



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2019

6:00 PM

### PRESENT:

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

### ALSO PRESENT:

Jay Lyon, Fire Chief  
Bob Harrington, Public Works Director  
Ed Andersen, Police Chief  
Mike Black, Continuum  
Minette McQueeney, *Intertown Record*

**New London Residents:** Douglas Lyon, Bob Brown, Joe Kubit, Michael Kennedy, Bob Bowers, Pam and Stan Bright, Jane Todd, Gerry Gold, Elizabeth and Jeremy Kellett, Thomas Patton, Dave Cavey, Anne Cushman, Doug Baxter, Jan Blanco, Sally Patton, Rip Cross, Peter and Debbie Stanley, Mary Shain, John Ellis, Cynthia Jones, Teri Cheney, Lisa McKenna, Karen and David Demers, Linda Messer, Stanley Morano, Nick Ourusoff, Peter Bianchi, Sally Keating, David Payne, Deidre Smith

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

### **Public Hearing: No Through Trucking Designation for Burpee Hill and Bunker Road**

Town Administrator Kim Hallquist stated that residents of Burpee Hill Road have submitted a petition requesting that the road be designated as No Through Trucking. Additionally, residents of Bunker Road have also expressed interest in seeing their road designated as No Through Trucking to address safety issues on the road. Residents of both roads have indicated that the roads are used as cut-throughs by trucks and this is adversely impacting the use of their property for residential purposes. After a public hearing, if the Selectmen are in agreement, they can post the road as no through trucking for the safety and enjoyment of the residents on those roads.

Chair Rollins asked for any comments from Fire Chief Jay Lyon and he didn't have any issues with this. Police Chief Ed Andersen has also stated he would not oppose the designation.

Nick Ourusoff is in favor of the no through trucking designation especially in light of the new senior living facility that is being built. He would like to know what plans there are for alternate transportation because he would think there would be a need to change our transportation system with the new community that will increase the traffic in the next few years.

Chair Rollins clarified that no through trucking means a truck is going all the way through without making any stops for either business or a resident on that street. Deliveries on the roads by Fed Ex, a moving van, UPS delivery, etc. would still be permissible.

Doug Baxter is a resident of Hall Farm Road. He commented that he spends a lot of time down on the lake front and previously felt there wasn't a problem. He did an unofficial traffic study and his observation until that morning was that he saw a lot of contractor, landscaping, tradesman and delivery trucks on that road didn't think it was an issue. He saw these as one-time events and aren't a constant stream coming and going. He stated limiting through trucking on Bunker Road may then impact Lakeshore and Hall Farm road. Mr. Baxter sat at the lake this morning from 7am – 12pm and counted 107 cars and 5 trucks. He feels if people think this is an issue a formal traffic study should be done.

Selectman Kidder asked what type of trucks would be restricted. Kim Hallquist stated the travel restrictions would be as follows: No person shall operate a truck as defined by RSA 259:115b. A light truck is defined in RSA 259:50. Those are defined as follows: a truck by law means every motor vehicle designed used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property. Light truck shall mean any motor truck having no more than two axels. If it has a business decal and used for business with or without a trailer, it would be prohibited.

Sally Keating lives on Burpee Hill Road. She has had acknowledgement from the Police Department that Burpee Hill road is used as a through road. Due to the transfer station at the bottom of the hill, there is considerable traffic, including trucks. They live close to the road and note considerable amounts of traffic. It is a community road being used as a route. They've noticed an increase in the number of cars, the noise level and speeding.

Dave Payne noted even a few less trucks on Bunker Road would make a difference. Many people walk on this road and it's very narrow.

David Demers stated that he owns two properties on Bunker Road. These properties are located near a stretch of turns where you can't see a car coming. A car has careened off the road into the water near their property. He thinks they need to think beyond the number of trucks as it is a combination of trucks, the narrowness of the road, speed and the ability to control in areas where you can't see. He is support of the no through trucking designation and feels it's a safety issue.

Bob Ruggles agrees with Mr. Demers stating they have to look beyond just the trucks as cars are a speed problem as well. He supports restricting trucks, but feels that it is a bigger issue.

Deidre Smith is a resident of Burpee Hill Road. Ms. Smith submitted a letter and wants to talk about community. New London is a unique, beautiful place and the Burpee Hill community is one of the things that make it so special. There has to be a balance that allows a community to thrive. She thanked the police department for putting up the speed signs and they are helpful in having people slow down. People use Burpee Hill for walking, and it has a landmark view at the top. She would like to limit the oversize traffic on that road since it will allow residents the freedom to be a community and enjoy being outside. She is in support of the no through trucking designation.

John Ellis commented that they had similar concerns on Old Main Street. A no through trucking sign was placed on the road about a year ago and have seen significant improvements.

Michael Kennedy stated they recently walked the length of Bunker Road. The amount of traffic and speed was astounding. The stream of traffic was relentless and there was very little concern for pedestrians.

Cindy Jones lives on Burpee Hill Road and stated it is a hazard to cross the street to the mailbox and feels it would really help if through trucking is stopped.

Peter Bianchi stated that he has lived on Bunker Road for over fifty years. He agrees with all the comments about speed. He tries to avoid Burpee Hill Road and Bunker Road when he is in his truck as neither road is productive to use. He doesn't know of any truck accidents on Bunker Road. He doesn't want to truck through Main Street in New London as it is narrow and busy and has not through trucked on Bunker Road in over two years. He knows he is in the minority but feels strongly that speed and traffic is the problem. No through travel would make more sense.

Jan Beardsley lives on Bunker Road and stated it is a great road to walk on but walkers need to realize they can't walk three abreast down the road. The walkers do bear some responsibility to pay attention and be aware of approaching cars and step off the road.

Teri Cheney lives on Burpee Hill Road and is new to the neighborhood. She stated this isn't a road, it's a neighborhood and they should be able to walk their dogs and babies etc. She feels there shouldn't be any through traffic.

Peter Stanley commented that the project taking place on Parkside is going to involve thousands of truck trips to bring in materials and hauling material out. Truckers love taking Burpee Hill Road since it avoids Newport road and the roundabout. The roads are going to get overused and its common sense for the Town of New London to use a state road instead of a town road.

Michael Keating noted that speed has come up again and again. The speed on Burpee Road starts out at 25mph and increases to 30mph which is an invitation to go faster. He would like to make a plea to reduce that section to 25mph to be consistent with other neighborhood roads.

David Payne commented that we need to focus on why we are here tonight. We should be discussing the no through trucking and this is a step in the right direction. We can address speed and other issues another time.

Mary Shain lives on Shaker Street. She stated that although she doesn't live in these neighborhoods the larger community is important to her. Figuring out what makes it safer is important, so it keeps community open while protecting neighborhoods. She suggested installing speed bumps. Police Chief Ed Andersen stated he is supportive of what the community wants and if they want speed bumps that's fine, however, in his experience, people slow down for the speed bump and then speed up until the next one. It is more of an irritant to the residents than to the drivers.

**IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to enact "no through trucking" for Burpee Hill Road and Bunker Hill Road. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chair Rollins thanked everyone for coming and sharing their comments. There will be further discussion relative to speed and other issues brought up as they are legitimate concerns.

## Appointments

### **Bob Brown, Conservation: Purchase of property abutting Low Plain – Map 098-014**

Bob Brown, chair of the Conservation Commission attended the meeting, along with members of the Conservation Commission, to discuss purchasing land. He explained that parcel 098-014 has been on the Conservation Commission's desirable lands list for many years and it is now for sale. This parcel borders Andover Road (Route 11) and also has 200 feet of frontage on Shaker Road. It is a 30-acre parcel of forest and some wetlands, bordering town-owned Low Plain, which is 169 acres of multi-use recreation. It is a key area as it is an important watershed to Pleasant Lake. The 30-acre parcel is assessed for \$268,000 and the asking price is \$225,000. A possible purchase and sales agreement has been discussed but the owner is unable to wait for the town meeting process in March of next year. The concern is that this is a prime parcel and could sell quickly.

Chair Brown is asking the Selectmen to support the acquisition of parcel 098-014 and for their approval to use the Mary Haddad fund. There would also be a private public effort to raise money. They would also like their approval to close the purchase without the usual town meeting approval. It is Chair Brown's understanding that this is allowable and suggested a public hearing to explain the reasons for doing this. Ms. Hallquist confirmed that yes, under RSA 36A:4 allows the Conservation Commission to acquire land if the Selectmen approve it.

Selectman Kidder supports this and feels it is the appropriate use of the Mary Haddad fund and the intent of the fund is being met. She also suggested that the Conservation Commission meet with the Recreation commission and Chair Brown confirmed they already have a meeting scheduled with them to discuss.

Chair Rollins asked how much of the Mary Haddad fund would be used and how much the private fund plans to raise. Chair Brown responded that it would largely be funded by the Mary Haddad fund. There is currently approximately \$550,000 in the Mary Haddad fund.

Peter Bianchi stated he is uncomfortable spending this much money without the town having a say at town meeting.

Peter Stanley stated they identified this piece of land back in the 90's as being a desirable piece of land when he was a member of the Conservation Commission. He stated this land is a gateway into New London and gives the illusion that it is a rural region. We have done a good job at protecting the main drags into town. This land is contiguous with Low Plain and the money to be used was earmarked for conservation. Mr. Stanley concluded his comments by noting that he felt the acquisition would be real asset to the town of New London.

Gerry Gold stated he and neighbors on Shaker Street are in favor of this.

Doug Lyon commented that he is in support of this project. His concern is that if they delay, the land could be sold and lost forever. He will also personally lead a fundraising campaign to add funds to this project.

**IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to move forward with this purchase using Mary Haddad funds. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

A public hearing will be scheduled for July 8, 2019 at Whipple Hall.

**Mike Black, Continuum: Permit and hookup fees**

Mike Black met with the Board to discuss the various fees assessed by the town for the New London Place project. He explained that he would like to ask for relief from some of the fees related to the project. The building fee itself is \$53,000 and since there isn't a building inspector, they will pay for inspections and provide reports back to the town. He would also like some relief related to sewer hookup fees which will be approximately \$170,000. Mr. Black did research and the sewer hookup fees around the state vary greatly. He noted that they will be paying \$723,000 per year in real estate taxes. They hope to break ground on the project in August.

Selectman Kidder asked what his recommendation would be. Mr. Black stated he would like the building fees waived and for sewer hookup fees, he would like a waiver for the large building but would pay for the cottages like they were regular houses. The sewer hookup fee would be \$60,000 instead of \$170,000.

Chair Rollins would like the Planning Board to weigh in on this. Mr. Black will get on the next Planning Board agenda to present this to them. Chair Rollins stated she is less likely to entertain waiving sewer fees since it has been a big expense for the town.

**Bob Bowers, Buildings & Facilities Committee: Update**

Bob Bowers attended to provide an update on the Building and Facilities committee. The committee has given the board a statement of what they have put together as an assessment for how they will proceed. He suggested putting off any questions related to this due to the lengthy agenda tonight. Mr. Bowers explained that the statement represents the committee's best attempt at taking the broad mandate and putting it into an outline of factual steps that will be considered moving forward. They will be talking with various departments.

Rip Cross stated he met with the contractor that is working on the Buker Building last week about the budget and they will be coming in below or at \$600,000 for the total project.

**Public Comment - None**

**Old Business**

**Update on Dispatching Equipment**

Police Chief Ed Andersen stated the equipment is in good shape and being well maintained. He is researching the possibility of doing the third site as a joint venture with Newbury. Chief Andersen estimates the total cost to be \$130,000 and he will seek a 50/50 grant for the project to offset the cost. Phase 3 encompasses putting up a tower on Mt. Sunapee.

Selectman Kidder provided the following updates:

Bob Harrington, Matt Grimes and Selectman Kidder met with Arch Weathers regarding the windows at Whipple Hall. Arch is going to provide an estimate on replacing the pulley's and ropes. He suggested using metal instead of rope pulls. It won't be inexpensive, but he can do it anytime and will provide an estimate. With regard to the storm windows, Mr. Harrington and Mr. Grimes will contact several companies to see what can be done to remove the plastic parts that were put on backwards and get different storms for those windows.

**Electrical Panels** - Selectman Kidder stated that even though we have only gotten one estimate to do landscaping around the electrical panels, we should go with it if it isn't unreasonable. Ms. Hallquist will review the estimate and report back.

**Cupola** - Bob Harrington is working with Eversource regarding a light on the pole to shine down on the Cupola to help prevent vandalism. Chair Rollins asked who is paying for that and Kim Hallquist responded that the town is, as previously agreed to with the school district. The school district will assume responsibility for the routine maintenance and the town will help should there ever be large repairs needed. Mr. Harrington will provide an estimate of the cost for the light when he receives it.

### **New Business**

#### **Request for abate of sewer charges - Inga Frye**

Don Dickey, a neighbor of Inga Frye attended the meeting on her behalf. He explained that Ms. Frye received a sewer bill in the amount of \$1,039.00. The sewer bill was large because of a leaky toilet that Ms. Frye was unaware of; it has since been repaired. Mr. Dickey stated his bill was \$390.00 so feels this is excessive. The Board of Selectmen are in favor of adjusting the amount to \$400.00. Chair Rollins thanked Mr. Dickey for being a good neighbor.

**IT WAS MOVED (John Cannon) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to adjust the sewer bill to the amount of \$400.00. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **2018 Property Tax Abatement Recommendations from the Assessing Department**

The Selectmen received a letter from Town Assessor, Norm Benaiche with his recommendations. Chair Rollins supports accepting Mr. Benaiche's recommendations.

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to accept Norm Benaiche's recommendations. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **Repairs to the Transfer Station Trailer**

Bob Harrington stated it was discovered upon inspection that several cross members underneath the trailer need to be replaced and it needs brake work. The estimated cost is \$8,500 but could be more if there are other issues identified. The funds will need to either be taken out of another account in the operating budget or use the Capital Reserve fund for vehicles.

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to move forward with repairs to the Transfer Station trailer by transferring funds within the operating budget. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **Request from Chamber of Commerce for alcohol on town property - Hospital Days Chamber Night**

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to approve the request from the Chamber of Commerce to have alcohol on town property for Hospital Days Chamber night. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **Change to full time deputy in Town Clerk Office**

It was agreed upon to start this on July 1, 2019

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to approve the change to a full-time deputy in Town Clerk's office. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Employee Tuition Reimbursement Request**

There has been a request for employee tuition reimbursement. The employee is full time in the Public Works Department. Ms. Hallquist recommended that the Selectmen approve the request as the coursework proposed by the employee will benefit the town.

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve this request. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Leave of Absence**

Selectman Kidder informed the Board that Bill Dietrich, Vice-Chair of the Planning Board, requests a leave of absence until the end of September due to personal reasons. The Planning Board approves the request as Mr. Dietrich is a valued member of the Board. The Selectmen had no issues with this request.

### **Park and Ride**

On Friday, June 21, our Executive Counselor Mike Cryans will be attending a meeting at 11:00 regarding the Park and Ride expansion.

### **Town Administrators Report**

Ms. Hallquist provided the following report:

- Municipal Matters went out last week.
- The employee picnic was held Friday at the Historical Society and went very well.
- Planning Board charrettes start this week at Whipple Hall.

### **Committee Meetings & Reports**

**Recreation Commission** – a meeting was held on June 5, 2019 and Selectman Kidder provided the following report:

- The Strawberry Festival will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019
- Roger Wills and Jean Cronin spoke about a Center for the Arts sign hanging in front of the Buker building. All agreed upon that it was confusing to have it there because there isn't an office there. They did express interest in having space in Buker once it's renovated.
- The Recreation Commission has been looking into containers for different events that would reduce plastic waste. Joy Kubit has found someone who sells water in paper containers but the problem with that is keeping it cold and storage.
- Ms. Hallquist had given Scott Blewitt 3 different designs for chairs. People were opposed to mesh seats.
- A cleaning service has been hired to clean the bath houses four times per week. Beach staff will mop and sweep as well.
- Scott Blewitt is going to allow for comments to be made anonymously on the website with regards to programs.
- The strategic plan has been approved, and it includes collaborating with the school district and the Outing Club.

### **Planning Board**

At a recent meeting of the Planning Board, they discussed the process for the upcoming charrettes and met with Colby Sawyer College regarding the reconfiguration of Mercer Hall.

## Meeting Minutes

**IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (John Cannon) to approve the minutes from the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED.**

## Upcoming Meetings & Special Events

- Next Selectmen's Meeting – Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup> – 6:00 PM
- Master Plan Charrette – Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM @ Whipple Hall
- Buildings & Facilities Committee – Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM – Fire Station
- Master Plan Charrette – Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 10:00 AM @ Whipple Hall
- Citizens Advisory Committee – Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:30AM

## Items to be signed

- Accounts Payable Voucher
- Payroll Authorization Voucher
- 2018 Abatement Requests
- Intent to Cut Wood or Timber
- Amendment to Due Date of June 3, 2019 Timber Warrant
- Elderly Exemption
- Birthday cards
- Applications To Use Town Property
  - ✓ Whipple Hall – Once a month, except for 4 months noted, in 2020 for square dancing by Bradford Country Square Dance Club.

## Applications Approved &/or Denied

### Temporary Event/Sale Permits – all approved

- A production of the “The Odd Couple” – female version by S.K.I.T., at the Whipple Hall, November 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> from 7pm – 9pm and Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 5pm.

### Sign Permits – all approved

- Permanent Sign 19-012 – DC Properties/Cheryl & David Laprade, Village Sports, 406 Main Street, TM 085-045-000.
- Temporary Sign – By First Free Will Baptist Church for an A-frame sign at the Information Booth for a turkey dinner from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Temporary Sign – By WFK Ice House Museum for an A-frame sign at the Information Booth for “Old Ford Day” from July 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> and for “Antique Tractor & One Lunger Day” from September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Building Permits – all approved

- Carolyn Biester Trust, 483 Mountain Road, TM 101-002-000. Demo & rebuild single family house, 3 bedroom, 2 bath & garage. BP 19-046.
- William & Jane Hopwood, 706 Bunker Road, TM 076-022-000. Expand screen porch & add deck. BP 19-047.
- Matthew & Kathryn Bemis. 10 Buker Way, TM 111-032-000. Adding footage to garage and finish upper level to living space. BP 19-058.
- Patrick & Mary Moynihan, 29 Pond's Edge Lane, TM 106-013-000. Build 22'x32' barn, 10' porch and lean to. BP-19-061.
- Richard & Karen Epstein, 350 Barrett Road, TM 096-029-000. Build 24'x28' garage. BP 19-064.

- William & Linda Minsinger, 133 Old Main Street, TM 107-004-000. Demo/rebuild sunroom & add porch, deck & 2 car garage. BP 19-065.
- John Ellis, 37 Old Main Street, TM 095-036-000. Build 34'x36' garage & rebuild shed foundation. BP 19-066.
- Samuel Drive LLC, Hall Farm Road, TM 086-022-003. Build new single-family house, 5 bedroom with attached 2 car garage. BP 19-069.
- Michael Hansen Properties, 74 Hayfield Lane, TM 128-018-000. Roof mount solar array 8.505kw. BP 19-070.
- Barry & KC Wright, 1106 Lakeshore Drive, TM 065-004-000. Roof mount solar array 6.825kw. BP 19-071.
- Catherine Robjent Trust, 287 Mountain Road, TM 085-015-000. Roof mount solar array 11.375kw. BP 19-072.
- Thomas White Family Trust, 106 Meadowbrook Road, TM 133-015-000. Enclose skylights. BP 19-074.
- Barbara Carroll, 201 Little Sunapee Road, TM 059-040-000. Build 11'x12' sunroom addition. BP 19-076.

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to enter into a nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a): the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee.**

Roll call vote: Rollins: Yes; Cannon: Yes; Kidder: Yes

The Board entered nonpublic session at 8:09 PM.

The Board reentered the public session at 8:10 PM.

**IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Nancy Rollins) to seal the nonpublic session meeting minutes. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson  
Recording Clerk