



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

### MEETING MINUTES

March 7, 2016

6:00 PM

#### **PRESENT:**

Nancy Rollins, Chair  
Peter Bianchi, Selectman  
Janet Kidder, Selectman  
Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator  
Wendy Johnson, Finance Officer

#### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Bill Helm, Planning Board Chair  
Phyllis Piotrow, Budget Committee Member  
The Potter Family  
The Frankenweich Family  
Edward Andersen, Police Chief  
Michael Todd, Moderator

Chair Rollins opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

#### The Potter Family – Request for the Town to Fly the “Donate Life” Flag at the Town Office

Chair Rollins welcomed the Potter Family to speak regarding their request for the Town to fly the “Donate Life” flag at the Town Office building. Emmy Potter, 7<sup>th</sup> grader, said that last year she wrote a letter to the Town to ask if they could fly the flag. She said she understood that they couldn’t, but instead made a proclamation in the town that April is “Donate Life Month” in New London. Miss Potter said she appreciated the proclamation but thinks it would help spread awareness about organ donation if the Selectmen allow the flag to be flown on the flagpole at the Town Office.

Dr. Brian Frankenweich said he was speaking for his family on the subject of organ donation, as he is the son and father of organ donor recipients. The New London community, in October, touched their family significantly when his young son needed a liver transplant. The outpouring of support was tremendous. Flying the flag would be a way for people who may not usually think about organ donation to do so if they are the position to donate organs. He asked the Town to fly the flag.

Selectman Kidder said the Selectmen certainly feel that there is a need to raise awareness for this very good cause. However, last year the Planning Board proposed loosening the sign ordinance a bit, which would allow such flags to fly, but the amendment did not pass at Town Meeting, suggesting that citizens want to limit signs. Selectman Kidder suggested that interested citizens could work on a proposal to submit to the Planning Board for a possible zoning amendment to allow such flags to be flown and

offered to work on the proposal with the Potter family if they decided to approach the Planning Board with a proposal for a zoning amendment. Selectman Kidder said the Selectmen could issue the proclamation again, but would need the support from the town on an amendment to fly flags at the Town buildings.

Selectman Bianchi agrees with Selectman Kidder's thinking; they all feel this is a worthwhile and noble cause. It isn't an issue of the validity of the cause, but it is how flying a flag fits into the whole scheme of the sign ordinance.

Dr. Frankenweich asked what kinds of flags are currently allowed to be flown within the town. Selectman Kidder said the American flag is the only flag that will be seen at this point in time at Town buildings. She suggests working together with the Zoning Administrator to craft the language for a zoning amendment. This is the best way to go because they will not only get the support but also the recognition they deserve, from both the Town and its citizens.

Ms. Frankenweich said she appreciates the regulations of the Town and that they are what make the town the way it is, which they like. She is interested in working with the Town to craft the appropriate language.

Ms. Potter is disappointed that they didn't get this advice last year when they asked about the possibility of flying the flag. Selectman Kidder noted that last year they were hoping to get the sign regulations relaxed through an amendment voted on at Town Meeting but it was overwhelmingly voted down. The voting was in May and the request was made for the month of April.

The Selectmen said they were in favor of signing a proclamation for this April to be "Donate Life Month" in New London, and Ms. Hallquist provided a new proclamation for them to sign.

**IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to issue the proclamation to designate April, 2016 "Organ Donor Appreciation Month" in the Town of New London. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Town Moderator Update – Michael Todd, Preparations for Town Meeting

Mr. Todd said he received a request from someone that would like all Town Moderators to recognize veterans before every Town Meeting. Mr. Todd said he would like to tweak their opening presentation a bit and ask the veterans stand, then ask all to stand, and then do the pledge and begin the meeting. The Selectmen were fine with this idea.

Mr. Todd said the polls are currently open from 8am to 7pm. He feels they should add an extra hour, for example 7am to 7pm. RSA 659:4-a, IV provides that the governing body (Board of Selectmen) may extend polling hours. Once changed by the Selectmen, the change will not take effect for 60 days. If the Selectmen agree to the change, it could take effect for the elections in the Fall. Selectman Kidder said she feels this would be OK as long as Linda Nicklos, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, and the ballot clerks were in favor of the idea.

Mr. Todd said they need more ballot clerks. He had a list of 20 people who he wanted to be appointed, who could be called on to assist if needed. The clerks must be appointed by the Selectmen, however. New people can be trained during the early shift to work the mid-day shift at the following day's Town Meeting.

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to appoint the 20 people (10 registered democrats and 10 registered republicans) as listed by Michael Todd in his March 3<sup>rd</sup> memo to act as ballot clerks.  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Todd said the new clerks would be appointed for a two year term. He noted that individuals need to be part of one party or another to participate as a ballot clerk. He also mentioned that he would like to have a moment of silence for Lloyd Littlefield and those the Town Report is dedicated to. The Selectman are OK with this.

#### New Business

Receipt of a letter from Mr. James Mallinger was acknowledged. The letter offers the use of his home to the Fire Department for training purposes. The Fire Department has agreed to use the house for training as offered.

Receipt of a letter was acknowledged from the Town of Sunapee Water and Sewer Commissioners regarding the \$2,500 from Penta Corp. to help pay for the EPA fine.

Receipt of letter from Bruce King (New London Hospital) was acknowledged regarding the delivery of the new ambulance, which is the fourth in their fleet.

#### Grant Update – Edward Andersen, Police Chief

Chief Andersen said he has received a Highway Safety Block Grant for running radar, in the amount of \$6,480. The officer(s) will get paid overtime for any time over their regular 40 hour work week by this grant. There is no set timeframe to do the monitoring this time around. They can go out whenever they want to do this. The money from the grant will come in October.

**IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to accept the Highway Safety Block Grant as described by Chief Andersen.  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### Town Administrators Report – Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator

Ms. Hallquist said she joined Mark Kaplan and Bill Helm at the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board's ad hoc committee for the 1941 building. She reported that the discussion was positive and she is encouraged by the willingness of ad hoc members to discuss this issue. Doug Lyon has volunteered to join the committee if Bill Helm decides to step down once he is elected Selectman.

Ms. Hallquist said she met with representatives from Davis & Towle who provided two proposals for insurance for the town. The Town already has a quote from Primex. She noted that the non-pool insurance carriers that David & Towle work with do not offer the training opportunities that Primex, or

the town's current insurer Property-Liability Trust, offers. Ms. Hallquist noted that Davis & Towle is looking into one of their two proposals to see if the company will change its position and agree to cover the Pleasant Lake dam. The final numbers will be in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Hallquist said she is working on setting the dates to interview dam engineers. She has contacted Jud Donaghy to see when he can join in these meetings. Ms. Hallquist reported that Office Assistant Diane Richmeyer has worked with Lucy St. John (Planning & Zoning Administrator) a couple of Wednesdays and it has gone pretty well so far. Ms. Hallquist noted that the Selectmen's meeting for Thursday, March 10th at 9:00am is posted and the Board can consider which consultants will be invited in to discuss the Pleasant Lake dam. Ms. Hallquist noted that she will remind people about voting on March 8<sup>th</sup> and Town Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> using Streamsend emails (for those signed up for "Citizen News" via the town website).

#### Committee Meeting & Reports

Selectman Kidder reported that at the last Planning Board meeting, members considered a tree-cutting application and conceptual subdivision proposal. They also talked with Colby-Sawyer College regarding plans for a new performing arts center. The center will be built where the former DiLorenzo house currently is. The house will either be moved or demolished.

Selectman Bianchi reported that the Sewer Lagoon Closure Committee met in Concord recently. DES staffers Mike Rainey, Ken Kessler and Judy Houston (an engineer who works with Mr. Rainey) were present, along with committee members Paul Currier, Richard Lee, Peter Stanley and Peter Bianchi. Mr. Helm also attended the meeting. Selectman Bianchi noted that he thinks they are getting close to coming up with concrete plans for the closure. They also had an informal meeting at the lagoon site with representatives from Sunapee. One of the options was to pump the effluent from the lagoons to the treatment plant in Sunapee. He spoke with David Bailey, Sunapee Treatment Plant, previously to let them know what New London was thinking in terms of this idea. Mr. Bailey called Selectman Bianchi to see if he could go down and see the lagoons. There were six people from Sunapee and a state engineer that went to look at them. Selectman Bianchi noted that he made it clear that New London isn't trying to do anything to harm the treatment plant, since New London pays such a large part of the operations there. Sunapee was cautious about the prospect of dangerous chemicals being sent to the plant. Some permits may be waived to do some of the work, such as spray irrigation. Mitch Locker is the head of this department and Paul Currier, from the committee, knows him and will speak further with him. Selectman Bianchi hopes to hold another meeting the following week to discuss testing of the materials in the lagoons. It was a relief to him that an engineer will not need to be hired to work on this project with the Town. Selectman Bianchi informed the Board that it is not the dewatering of the sludge, but what happens with the sludge, that is important with this project. They need to come up with a more specific plan on what to do with the water and sludge.

Mr. Helm said he came away from the meeting feeling like Mr. Rainey was waiting for a plan from the Town and that once a plan is submitted, he (Mr. Rainey) will react to it. Mr. Rainey provided a lot of guidance but said several times that he needs a plan. Mr. Helm wonders who is in charge from the Town on this project as it wasn't clear to him at this point in time. Selectman Bianchi said it wasn't the intent of the committee to run the "show." They also don't intend for the Highway Department to be in

charge of building a road to the lagoons, and he noted that Mr. Lee said he doesn't want this responsibility either.

Ms. Piotrow said her understanding is that if the sludge is sent to Sunapee, it will be dewatered and then sent to Claremont. From there, it is given for free to farmers as it is good compost. She questioned whether the Selectmen should ask Dave Bailey (Sunapee Wastewater Treatment Manger) to explore the possibility of charging something for this compost. Selectman Bianchi said he feels Sunapee may have looked into this to help recoup some of the costs they will have to do this project. He said giving the sludge away saves New London the cost and hassle of storing it and testing it.

Chair Rollins reminded Selectman Bianchi that committee members should keep in mind that that Mike Rainey is planning to retire and would like to get this project done sooner than later.

Selectman Bianchi said he feels the committee should continue even though he will not be a Selectman any more. He wasn't sure if they would have him remain on the committee or not.

#### Approval of Minutes

**IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve the minutes of February 3, 2016, as circulated. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to approve the minutes of February 16, 2016, as circulated. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to approve the minutes of February 18, 2016, as circulated. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### Upcoming Meetings & Special Events

Town Elections: Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> – Whipple Hall – 8:00AM – 7:00PM

Town Meeting: Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – Kearsarge Learning Campus/Outing Club Gym.– 7:00PM.

Next Regular Selectmen's Meeting – Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> – 6:00 PM

Recreation Commission – Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> – 5:00PM – Whipple Town Hall

Conservation Commission – Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM

Planning Board – Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 6:30PM

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Peter Bianchi) to move into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a).**

**Roll call vote: Rollins: Yes, Bianchi: Yes, Kidder: Yes.**

The Board entered nonpublic session at 7:00PM.

Upon returning from non-public session, the Selectmen signed building permits and other items, as noted here:

#### Application for Building Permit

- Michael Hansen, 134 Hastings Landing Rd., TM 103-010-000. Remodel on interior of existing barn. BP# 16-016. **APPROVED.**
- Beth Greenawalt, 316 Bog Road, TM 106-011-000. Demo of existing house, garage & outbuildings. BP# 16-017. **APPROVED.**
- James H Mallinger & Elizabeth R Gatti, 318 Sugarhouse Road, TM035-020-000. Demolition. BP# 16-018. **APPROVED.**
- The New London Hospital Assoc. 273 County Rd., TM 072-016-000. Construct a Temporary Structure. BP# 16-019. **APPROVED.**

Requests to Use Town Property

- Town Common/Bandstand by Melissa Saccento for the New London Farmer's Market for June 22 through September 7, 2016 (every Wednesday.)
- Whipple Town Hall Conference Room by Marion Murray for the Miss Lake Sunapee Region Scholarship Program, Inc. for August 13, 2016 from 9AM - 7PM
- Town Common/Bandstand, NL Inn Common, Whipple Hall (rain) by Nicole Densmore for NL Band Com. Summer Concert Series for Jun 24, July 1, 8, 15, 29, August 12, 19 from 5 - 9PM.

Application for Sign Permit

- Application for sign permit for 6 sq. ft. standing A-frame sign by Melissa Saccento advertising the New London Farmer's Market at the Chamber of Commerce Info Booth. **APPROVED**

Other Items to be Signed

- Proclamation declaring the Month of April 2016 Donate Life Month in town of New London
- Petition and Pole License Petition (3 copies)
- Bandstand Commission requisition for 2016 Bandstand Concert Funds
- New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency Grant \$6480 for STEP Patrols

**IT WAS MOVED (Peter Bianchi) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to adjourn.  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary  
Town of New London