



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES December 16, 2019 6:00 PM

PRESENT:

Nancy Rollins, Chairman
Janet Kidder, Selectman
John Cannon, Selectman
Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator
Wendy Johnson, Finance Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

Minette McQueeney, *Intertown Record*
Jay Lyon, Fire Chief
Jamie Hess, Chair, Energy Committee

Selectman Rollins called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed Jamie Hess, Chairman of the Energy Committee.

Mr. Hess met with the Board to discuss a proposal to convert the lights in the Public Works garage to LED. Mr. Hess explained that switching to LED will not only save money in energy costs, it will also increase safety for employees with better lighting. He recommended that the Board agree to make the switch now instead of waiting for 2021 when grants may be available to cover some of the cost. The cost now, after the Eversource rebate, will be approximately \$11,000. The Board reviewed the budget and determined that the project could be done now within the current budget and felt that the project should not be delayed due to the safety issue of the lighting of the building, and the expense to change the burned out florescent bulbs in the interim. Mr. Hess noted that interest free financing over twelve months is available.

IT WAS MOVED (John Cannon) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve the contract to replace the lighting in the public works garage with LED lighting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Board thanked Mr. Hess, and the Energy Committee, for all the hard work done on behalf of the town that has resulted in both cost savings and energy conservation.

The Board asked Ms. Johnson to investigate the financing options.

Public Comment: There was none.

Building Inspector

Chair Rollins suggested that the Board withdraw its vote to bring the issue of establishing a building inspector position to enforce the state building code before voters in March and instead consider the issue again at a future date.

IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to withdraw its motion to place the issue of establishing a building inspector position before the voters in March. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Abatement of Land Use Change Tax: Map 068-006-001-0-0

The Board reviewed a memo with a recommendation from Chief Assessor Norm Bernaiche to abate \$7,760 from the land use change tax assessed against a parcel on Davis Hill Road; the adjusted tax due is \$49,610.

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to grant the abatement of \$7,760 as recommended. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Information Technology Risk Management Proposal

The Board reviewed a proposal as prepared by Mike Williams, Complete System Design, volunteering his assistance in managing the town's IT needs. Ms. Hallquist informed the Board that she has been speaking with Mr. Williams about the town's IT needs, especially with regard to security issues. She noted that Mr. Williams has expertise in this area and he has offered to volunteer as the town's Information Technology Officer, a position that could be established by the Board.

The Board agreed that they would like to explore the offer in more detail by having Mr. Williams attend a future meeting to discuss the issue in more detail.

Revised Library FY2021 Budget

The Board reviewed the Library's revised FY2021 budget; increased by \$9,500 to allow for 1.5% COLA for library employees, following the COLA amount approved by the Selectmen for town employees.

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to approve the revised library FY2021 budget request. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Town Administrators Report

Ms. Hallquist provided the following report:

- The deadline for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the alterations to the Police Department as issued by the Buildings and Facilities Committee is Thursday, December 19th at 2PM. The Selectmen will be provided a list of the firms that have submitted a proposal, along with the proposal amount, on Thursday afternoon and the actual proposals will be available on Friday.
- The Board discussed possible topics for the CAC meeting on January 4th; co-Chairs Maureen Prohl and Thelma Kaplan will determine the final agenda with the assistance of the Board.
- There was a sewer break on Jobs Creek Road in Sunapee on Thursday evening that was resolved at approximately 2:00AM; the spill was minor. Bob Harrington reported that he appreciated the assistance of Dave Bailey of the Town of Sunapee Sewer Department and Rob Thorpe of the New London-Springfield Water Department. Mr. Harrington has submitted the necessary reports to the State DES and to the EPA.

Committee Meetings & Reports

Selectman Kidder reported that on December 10th the Planning Board had tree cuttings, a minor subdivision, and an application for an ADU. The Board spent a considerable amount of time going

over proposed zoning amendment changes to tighten up the ordinance; they also decided to include a synopsis of the master plan survey results in the annual report.

Selectman Kidder reported on the Recreation Commission; they completed an on-line survey that they will post on-line, they also discussed Winter Carnival plans for February, and update on the skating rink which is in place and waiting for the ice to freeze so it can be used. Chair Rollins asked if the survey would be done using 'survey monkey'; Selectman Kidder agreed that it would be.

Selectmen Kidder reported that she and Ms. Hallquist attended the Tr-town Assessing Board meeting that was held in Sunapee on December 10th, the quarterly meeting of the three towns; no updates to report.

Selectman Cannon reported that at the last Budget Committee meeting the Budget Committee moved to remove funding for the building inspector, they voted to include funding for the additional fire department staff requested. There was an attempt to include funding in the amount of \$5,000 for the K-9 which failed due to a tie vote, the library revised budget to include the COLA was included. There was some discussion of reducing the line item for welfare vendor payments, but it was not ultimately reduced.

Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED (John Cannon) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve the minutes of December 2nd meeting. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

Upcoming Meetings & Special Events

- Next Selectmen's Meeting – Monday, January 6th – 6:00 PM
- Buildings & Facilities Committee – Tuesday, December 17th – 6:30 PM @ Fire Dept.
- Conservation Commission – Wednesday, December 18th – 8:30 AM
- Budget Committee – Wednesday, December 18th – 7:00 PM
- Buildings & Facilities – Thursday, December 19th – 6:30PM @ Police Dept.
- **Town Offices CLOSED – December 25th and January 1st**
- Citizen's Advisory Committee – Saturday, January 4th – 7:30 AM

The Board discussed dates for upcoming meetings: January 6th and 27th and a joint meeting with the Budget Committee on January 15th; February 3rd and 24th and March 2nd and 16th.

Other Business

Items to be signed

- Accounts Payable Voucher
- Veteran Tax Exception
- Tax Abatement for TM 68-6-1-0-0 Davis Hill Road
- Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber – TM 046-035-0-0-0 & 060-003-0-0-0 Little Sunapee Road and TM 052-009-0-0-0 Whitney Brook Road
- Applications To Use Town Property
 - ✓ Town Common & Bandstand – On December 17 from 2:45pm – 5:00pm for a political rally.
 - ✓ Whipple Hall – On January 7, 9, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18 from 6:00pm-9:00pm for rehearsals by the Center for the Arts.
 - ✓ Whipple Hall – On July 14th, 5:30pm-8:00pm and 21st, Noon-3:00pm for a club lecture and an animal science presentation hosted by the New London Garden Club.

Applications Approved &/or Denied

Sign Permits – all approved

- Permanent Sign 19-018 – Barbara McKelvey, Blue Mountain Guitar, 277 Newport Road, TM 059-005-0-0-0.

Building Permits

- Timothy Paradis & Eric-Jason Smith, Sargent Road, TM 086-014-0-0-0. Ground mount solar 9.48 kW. BP 19-162 APPROVED
- Stephen Pope Revocable Trust, 99 High Pine Lane, TM 044-007-0-0-0. Interior renovations, convert deck to screen porch room & 8x12 shed. BP 19-168 APPROVED
- Donald & Jennifer Shcad, 316 Elkins Road, TM 077-038-0-0-0. 8’x24’ workshop addition. BP 19-169 APPROVED
- Barry & Gretchen Fougere, 1835 Little Sunapee Road, TM 043-019-0-0-0. 12’x36’ addition, porch, interior and exterior renovations. BP 19-170 APPROVED
- Cameron Kent, 151 Wilmot Center Road, TM 065-003-0-0-0. Add 2nd floor bath & kitchen renovations. BP 19-171 APPROVED
- Jameson Snow, 14 Littlefield Lane, TM 074-018-0-0-0. Build attached carport/lean-to. BP 19-172 APPROVED

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to adjourn. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 6.59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Hallquist
Town Administrator