



Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire January 2019

Planning Board to Hold Public Hearing on Proposed Zoning Amendments Tuesday, January 8th at 6:30PM

One of the duties of the Planning Board is to recommend changes to the zoning ordinance for consideration by the voters of the town. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit comments from the public on the proposed zoning amendments.

The Planning Board will present two proposed amendments at the Public Hearing: (1) related to the waterfront buffer zone and calculation of points of trees for purposes of tree cutting permit requests and (2) adoption of solar system regulations.

The proposed changes to the tree cutting requirements seeks to amend Article XVI.F.c. The amendment changes the cells in the waterfront buffer from 50'x50' to 25'x50' and prorates the points required in each cell from 50 points to 25 points.

The proposed solar regulations define the purpose of the regulations, establish procedures for review of systems, define terms, criteria for conformance, provisions for abandonment or decommissioning and penalties for violations. All solar systems will be required to meet all applicable state and local codes.

The complete text of the proposed amendments is available for review at the New London Town Office and may also be reviewed on-line by going to the Planning Board section of the town's website: www.nl-nh.com.

Questions regarding the zoning amendments and zoning amendment process can be directed to Adam Ricker – Town Planner at 526-1247 at planning@nl-nh.com.

****Note:** If the Planning Board votes to hold a 2nd and final Public Hearing it will be Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Sydney Crook Meeting Room in the New London Town Office.

The public is encouraged to attend the Public Hearing!



Fire at the Transfer Station

Recently ashes were dumped into the trash compactor at the Transfer Station, causing the trash in the compactor to ignite. Fortunately, Transfer Station staff were able to extinguish the fire before damage was done.

This incident illustrates the danger of improper disposal of ashes and what can happen when the still hot coals and embers in the ashes ignite the material it comes into contact with. Since it is difficult to determine when ashes are completely safe and free from posing a risk of fire, the safest course of action is to always follow the handling procedure outlined below.

To be safe, simply treat all ashes and coals as hot, even when you think they had time enough to cool.

To properly dispose of ashes or coals we recommend the following:

- ⇒ Allow ashes and coals to cool for several days in a metal container.
- ⇒ Keep the metal container outside your home and away from any combustibles until the refuse is hauled away.
- ⇒ DO NOT place any other combustibles in the metal container.
- ⇒ DO NOT use a combustible container (examples: cardboard box, paper bag).

Transfer Station staff thank you for observing these safety procedures and request that ashes be brought to the Stump Dump, and not the Transfer Station, for disposal.

A metal ash bucket, like the one pictured here, is a good choice to safely store and transport the ashes from your fireplace, woodstove, fire pit and barbeque grill.



POSTING LAND IN CURRENT USE - Can it be done?

The quick and easy answer is yes, but.....

By Kris McAllister, Assessor

As the assessors you can imagine Norm and I travel around New London, Newbury and Sunapee quite often and we have viewed each and every property numerous times since the advent of the Tri Town Joint Assessing Agreement thirteen years ago. More so now than ever we have noticed more and more orange and black signs (No Trespassing) nailed to trees.

Anyone can post their property, including those enrolled in Current Use. At the time of enrollment in Current Use, an option is given to those that choose to leave their land open for recreation, for an additional 20% discount. If a property owner in Current Use with the recreation adjustment decides to post the property they must notify the assessors so that the 20% adjustment is removed. The following is directly from the Current Use Booklet which can be accessed online: <https://www.revenue.nh.gov/current-use/documents/2015-booklet.pdf>

If a landowner decides not to post, and opens the property to public use without an entrance fee for 12 months a year, the land is entitled to a 20% reduction in the current use assessment of the acres opened to public recreational use. To receive the 20% recreation adjustment, the landowner must allow all of the following activities:

Hunting – Skiing – Fishing – Snowshoeing –
Hiking - Nature Observation

If any of these activities are detrimental to a specific agricultural or forest crop, that activity may be prohibited. If the 20% recreational adjustment has been granted, posting to prohibit any activity listed above requires approval of the local assessing officials. See Cub 305.03 for further explanation.

The landowner may prohibit trespass upon his property for all other activities, including use of mechanized and off-highway vehicles (such as snowmobiles and three-wheelers), camping, cutting down trees, etc. Posting land to prohibit these activities will not affect the 20% recreation adjustment. [www.revenue.nh.gov/current-use/documents/2015-booklet.pdf]

Please don't hesitate to call or email the Assessing Office with any further questions regarding Current Use or any Assessment related questions- 526-1243 or landuse@nl-nh.com

Thank you to the New London property owner who asked this question— if questions remain, please reach out to town staff for additional follow-up.

Conservation Commission News

Trail Hiking Patch Program

Representing the NL Conservation Commission, Ruth White presents Lindsey & Ruth Collins with their hiking patch. These patches are awarded to people who walk the 26+ miles of trails varying in lengths and difficulty, with many fantastic photo ops! Over 20 people & several dogs have already received patches. To receive a patch, one must hike all the trails listed on the trail completion form and return it to the NL Town office. Forms can be obtained at the Town Office, Tracy Library and the Recreation Department as well as, on line at nl-nhcc.com.



Trail Patrol

The late November storm brought down limbs and trees across many of our trails. Most of the trails have been patrolled and cleaned up since then and are now passable.

Problems with high water levels and beaver activity continue to plague the Kidder-Cleveland-Clough Trail. Flooding is extensive from the Pleasant St. end and hikers should be prepared for wet conditions if they attempt the route. Conditions from behind the old Middle School to Spring Ledge Farm and on to the beaver dam are passable. Along the way, hikers can enjoy the new bridge constructed by Eagle Scout Noah Cooper. The Conservation Commission is considering the options for the flooded portion and will take remedial action this spring and summer. Please report any trail problems to Trails Coordinator, Mark Vernon (mtvernon@tds.net).

Interested in a new and challenging hike?

Try the Langenau Brook Trail. This new trail can be accessed from either end of the Pleasant Lake High Trail or from a parking area at the cul de sac on Messer Road near the top of Granite Hill in Wilmot. From Pleasant Lake High Trail, ascend Langenau Brook Trail north to Langenau Forest Trail via interesting stone work and an active beaver pond. A loop hike of approximately two miles includes these three trails and a short segment on the Webb Forest Trail. Although too new to show up on our trail maps, the Langenau Brook Trail and aforementioned loop can be construed by checking out the vicinity on our web site:

<http://www.nl-nhcc.com/trails/nlcctrails.htm>

Chimney Fire Safety

By Fire Chief Jay Lyon

As you are enjoying the holidays and the New Year, sitting in front of the fireplace or stove, the last thing you are probably thinking about is your chimney. Because the weather has fluctuated so much this winter, you are most likely not burning wood in your stove or fireplace at consistent temperatures. These differences in burning intensity can lead to a buildup of creosote. Creosote, the residue from wood burning stoves, accumulates on the inner walls of a chimney. This residue is highly combustible and when it builds in sufficient quantities and the internal temperature of the chimney is high enough, it can ignite and become a chimney fire. Dirty chimneys and old, unsafe wood stoves are the leading causes of chimney fires, and chimney fire safety is hugely important to the safety of your home. More than 22,000 chimney fires take place in the United States each year and are one of the leading causes of house fires.

“Chimney fires can burn explosively – noisy and dramatic enough to be detected by neighbors or people passing by. Flames or dense smoke may shoot from the top of the chimney. Homeowners report being startled by a low rumbling sound that reminds them of a freight train or a low flying airplane. However, those are only the chimney fires you know about.” (Chimney Safety Institute of America)

Here are a few safety recommendations to keep you, your family, and your home safe:

- Be sure the stove or fireplace is installed properly. Woodstoves should have adequate clearance (36") from combustible surfaces, and proper floor support and protection.
- Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction and design, and should be UL listed.
- Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.
- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening, to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.
- Keep flammable materials away from your mantel.
- The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15 - 30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote build up.
- Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build roaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. NEVER close your damper with the hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
- If synthetic logs are used, follow the directions on the package. Never break a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.



3rd & 4th Quarter 2018 Property Tax Collection To Date:

3rd quarter, due January 2, 2019: \$4,080,728 collected—90%

4th quarter, due March 31st (these are pre-payments): \$723,702.01 collected – 16%

Thank you New London Taxpayers for your timely payments!!!

Data provided by Linda Nicklos, Deputy Tax Collector

Sign-up period to run for public office
is January 23rd—February 1st

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in." - Author Unknown

Each year, in March, New London voters go to the polls to elect the local officials who will represent their interests in municipal matters. The Selectmen will then appoint dozens of citizens to serve on the various boards, committees and commissions that do the important work of planning, zoning, conservation, recreation, archives, energy conservation, fire service, and solid waste management.

Service, whether elected or appointed, requires a willingness to commit the time needed for preparation and attendance at meetings (be warned—this commitment is not insubstantial!) and a willingness to learn—to listen—to cooperate—and to collaborate with fellow members and with the citizens being served.

The town positions up for election in March are:

Selectman — 3 year term

Trustee of the Trust Funds — 3 year term

Budget Committee — 3 year term (3 positions)

Supervisors of the Checklist — 5 year term

Cemetery Commission — 3 year term

Library Trustees — 3 year term (2 positions)

If you believe that volunteering for your town is something that you would like to commit yourself to, either sign up to run for an office during the signup period:

Wednesday, January 23rd to Friday, February 1st,

or submit a volunteer interest form to express your interest in appointment to one of the many town committees. The annual report contains reports from those committees that will help familiarize you with what each does. Volunteer forms are on-line, in the annual report or you can email the town office staff to have one emailed to you: office@nl-nh.com.

See Linda Nicklos, Town Clerk, to file your declaration of candidacy to run for an elected position.

Be sure to do so BEFORE THE DEADLINE or you'll need to try to get elected via a write-in campaign!

REMINDER

Reports to be included in the 2018 New London Annual Town Report are
due no later than January 18.

Reports (in Word doc) can be emailed to Dianne, Administrative Assistant, at office@nl-nh.com.

Photos may be included separately and will be included if space allows.

KEARSARGE CLIMATE ACTION

The New London Energy Committee urges citizens to learn more about a Weatherize-Solarize initiative beginning this month. Kearsarge Climate Action (KCA), in partnership with Vital Communities, is organizing the program where homeowners in New London, Andover, Newbury, Sutton, Warner and Wilmot will be eligible for discounts, rebates and other incentives for weatherizing their homes and/or installing solar panels on their roofs – thereby saving energy, saving money, and reducing carbon emissions.

A follow-up to the successful Solarize effort in 2014-15, this year's initiative also emphasizes more affordably priced energy-saving options such as insulating and air-sealing, as well as installing mini-splits, heat-pump water heaters, energy-efficient appliances, and LED lighting - all of which are eligible for rebates.

The Winter Weatherize campaign kicks off **Saturday, January 26th at 2 PM at the Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church**, where homeowners can meet with contractors to learn more about weatherization and the NHSaves rebate program. During February and March, Weatherize volunteers will follow up with interested families, helping them through the NHSaves application process.

For more information, please visit the New London Energy Committee's Facebook page at facebook.com/NLECNH or call (603) 526-2686, or email KearsargeClimate@gmail.com

Photos Needed

Citizens are encouraged to submit photographs to be included in the Annual Town Report. Each year the report includes a color photo on the front and back cover as well as photos throughout the report. Last year the Mary Haddad Bandstand was featured on the front cover and an antique Ford housed at the Ice House Museum was the back cover.

Please contact Dianne: office@nl-nh.com or 526-1242, for more details.

See your photo in print!

New London Recreation Department upcoming events

Dinner w/ Jack Frost

Friday, February 8th 5:30-7pm on the Colby Sawyer Quad

Come enjoy this New London tradition of eating outside by campfire during the Dinner with Jack Frost. This progressive dinner will certainly satisfy any appetite thanks to the following participating restaurants: Salt Hill Pub, New London Pizza Chef, The Old Courthouse, Tuckers, Peter Christians, Mount Sunapee Resort, Lindt Chocolate, Blue Loon Bakery and the New London Inn.

Get your tickets ASAP as this event always sells out!

www.nlrec.com

1 ticket = \$14 / 2 tickets = \$25 / 4 tickets = \$50

Children 9 yrs. and younger = \$5

Boston Flower show

Thursday, March 14th bus leaves at 8:30am returns 5 pm

Come join New London Recreation on the annual trip to the Boston Flower show. Travel via coach bus into the city and enjoy all the show has to offer! \$50 pp includes bus and entry to show. Lunch is on your own. Reserve your spot by calling 526-6401 or email recreation@nl-nh.com.

Trip to Boston Bruins

Come watch the 2011 Stanley Cup Champion. Boston Bruins live in action vs The Columbus Blue Jackets. Transportation is provided to and from the game utilizing the recreation department's bus.

When: Saturday, March 16th 2019

Where: TD Garden, Boston MA

Game Time: 7:00 PM

Bus Leaves Whipple Hall: 4:00 PM

Cost: \$140.00 per ticket

Please contact New London Recreation at 526-6401 or recreation@nl-nh.com to reserve tickets or online at www.nlrec.com



Generous donation for ice skating at the Bob Andrews Memorial Rink

Ice skating on the town rink is a highlight enjoyed by those of all ages. Preschoolers to college students, seniors to families everyone enjoys their time on the ice. The Bob Andrews Memorial Rink was created to promote this winter activity for physical fitness, sense of community and outdoor fun. The rink is open daily from 8am-11pm with an unsupervised warming hut available to change skates and enjoy a break from the cold. Rink conditions are subject to Mother Nature.

Please respect the closed sign as that indicates unsafe ice.

New London Recreation Department recently received a very generous donation from Village Sports of over 100 pair of skates and adult snowshoes to continue this tradition for years to come. Winter equipment is available for use free of charge (donations gratefully accepted!) at the Recreation Department office located at Whipple Hall.

Special thanks to Matt Grimes for the construction of storage shelves to better display the skates and to ensure proper care. Volunteers are always welcome to clear the rink of snow, assist with flooding and general rink cleanup. Please contact Scott Blewitt, Recreation Director to assist.

TOWN OF NEW LONDON

It's Town Meeting Season!

Town & School Elections

School Warrant Articles

Zoning Amendments

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Whipple Memorial Town Hall
corner of Main St. & Seamans Rd.



Pre-Town Meeting Potluck

Wednesday, March 13, 2019 @ 5:30 PM

Multi-purpose room at the
Kearsarge Regional Elementary School
64 Cougar Court

R.S.V.P. to Janet Roberts 526-4428

jsidmore@tds.net



Town Meeting

Town Warrant Articles

Wednesday, March 13, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Kearsarge Learning Campus/Outing Club
Gymnasium, 114 Cougar Court

*Please bring can good donations for the
KLS Community Food Pantry*



**Town Reports will be available for pick-up at
the following locations:**

- * *Town Office*
- * *Tracy Memorial Library*
- * *Transfer Station*

Also available on line at www.nl-nh.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE NEW LONDON TOWN OFFICES

WILL BE CLOSED ON

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2019

IN OBSERVANCE OF

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Municipal Matters is published by the staff of the Town of New London. Kimberly Hallquist, Town Administrator, 603-526-1240. Email: townadmin@nl-nh.com

TOWN OF NEW LONDON

BUDGET COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please join the Budget Committee,
Board of Selectmen & Department Heads
at a public hearing to discuss the
proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget:

Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Whipple Memorial Town Hall

If needed, an additional meeting will be held on

Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7:00 PM

*Budget information can be viewed on-line at
www.nl-nh.com*

For more information, contact:

Kimberly Hallquist, Town Administrator, at 526-1240

by email: townadmin@nl-nh.com or

Wendy Johnson, Finance Officer, at 526-1241

by email: at finance@nl-nh.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JANUARY 2019

- MON., JAN 7 @ 6 PM — BOARD OF SELECTMEN
- TUES., JAN 8 @ 6:30 PM — PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING—ZONING AMENDMENTS
- WED., JAN 9 @ 7 PM — BUDGET COMMITTEE
- TUES., JAN 15 @ 6:30 PM — ZONING BOARD OF ADJ.
- WED., JAN 16 @ 8:30 AM — CONSERVATION COM.
- WED., JAN 16 @ 7 PM — BUDGET COMM. (IF NEEDED)
- MON., JAN 21 — MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY—
TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
- TUES., JAN 22 @ 6:30 PM — PLANNING BOARD
- MON., JAN 28 @ 6 PM — BOARD OF SELECTMEN
- THURS. JAN. 31 @ 5:30 PM — JOINT NEW LONDON/
SUNAPEE SEWER COMM. @ SUNAPEE TOWN OFFICES,
23 EDMONT ROAD

Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Town Offices, 375 Main Street, 2nd floor, Conf. Rm.

For a complete calendar list of meetings go to the town website: www.nl-nh.com