



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

375 MAIN STREET • NEW LONDON, NH 03257 • WWW.NL-NH.COM

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES December 27, 2010

PRESENT:

Tina Helm, Chair, Board of Selectmen
Mark Kaplan, Selectman
Peter Bianchi, Selectman
Jessie Levine, Town Administrator

ALSO PRESENT:

Carolyn Fraley, Finance Officer
Bob Brown, Chair, Conservation Commission
Terry Dancy, Conservation Commission
Peter Stanley, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Mark Vernon, Energy Committee
Mark Wendling, New London property owner

Chair Helm called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Bond Refinancing: Chair Helm welcomed Carol Fraley, Finance Officer, and referred to her memo regarding refinancing the Town's bonds. Ms. Fraley said that per Mr. Kaplan's suggestion, she had contacted Lake Sunapee Bank and Sugar River Savings Bank regarding loans the banks hold to see if the Town could get lower interest rates. Ms. Fraley said that Sugar River could go from 3.99% to 3.25% and would charge fees to make this change. She had asked them if that was as low as they could go and they answered in the affirmative. Lake Sunapee Bank was able to give them a better deal, going from loans of 3.72% and 3.8% to 2.8% and there would be no fees charged. Ms. Fraley said that she had the paperwork with her to make the changes. With fees included, the Sugar River loan would be close to a \$10,000 savings over the life of the bond. Mr. Kaplan said that he was pleased with what Lake Sunapee Bank was offering and was disappointed that Sugar River couldn't do better.

Ms. Levine said that Sugar River had originally won the loan by competitive bid, and for that reason she did not think it right to transfer the loan from Sugar River to Lake Sunapee Bank. However, she would feel comfortable putting the loan out to bid again to let the banks compete. She said that the Town has five bond issues out there. The two oldest bonds had no chance for refinance as they were bonded through the NH Municipal Bond Bank, which lumps all bond purchases together. The bonds for the highway garage and fire station (June 2005) and the landfill repair and Georges Mills pump station upgrade (2006) were held with Lake Sunapee Bank and they were the ones being offered at 2.8%. The bond for Library repairs and the New London Inn land purchase (2007) was won by Sugar River at a rate of 3.99%. The most recent bond for engineering design (2010) is with Lake Sunapee Bank but is already lower than 2.8%.

Mr. Kaplan said that the difference between Sugar River's offer of 3.25% and the Lake Sunapee Bank rate of 2.8% saved an additional \$6,261.69 over the life of the loan. He didn't feel bad putting the bonds out to bid because when times were different and when they had money in the bank, the banks used to pay 2% interest. Now they pay .5%. He added that if they compare a loan to the town versus a loan to a

private individual, they would have to pay tax. In this case, the loans are tax exempt, which is why the town gets the lower rate.

Mr. Bianchi said he had a problem having a low bidder from three years ago being undercut by a lower bid now. He was not, however, opposed to going out to bid anew.

Chair Helm summarized that there were two directives they needed to give to Ms. Levine. One was to accept the Lake Sunapee Bank offer, and the second would be to go out to bid for the other two loans. Mr. Wendling said it would make sense to put all three loans together and see what kind of rate a bank would give to acquire all the bonds. Mr. Kaplan said that it would be cutting into the bank's profitability, but that they have the ability to do it. It was worth a try to ask. Ms. Levine said the sewer bond was at 2.65% so they don't need to do anything with that one.

IT WAS MOVED (Mark Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to put out for re-bid the two bonds held by Lake Sunapee Bank that for the highway garage, fire station, landfill repair, and sewer upgrade, as well as the Sugar River bonds for the library repairs and New London Inn land purchase. **THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Conservation Commission: Chair Helm welcomed Bob Brown, chair of the Conservation Commission. In addition to Mr. Brown, Terry Dancy and Peter Stanley were present to represent the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Brown began by bringing up the DiClerico property, which had been discussed at the Conservation Commission's last meeting. The property owner brought forward a proposal to donate to the Town a portion of a lot adjacent to his home. The remaining portion of the lot would be annexed to his home lot. The lot being gifted is considered a building lot, but is wet. Mr. Brown thinks it would be a good buffer for the stream that feeds Little Lake Sunapee.

Mr. Brown indicated that the property owner could make a gift to the Conservation Commission, which required the Board of Selectmen's approval, or they could present the gift to the Board of Selectmen and it would be voted on at Town Meeting. Ms. Levine noted that the Conservation Commission was the only body that can accept the gift of land without a Town Meeting vote, as it could only be for conservation purposes. If there is any purpose for the land other than for conservation, Town Meeting has to vote on the acceptance of the land because it could require future expenditure of funds.

Mr. Brown said that the segment of land is 2.1 acres and is assessed is \$89,000 but that this figure was under appeal. He believed that if the gift was not accepted, Mr. DiClerico's alternative would be to annex the entire parcel to his house lot, which would still lessen his tax burden. Mr. Brown said that there would be no cost to the town and Mr. DiClerico would pay for everything. The Conservation Commission's sense was that it would be a good thing for the lake and the town. The offer had not been presented formally as of yet, but Mr. Brown indicated that the Conservation Commission would be supportive of this arrangement.

Mr. Bianchi asked what zone the property was in. Mr. Stanley said it was in R2 and that the pieces of land wouldn't actually be subdivided, but would be annexed to adjacent parcels. Chair Helm felt they should go to the Conservation Commission first to have them accept it, rather than taking it to them and then to Town Meeting. Mr. Brown said he wanted to make sure the concept was something the Selectmen would be in favor of. Chair Helm, Mr. Kaplan and Mr. Bianchi indicated that they were in favor of this arrangement. Mr. Stanley noted that of late, there had been five lot mergers strictly in an effort to save on taxes.

Moving on to another subject, Mr. Brown said that in his November 19 e-mail to Chair Helm, which is attached to the agenda, the Conservation Commission expressed its interest in proposing two warrant articles. He was looking for their thoughts, and hopefully support, on the matter.

Mr. Brown summarized that Senate Bill 381 was passed in 2008 and made changes to RSA 36. One change allows Town Meeting to authorize Conservation Commissions to give town funds to a qualified organization for acquiring conservation land or easements, and the second allows towns to give funds for projects outside of town boundaries. In the past two years there were 46 towns that voted to participate in land interest or easements outside of the town's boundaries; many are the neighboring towns including Sunapee and Wilmot. Mr. Stanley distributed a list of towns that have approved warrant articles on these subjects.

Ms. Levine noted that even if Town Meeting approved these warrant articles, Town Meeting would also have to approve any specific expenditure of funds out of the Conservation Commission's capital reserve article. In fact, Ms. Levine said that Town Meeting would also have to vote to change the purpose of the capital reserve fund to allow it to be used for ownership interest (easements) in land and not just outright ownership. Mr. Dancy added that it gives towns the opportunity for the same protections as obtaining property, using less money and having less responsibility to the town. They would get a better return on the town's investment.

Mr. Kaplan asked what an easement provided. Mr. Stanley said an easement is an agreement between a property owner and a qualified organization to give up some rights to the land (mostly developmental) in return for something. Sometimes the property owner will withhold some rights (mineral, timber, agricultural) to continue to use the land. The land usually can't be subdivided or developed other than in ways specified. It can be any kind of agreement between the land owner and a qualified organization. Mr. Stanley noted that the Conservation Commission is considered a qualified organization. Some people give land easements to the Conservation Commission because they don't want their land developed. It is also done for tax avoidance, and others actually sell easements to make money. Mr. Kaplan asked if these agreements are added to the deed. Mr. Stanley said that it was and is recorded as a separate easement agreement that stays with the property forever. The Town often has to monitor the easements as a participant. However, if they donate funds to a third party, like the Forest Society, the Town has no ongoing responsibility but the property is still protected.

Ms. Levine said that while it would require another Town Meeting vote to spend out of the Capital Reserve Fund, the Conservation Commission has some funds they are authorized to spend as they deem necessary. Passing these articles would give the Conservation Commission permission to spend their funds that come from donations or bequests for this purpose. Mr. Stanley said they have about \$12,000 available in the expendable account. He added that they used to have a larger Conservation Commission fund but that there was some concern that there wasn't an opportunity for the public to weigh in on what could be major changes to the town. By agreement with the Board of Selectmen years ago, it changed to a capital reserve fund, which is subject to vote at Town Meeting. Ms. Levine noted that other towns may not have a capital reserve fund like New London does, but they earmark all or a portion of the current use penalties for conservation purposes. New London puts revenue from current use penalties into the general fund instead.

Ms. Levine summarized that there would need to be three warrant articles: 1) allowing the town to contribute towards interest in land outside the boundaries of the town (ex. Black Mountain in Sutton); 2) a warrant article to contribute to qualified organizations within the town; and 3) a third article to change the purpose of the land acquisition fund to allow other property interest, such as an easement. This last article would require a 2/3 vote.

Mr. Kaplan asked if they would be looking at land outside the confines of New London and using taxpayer money for purposes outside the town. He wondered if anyone has discussed this or if this was a new idea. Mr. Stanley said that, as shown on the list he gave the Selectmen, half as many towns adopted that provision as adopted the one allowing them to contribute to a qualified organization. Mr. Stanley said that the Philips property spanned the boundary of New London but they had it worked out that New London would buy what was in New London, and Sunapee would buy what was in Sunapee. Ms. Levine said that Black Mountain was a good example because if the land was subdivided and developed, homes there would be visible from New London and the undisturbed mountain view would be gone. She said there are people in New London who might want the Town to contribute to that project.

Mr. Kaplan worried that money spent outside of New London could pose a problem. He felt that there were some very good projects throughout the state but was not sure New London wanted to get that involved with them. Ms. Levine reminded him that the voters would have the opportunity to decide every time. Mr. Brown said he didn't think they'd propose buying, for instance, a park in the city of Manchester because money spent from a Conservation Commission fund must serve the town, so it would have to be close to the town.

IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Tina Helm) to put the optional power allowed by RSA 36-A:4-a II (a) on the warrant, which would “authorize the conservation commission to expend funds to purchase interests in land outside the boundaries of our municipality, subject to the approval of the local governing body.”

Mr. Bianchi said he only made the motion to be able to discuss the issue further. He was not in favor of sending money out of town or purchasing easements out of town. Chair Helm said that this puts the procedure in place but if there was a proposal for money to be spent, it would have to go to Town Meeting before anything could be spent.

Chair Helm called for a vote on the motion and it passed 2-1 (Kaplan and Helm in favor, Bianchi opposed).

IT WAS THEN MOVED (Tina Helm) AND SECONDED (Mark Kaplan) to put the optional power allowed by RSA 36-A:4-a II (b) on the warrant, which would “authorize the conservation commission to expend funds for contributions to "qualified organizations" for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the town will retain no interest in the property.” **THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chair Helm said that the Conservation Commission will work with Ms. Levine and they will put it on the warrant. Ms. Levine indicated that the wording would be exactly as it is written in the statute.

Energy Committee: Chair Helm welcomed Mark Vernon of the Energy Committee, who said the Energy Committee was interested in promoting biking in town and they'd like to put up some bike racks. They've proposed to put two at the Town Common and one at the Information Booth as a first step. Materials and labor would be donated. At first they would be symbolic and show people that the town encourages bike riding. Chair Helm asked how many bikes they would hold. Mr. Vernon said that the proposed style he came up with was a hitching-post style and could hold two bikes. Larger racks could hold up to a dozen, but those were surprisingly expensive. The cheapest in-ground bike stand he could find was \$95 and that was a post with a ring that holds two bikes. He would ask Richard Lee (Public Works Director) to help with the installation, and they would construct them themselves. At Mr. Kaplan's inquiry, Mr. Vernon shared that the racks would be made of pressure-treated wood. Mr. Kaplan said he would suggest using the wooden ones first to see how it goes and then perhaps move on to the metal ones if need-be.

Ms. Levine said that she and Mr. Vernon had gone back and forth on this issue for months. She fully supports the concept of alternative transportation and having the racks available. Mr. Vernon has proposed a 4x4 post with a rack design in the ground. She and Mr. Lee came to the conclusion, separately, that there were already a number of posts in town that could serve multiple purposes and could be used to hold a bike. The guide pole at the edge of the Town Office driveway, the “pooper-scooper” post, and various trees around the common, could all be used to hold bikes. More posts added to this area could create more work for the Public Works Department as they would have to mow around these items.

Ms. Levine said that Mr. Vernon developed an alternative design and she told him he’d have to come to the Board of Selectmen to have it approved. She didn’t think what was proposed would make that much of a statement about biking in town. She repeated that she is not at all opposed to the concept but wasn’t sure this was the best way to handle it. She is worried about adding to what’s on the Common.

Mr. Bianchi asked if this was for people to rest their bikes or to lock them up. Mr. Vernon said it was for locking. Mr. Vernon went on to say that he thought the “pooper-scooper” bag post was inadequate and inappropriate to serve double-duty as a bike stand. Trees would work but they wouldn’t advertise their openness to biking. Additionally, it was not only the New London Energy Committee but also the New Hampshire Project Climate Program that is interested and concerned with making towns more bike-friendly.

Chair Helm said it might be more appropriate to think of a concrete slab or defined space that would not require mowing or weed-whacking around it. One post that accommodates just two bicycles would not transmit the message the Energy Committee was looking to convey. Mr. Vernon said that anything larger than what he is proposing would call for an appropriation. Ms. Levine said that the library has a small metal rack that can be picked up and moved to be mowed around and under. It is not permanent and can be moved in the winter. Mr. Vernon said that the racks should not be too moveable, for security. He said these types of racks are more expensive. Mr. Kaplan said if they wanted to do any of these things, they should be able to come up with donor money to get them done. If they can’t, than his original premise of them being bike-friendly is being ignored. Mr. Vernon said they want to target Main Street and reduce traffic congestion by promoting biking. Mr. Kaplan said it seemed like it would service only those who live on Main Street or at the college, as getting to Main Street from the Country Club area or Pleasant Lake would require going up a significant hill.

Mr. Bianchi didn’t think the Main Street was wide enough for biking. Chair Helm said she’d like to see the Energy Committee do some more work with this and come back with some numbers. She was not in favor of putting anything more on the Town Common and that part of its beauty is that it is open and doesn’t have a lot of things there. She felt the Information Booth was a plausible place but perhaps some other spaces would be sensible, as well.

Mark Wendling asked about some tastefully designed signage to explain what they have available for locking up bikes, such as “Park your bike here.” Mr. Bianchi thought maybe the businesses would like to get involved with this. Mr. Vernon agreed and said he would come back with some numbers. He asked if the Energy Committee could accept gifts. Ms. Levine said that the Board of Selectmen could, and also that the Recreation Department could accept monetary gifts and use their revolving fund, since cycling is a recreational activity. Mr. Bianchi said to have some tasteful advertising and some help with fundraising would work well. Chair Helm felt they needed more information to embrace the idea.

CAC Minutes from December 11, 2010: IT WAS MOVED (Mark Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to accept the CAC minutes from December 11, 2010, as circulated. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board of Selectmen Minutes of December 13, 2010: Mr. Bianchi said that his sentiments were reversed on page 6. Ms. Levine recognized the error and would fix. IT WAS MOVED (Mark Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to accept the minutes of December 13, 2010, as amended. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

EOC Closet RFP: Ms. Levine said she was surprised that there were only four bids for the EOC closet project and none was from a New London contractor. She had asked that the painting part of the project be separate, and she got an offer from Jim Wheeler to volunteer to do the painting. Bruss submitted the lowest bid at \$2,303.57 and they did give an alternative price for the electric work which added another \$227.25.

IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Mark Kaplan) to accept Bruss Construction's bid of \$2303.57 plus the cost of paint to construct the EOC closet. The funds will come from the FEMA reimbursement for the February-March 2010 wind storm. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Lamson Lane Update: Ms. Levine reported that Mr. Lee met with FEMA on December 20, 2010. FEMA asked for a list of every culvert to be replaced and Mr. Lee estimated the cost and broke the costs down further. He came up with a new construction subtotal of \$348,000. Ms. Levine said that she is trying to clarify from FEMA that the Town's match for the new \$348,000 figure would be \$87,000, of which the Town can provide \$25,000 as a soft match, which would lower the Town's cash match to \$62,000. She said that she would not recommend changing what they would appropriate this year. The worst case scenario is that they would have to spend \$87,000 instead of \$110,000.

Ms. Levine said the Selectmen approved spending \$55,000 in the 18-month budget, of which \$25,000 would come from the Local and Regional Highway and Transportation Fund. The remainder (\$30,000) would come from taxation. She suggested appropriating \$75,000 in 2011 for engineering, and 75% of that will come from FEMA. When the engineering is done, they could find that the estimate for construction is higher than necessary and they may not have to spend the entire amount. Even though they potentially may have to have less of a cash match, she didn't want to change what was going into the budget because they could do the design sooner and perhaps finish it all without waiting for a subsequent year.

Mr. Bianchi asked if all the permitting had to be done. Ms. Levine said that there would be extensive permitting, as there were 11 culverts to be replaced that feed into the lake. This led to a discussion about seeking bids when the contractors knew how much had been estimated for the project. Ms. Levine said that this is the problem when towns have to appropriate money before having a final cost. She said that they have to follow DES guidelines for this work. Mr. Bianchi felt that \$15,000 seemed to be a lot for construction oversight. Ms. Levine said that it is usually a percentage of the entire construction contract, and repeated that it is all an estimate at this point and will be refined as the project proceeds.

Comcast Franchise Fees: Ms. Levine referred to the Section 9.1 (c) of the franchise agreement with Comcast, which allows the Board of Selectmen to increase the franchise fee by 0.5% per year up to a 5% maximum. It has been 3% for the last 20 years, and the Town takes in about \$60,000 per year from the franchise fee. Comcast gives this money to the town in exchange for the right to offer cable service in town. Ms. Levine said that she wanted the Selectmen to be aware of this revenue option, and cautioned that when the franchise fee is increased, Comcast will most likely increase the rates to their users, so it is not free money. She added that there were some towns that collected the full 5%. New London is the only town that responded to a recent survey that deposits the franchise fee income into the general fund. Most towns dedicate the franchise fee for public access programming, which New London does not offer.

Mr. Kaplan said that prior Boards of Selectmen have felt that they didn't want to raise the 3% franchise fee or to expend funds for the purpose of providing a public television channel. They've chosen to leave it at 3%. If they go to 3.5%, Comcast could raise fees to the users, so they will be taxing a portion of the town. If they had public television and wanted the money to go into it, they could, but he didn't see a need for it. He felt they should leave it at 3%.

Mr. Wendling said that Mr. Kaplan implies that Comcast doesn't already raise their fees regularly. Mr. Kaplan said that Comcast raises their fees all the time. Ms. Levine said that their franchise fees were \$30,000 two years ago and they doubled over the last couple of years. She couldn't imagine their user base being doubled, so the increased revenue must come from increased subscription fees. She thought that this fee was only on cable television and not on the internet because the internet is un-regulated and is not subject to the franchise agreement.

IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Tina Helm) to increase the Comcast franchise fee from 3% to 3.5%. **THE MOTION PASSED 2-1** (In favor: Bianchi, Helm; Opposed: Kaplan).

Bond Hearing Schedule: Ms. Levine said that a public hearing is required for the wastewater and library bonds and asked if the Board of Selectmen would rather add this hearing to the agenda of their January 24 meeting or to meet earlier the evening of February 14, the date of the budget public hearing. Chair Helm was in favor of meeting earlier on February 14. The Budget Committee meeting begins at 7 PM, and all agreed that the bond hearing at 6:00 PM on February 14 would be appropriate.

Recreation Department Request to Serve Alcohol: Ms. Levine referred to the letter from the Recreation Department requesting permission to serve alcohol on the Town Common during the "Block Party," a new event that is part of the Winter Carnival over the last weekend in January. It would be for adults only and they wanted to offer a cash bar. Mr. Bianchi asked who would profit from this event. Ms. Levine said that proceeds from ticket sales would go into the New London Recreation Department's revolving fund, and the cash bar would be run by a licensed entity, which would be, in this case, Ellie's Café. She didn't think that the town would be making any money off of the cash bar but it would be a draw to bring people to the event.

Mr. Bianchi wondered how other town departments handle this type of event. Ms. Levine said they've never done anything involving the sale of alcohol for a town event. That is why they need a business that holds a license to run the event. The Recreation Department needs permission from the Board of Selectmen to have alcohol on Town property, and Ellie's will need a special liquor license from the State.

Mr. Bianchi said that he is worried about liability. Ms. Levine said that the Recreation Department would follow the Town's alcohol ordinance and would work with police for safety. Mr. Bianchi had concerns that the Recreation Department would be having an event and someone else would be making money at the event. Ms. Levine said that people will purchase tickets for the event, which would include dinner and there would be a cash bar available. Ms. Levine said that it is not unusual for a for-profit business to provide a service so the underlying non-profit can raise money. She said that this is an example of how the Common is used, but also how the businesses help the non-profits and get something in return. Mr. Kaplan said it was called quid pro quo. Chair Helm felt this was a good opportunity to monitor this type of event so they can fine-tune the usage.

IT WAS MOVED (Mark Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to allow the serving of alcohol at the New London Block Party as outlined in the December 22, 2010 letter from the Recreation Department. **THE MOTION PASSED 2-1** (In favor: Kaplan, Helm; Opposed: Bianchi).

Town Administrator's Report: Ms. Levine said that there would be a meeting the following Wednesday at 3:30 PM with the subcommittee working on the ambulance regional study to develop a scope of work.

Ms. Levine said that the 2009 audit is complete and she had forwarded it electronically to the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen would like to schedule a meeting with the auditor to discuss the audit in person.

Ms. Levine noted that they have some notices of zoning violations going out. One is for an illegal third apartment at Sandy Rowse's house at Crockett's Corner. The second is going out to the owners of the Village Green commercial area where for the third time they have moved in a tenant and made changes to the interior of the building and put up a sign without applying for proper approvals from the Town.

Wind Turbine Meeting: Chair Helm reported that she, Mr. Kaplan, Ms. Levine, and representatives from the New London Hospital and Colby-Sawyer College attended a meeting at the College about wind power. They are a long way from establishing wind power but it was an exploratory meeting initiated by the College to see if there was further interest. They are currently trying to locate places to put a turbine. Ms. Levine said that her job was to talk to Peter Stanley about pieces of land that could support a tower. She said that some of the best ridgelines are in Springfield or Wilmot. They are looking for pieces of land where wind could be found and tested via an anemometer, to be consistent enough to support a turbine in town. Peter Messer's property may be appropriate. Chair Helm said that Bill Spears had offered the College's marketing class to do a survey to see if people in town would support this alternative source of energy. Mr. Bianchi felt there would be many individualized opinions with regards to windmills. He thought the Lempster windmills were nice but others do not feel the same way.

Ms. Levine said that Mr. Stanley will talk to the Energy Committee about solar power as well. Mr. Kaplan thought they should look at all the alternative power possibilities, not just wind.

Sunapee Sewer Meeting: Chair Helm noted that they were all present at the meeting on December 16 in Sunapee. Mr. Kaplan said they decided to go ahead and ask the town for approval. Ms. Levine said that Ed Rushbrook should have his peer review report ready before the Selectmen's meeting on January 10. She has a call into DES to get straight how the grant and loan forgiveness would come through.

She agreed with Mr. Lee that they should start the design right away, but Mr. Rushbrook didn't think they should spend the money to do that unless they know they have approval at Town Meeting. Mr. Kaplan said they've already bonded themselves for the engineering and they have the cash. They are locked into it whether they like it or not. Mr. Bianchi said they may have another year of confusion if Sunapee did not vote to go through with it. He noted that it sounded like Sunapee didn't have the money for the project in hand, as had been assumed. Ms. Levine said that last year Sunapee had to use all their money from their capital reserve so RDA would see the match. It is possible they did something different with their money. Mr. Kaplan felt it meant that they didn't want to contribute everything they had; they want to keep what they can and get permission to borrow \$2.6 million. Ms. Levine said that RDA could still make them spend it down.

There being no further public business, the Board of Selectmen voted to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 33 II (a) to discuss a personnel matter in the Police Department. Roll call vote: Helm – yes; Kaplan – yes; Bianchi – yes.

Upon returning from public session, Ms. Levine noted that Geoff Daley has decided not to pursue the full-time officer position with the Town, so there is an opening. The Board of Selectmen encouraged posting the position and seeking an experienced officer for the position, if available.

Application for Building Permit:

- Gregory & Jane Barban, 48 Summit View Road (Map & Lot 129-014-000) remove window – Permit #10-138 – Approved.
- Robert & Dorothy Book, 20 Highland Ridge Road (Map & Lot 145-001-000) replace kitchen cabinets & flooring & remodel 1 bathroom – Permit #10-139 – Approved.
- Brian MacKenzie, 246 Birch Acres Road (Map & Lot 074-029-000) install solar thermal hot water system – Permit #10-140 – Approved.
- James & Jean Connolly Conderosa Trust, 229 Pilothouse Road (Map & Lot 068-004-000) new storage and workshop building – Permit #10-141 – Approved.

Application for Sign Permits:

- NLOC, 114 Cougar Court – sign at information booth – comedy night 1/22/2011 – Approved.

Application for use of New London Town Green/Common:

- Center for the Arts, Wednesdays, June 29 - September 21, 2011 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM (except 7/20) – approved.

Application for use of Whipple Memorial Town Hall:

- Bits & Bites for Sunapee Central School – Saturday, January 29, 2011 8AM-4PM – Approved.

Tax Abatement for Wastewater:

- Elizabeth Hamilton Trust, 209 Fairway Lane (124-011-000) billed in error (no money to be sent they will pay the difference)

Other items to be signed:

- Disbursement voucher and payroll for December 27, 2010.
- Cell Tower lease agreement - approved
- Petition & Pole License – approved
- Letter of Commitment – 2011 Household Hazardous Waste Collections – approved.
- Intent to cut – (Map & Lot 033-027-000) Charles Bucklin Family Trust, Morgan Hill/Old County Road – Approved.

IT WAS MOVED (Mark Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's meeting of December 27, 2010. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary
Town of New London