 271 Gay Farm Road – recommend decrease
- Hurd, Linwood & Eleanor (Map & Lot 060-004-000) Little Sunapee Road – recommend denial

- Wulff, John & Margaret (Map & Lot 042-027-000) 391 Otterville Road – recommend denial

Zampieri, Angelo, (Map & Lot 072-033-000) 44 Homan Lane – due to lack of proof that owner qualified for veterans credit the credit was removed. After receiving proper documentation it was determined they should receive credit for first half billing in the amount of \$250. – Approved.

Other items to be signed:

- Disbursement voucher for week of 6/6/2011
- Petition and pole license – TDS Telecom/Kearsarge Telephone company
- Appointment card for Chad Denning – Emergency Mgmt. Director
- Appointment card(s) for Michael Wilson & Russell Lamson, PT patrolmen
- Warrant for Unlicensed Dogs
- Warrant for Wastewater Charges

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary
Town of New London