



Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire

July 24, 2020

New London Happenings

After months of meeting virtually, the Selectmen are working towards resuming in-person meetings. Social distancing protocols require more space, so Whipple Memorial Town Hall will be used, allowing seating to be spaced appropriately. Meeting agendas for the selectmen, and other town boards, are posted to the town’s website: nl-nh.com.

The Selectmen, Town Administrator, Finance Officer and Treasurer had several discussions on the town's financial position during the first months of the pandemic, paying careful attention to revenues, expenses and timeliness of property tax payments to determine whether new full-time positions should be filled, employee step increases allowed and if large expenditures should be delayed. The temporary freeze on those expenditures was lifted at the Board’s July 20th meeting as the Selectmen determined the town’s financial position sound. The Fire Chief and Public Works Director will now begin the process of hiring the new positions approved in the budget.

Elkins and Bucklin beaches have been the subject of discussion by the Selectmen and Recreation Commission as they worked to establish procedures to address the pandemic. Initially the beaches were closed, allowing time for the removal of some picnic tables, installation of hand sanitizer stations and signage alerting patrons of the new safety protocols. Occupancy limits were established to help encourage social distancing, having space to spread people out. Proof of residency requirements were established to ensure beach goers are New London residents. All in an attempt to keep New London residents safe and slow the spread of the coronavirus in the community. Not all changes were met with enthusiastic approval as some feel that non-residents should be allowed to use the beaches as well, pointing out that the children of New London go to school with children from other towns

and they should be able to enjoy the beaches together. Some also feared that grandparents would not be able to bring their grandchildren to the beach. This is not true, New London residents are encouraged to bring their friends and family to enjoy the beaches with them. The difference this year is that there are no visitor passes available so the guest must accompany the New London resident when entering the beach.

The coronavirus pandemic has resulted in many new rules, including reducing the numbers of people in any one place. While these rules can cause frustration and disappointment, we hope that patience and understanding prevail as we all do what we can to keep the coronavirus from spreading in New London and in the surrounding communities.



A drop box is now available at the Town Office (the Bandstand side of the building) to allow documents to be securely left for Town Office staff follow-up.



The second and final culvert on **Brookside Drive** is replaced. The site was on the State of NH “red-listed” bridges indicating a need for replacement. B.U.R. Construction was awarded the job at \$259,000. Public Works Director Bob Harrington reports that the job went according to plan, and the new culvert will allow safe travel on Brookside Drive for decades to come.

Dear Tracy Memorial Library Patrons,

I'm pleased to tell you about recent progress in our phased reopening plan.

We successfully launched Porch Pickup by appointment on June 23, and it has been gratifying to see happy patrons walking by the window with a brown bag of goodies. Demand is highest on Tuesday mornings when, typically, we arrive to find over 100 holds placed by patrons since the previous Porch Pickup day. After the initial launch, we added more hours. Please check our website regularly for any additional changes.

Our Book Drop is open during our Porch Pickup times, and the over 1,600 items that had been checked out before stay-at-home are gradually making their way back. Items will be coming due starting at the end of this month, and other people may be waiting for them, so please return via the Book Drop when you are able, but do not worry too much – there are no fines during this time.

The biggest buzz surrounding a new service is for the Book Bike funded by Friends of Tracy Library. We are off and pedaling! Please contact us if you live near the Library and are interested in receiving a delivery.

Our contact-free Summer Reading Programs are well underway. The youth and teen program, "Imagine Your Story," is dedicated to Tomie dePaola. This year everything is done through our app, Read Squared. Participants can register, log reading minutes, watch our storytimes, earn prizes and complete missions online. Summer Reading for adults features the return of Book Bingo. Game boards are included in Porch Pickup bags or can be printed from our website. Complete the books and activities on at least one line to be entered to win prizes.

After a three-month hiatus, we librarians have been thrilled to start ordering and receiving new books, movies and audio books again. But we may have missed a few hot titles. If you do not see something in our catalog, please make a purchase suggestion!

While the building is closed to the public, we continue to provide all of our great virtual resources, including the popular online collection of e-books, audio books, music, streaming video, etc. Based on your feedback, we will be keeping newly launched CreativeBug, Hoopla and Kanopy! Additionally, we hold a virtual book group monthly with titles available in Hoopla.

We are working to make this a safe summer of learning and fun and to prepare for the uncertainties of the future. I thank all of the staff for their commitment to the safety of the community and each other, and for their willingness to learn new procedures, all while wearing masks. Thank you also to our Board of Trustees, who have held fast in their commitment to safety.

Your support during this challenging time has been heartening. We look forward to restoring more services as quickly as we can. For the latest updates and frequently-asked-questions, please check our website (<https://tracylibrary.org/>) and FB page (<https://www.facebook.com/tracylibrary/>).

Best regards,

I want to be a K9 Vilo Supporter!

Here is my donation in the amount of: _____

to help support the New London Police Department
K9 Program.

Name: _____

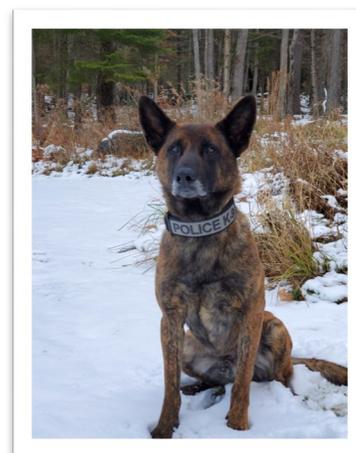
Address: _____

Please make check payable to:

Town of New London K9 Fund

Mail to: 375 Main Street, New London, NH 03257

Thank you for your support!!



PUBLIC NOTICE

Recreation Department

Bucklin & Elkins Beach Rules & Safety Procedures regarding Covid-19

Lifeguard hours: Daily – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
(weather dependent & subject to change)

The Following will be in effect until further notice

- ◆ Beach use is limited to New London Residents (year-round and seasonal) and their guests.
- ◆ Resident must accompany guest.
- ◆ Beach Parking Sticker & Picture ID required.
- ◆ In addition to picture ID, seasonal residents must bring proof of residency (i.e. property tax bill or electric bill).
- ◆ Beach goers must check in with gate attendant at entrance.
- ◆ There may be a waiting period to enter beach in order to keep social distancing.
- ◆ Bathroom/changing room – OPEN during guarded hours only.
- ◆ Social Distancing must be practiced at all times (minimum of 6 ft).
- ◆ Playground, floating docks, boats, etc. are not available.
- ◆ Alcohol and dogs are not allowed on beaches.
- ◆ Beaches close at 9:00 pm.

Thank you for your understanding during this difficult time. We care deeply about our staff and patrons and want to ensure safety for all.

Questions? Please contact Recreation Director Scott Blewitt at: 526-6401 or e-mail:

recreation@nl-nh.com



Pictured above: Assistant Beach Manager & Lifeguard Logan Montminy at Bucklin Beach.

KEEP YOUR TAGS VIRTUAL. WEAR A MASK.



Camp Scholarship Program

New London Recreation Department has received requests for partial or full scholarships to help defray the cost of camp.

Just \$125 will send one child to Summer Day Camp for one week!

Please make checks payable to:

"New London Recreation Department"
note in the memo
"camp scholarship program."

Mail or drop off checks:

New London Recreation Department
375 Main Street, New London, NH 03257
New mail slot is by the first front door.

Thank you kindly!

Scott Blewitt, Recreation Director

Town Offices are CLOSED to public traffic

Call us for assistance

Monday - Friday, 8am – 4pm

Transactions like property taxes, vehicle registration & sewer bills can be done online:

www.nl-nh.com/pay

For vehicle registrations, property taxes, beach & transfer station passes, sewer payments, vital records, dog licenses, voter registration & absentee ballots.

Call Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office: 526-1244 or 1245

For building, sign & driveway permit applications Call 526-1246 or 526-1242

For property tax exemptions & credits Call 526-1243

Applications & forms can be found online:

www.nl-nh.com/forms

Meeting Calendar

The Selectmen will once again hold meetings in person; meetings will be held at Whipple Memorial Town Hall to ensure adequate social distancing.

Please check the town's web calendar to see if other board and committee meetings will be held at Whipple Hall or via the Zoom.com platform.

- THURS, JULY 30 @ 1:30 PM - BUILDINGS & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE
- THURS, JULY 30 @ 8:30 AM - MASTER PLAN COMM.
- MON, AUG 3 @ 6 PM - BOARD OF SELECTMEN
- WED, AUG 5 @ 7 PM - ENERGY COMMITTEE
- THURS, AUG 6 @ 6:30 PM - BUILDINGS & FACILITIES
- TUE, AUG 11 @ 6:30 PM - PLANNING BOARD
- WED, AUG 12 @ 11:00 AM - RECREATION COMM.
- THURS, AUG 13 @ 8:30 AM - MASTER PLAN COMM.
- WED, AUG 19 @ 8:30 AM - CONSERVATION COMM.

For a complete list of meetings go to the town website:

www.nl-nh.com

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

Tracy Memorial Library

Porch Pickup



Tues, Weds, Thurs
10-1
Tues, Thurs
3-6

- 1 Place your holds online in our catalog, email us at info@tracylibrary.org, or call us at (603) 526-4656 x1.
- 2 We'll call you when your items are ready for pickup and schedule a pickup time for you.
- 3 Arrive for your pickup time, walk up to the pickup cart under the main entry porch, grab your already checked-out items, and go!

Returns

Library materials can be returned via the Book Drop only during our Porch Pickup hours.

Check our website for info.

about our 2020 Summer Reading Program for Kids, Teens, and Adults!



www.tracylibrary.org

304 Main Street New London, NH

Brush & Metal Disposal Center

Summer Hours

AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
TUESDAYS 8 AM - 3:30 PM	TUESDAYS 8 AM - 3:30 PM
CLOSED	CLOSED
SUNDAYS NOON - 4 PM	SUNDAYS NOON - 4 PM

State Primary Elections Tuesday, September 8

Voting will take place at the Public Works Garage
184 South Pleasant Street
Absentee ballot questions: Town Clerk: 526-1244