



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

March 2, 2020

6:00 PM

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Bob Harrington – Public Works Director
Peter Bianchi – Building and Facilities Committee
Colin Beasley – Building and Facilities Committee
Bob Bowers – Building and Facilities Committee
Minette McQueeney – *Intertown Record*

Selectman Rollins called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Public Comment - None

Appointments

Bob Bowers, Chair, Buildings & Facilities Committee

Bob Bowers attended the meeting to provide an update from the Building and Facilities Committee. Mr. Bowers provided the Selectmen with a report describing the work that has been done so far. Consultant Dennis Mires, PA has been in to do a few walk through's and fact gathering of the Police Department; he will then work with the Building and Facilities subcommittee to prepare the study.

Mr. Bowers noted they have also talked with the Recreation Department and learned that the Recreation Department expressed their desire to grow and provide more programs; they are able to function with the space that they currently have although they mentioned storage issues. If the conclusion is that the Police Department should stay where it is, they would need to discuss next steps for the Recreation Department. If the Police Department moves out, the Recreation Department would like to have much of that vacated space for their use.

Mr. Bowers reported that the committee also spoke with the Emergency Management Director Lou Botta and noted that the emergency management function is very organized and know what they need and want. They are fine with what they currently have although they would like to have their storage space consolidated.

Chair Rollins thanked Mr. Bowers for the time and effort the committee has put into this. Chair Rollins asked what the timeline was for the Mires study to be concluded. Mr. Bowers provided the timeline as follows:

2/14 - Project Begins
3/20 - Initial Facts gathered
4/30 - Options established
6/30 - Final Study Presentation
7/24 - Final Completed Plan - Incorporating input from Board of Selectmen

Old Business - None

New Business

Bids for Brookside Drive culvert replacement

Bob Harrington, Public Works Director, reported on bids received for the Brookside culvert replacement as follows:

United Construction - \$308,581
Hansen Bridge - \$312,000
L&M - \$274,000
BUR - \$259,000

Mr. Harrington recommended that the town go with BUR as they did the first Brookside culvert replacement and he was happy with their work. The work is expected to be done in October/November, when the stream is low, and should take 3-4 weeks to complete the project, weather permitting. Letters will be sent to people in that area, so they are aware when the work is starting.

IT WAS MOVED (John Cannon) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to accept Bob Harrington's recommendation to award the Brookside Drive culvert replacement contract to BUR. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Jerry Coogan appointment to RPC Brownfields Advisory Committee

Chair Rollins stated they received a request from Jerry Coogan who is seeking appointment for the Regional Planning Council's Brownfields Advisory Committee. Ms. Hallquist commented this is good as he is volunteering to represent the town.

IT WAS MOVED (John Cannon) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to accept Jerry Coogan's appointment to the RPC Brownfields Advisory Committee. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Proclamation recognizing March as National Athletic Training Month

Chair Rollins stated they've received a request from students at Colby-Sawyer College to issue a proclamation recognizing March as National Athletic Training month, the Board issued a similar proclamation in 2019.

IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to issue a proclamation recognizing March as Athletic Training Month in New London. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Letter from Governor Sununu – support for HB 1402

Chair Rollins stated they received a letter from Governor Sununu requesting support for HB 1402. Ms. Hallquist stated there was some confusion because HB 1402 has already been dealt with, however, HB 1218 is another bill which is open for consideration and incorporates everything that was in HB 1402. Representative Ebel suggested that the Board could reply to the Governor and say they are in support of HB 1402 which has to do with net metering but we understand there is another bill, HB 1218, which incorporates 1402 and we are in support of that as well.

Chair Rollins stated she would support Karen Ebel's recommendation and would like Ms. Hallquist to draft a letter stating support for HB 1402 as well as HB 1218.

Ms. Hallquist informed the Board that NHMA requests they write a letter in opposition to two pending bills: short term rentals (SB458) and tiny houses (SB482), as they would take away local zoning control over those matters. The Selectmen agreed with this and directed Ms. Hallquist to send a letter with the Board's position.

Review Warrant – assign Selectmen coverage for voting day

The Board reviewed the list of warrant article assignments for Town Meeting. *Municipal Matters* will have warrant article information in it this week as well.

Coverage for voting day on March 10, 2020 will be:

Janet Kidder – first shift
John Cannon – second shift
Nancy Rollins – third shift

Town Administrators Report

Ms. Hallquist provided the following report:

- The town report is available online and is being printed and delivered tomorrow.
- \$75,000 was received from the state of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Wendy Johnson, Finance Officer is working to determine what is for. Kim Hallquist noted that last February, Underwood Engineering helped the town apply for a wastewater grant so it could be associated with that. A public hearing will be held to accept these funds.

Committee Meetings & Reports

Planning Board - Selectman Kidder reported at the last meeting on February 25, 2020 they approved tree cuttings and an in-home custom cake studio.

Board of Firewards – Chair Rollins noted that they didn't receive a response to the letter sent from the town to the state Department of Transportation.

There was also a recommendation that *Municipal Matters* puts out information regarding safety services and Coronavirus protocols.

Meeting Minutes – Deferred until the next meeting

Upcoming Meetings & Special Events

- Next regular Selectmen's meeting – Monday, March 16th – 6:00 PM

- Buildings & Facilities Committee – Thursday, March 5th – 2 PM @ SAU office
- Citizen’s Advisory Committee – Saturday, March 7th – 7:30 AM
- **Town Election: March 10th 7am-7pm; Town Meeting: March 11th 7pm**
- Conservation Commission – Wednesday, March 18th – 8:30 AM
- Recreation Commission – Wednesday, March 18th – 5:00 PM – Whipple Town Hall
- Planning Board – Tuesday, March 24th – 6:30 PM
- Master Plan Committee – Thursday, March 26th – 8:30 AM

Other Business

Police Chief Ed Andersen’s Retirement - There will be a public reception for Chief Andersen in April. His last day is March 31, 2020.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Linda Nicklos has submitted her resignation and her last day will be March 19, 2020. The Selectmen will need to appoint a Town Clerk/Tax Collector replacement for her. The Town Clerk position needs to be a New London resident.

Items to be signed

- Accounts Payable Voucher
- Proclamation - National Athletic Training Month for March
- Solar Energy Systems Exemptions
- Employee birthday cards
- Applications To Use Town Property
 - ✓ Sydney Crook conference room – On Monday, March 10, Tuesday, March 17 and Thursday, March 19, 9:00am - 5:00pm for training of US Census workers by US Census Bureau – Concord.

Applications Approved &/or Denied

Building Permits

- CNJJ Investments, 428 Main Street, TM 085-041-0-0-0. Interior renovations. BP 20-009. Approved 2-26-20.
- Kathleen Coby, 33 Highland Ridge Road, TM 071-026-0-33-K33. Bathroom renovations. BP 20-010. Approved 2-26-20.
- Bragg-Brown Living Trust, 1041 Lakeshore Drive, TM 065-009-0-0-0. After the fact, new 8’x15’ deck & interior remodel. BP 20-011. Approved 2-28-20

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson
Recording Secretary