



TOWN OF  
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, February 3, 2024  
Sydney Crook Conference Room  
375 Main Street  
8:45 AM

**PRESENT:**

Janet Kidder, Chairman  
Bill Helm, Selectman  
Bebe Hammond Casey, Selectman  
Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Bob Bowers, New London resident  
Will Kidder, Town Clerk – Tax Collector

**Petition Warrant Article: \$30,000 for the Conservation Land Acquisition Fund**

The Board reviewed a petition warrant article requesting \$30,000 be added to the Conservation Land Acquisition Fund. The petition has the required 25 voter signatures to be placed on the Warrant for a vote at Town Meeting. The Selectmen previously voted not to fund the Conservation Land Acquisition fund reasoning that the price of any such purchase would exceed the balance in the fund, so bonding would be the likely source of funds to purchase the land.

There was a discussion of the town's need of funds for current projects, including sidewalks, that will need funds now, so it did not seem prudent to put money in the capital reserve fund where there is no immediate needs for the funds. The Board stressed that their vote not to include funds this year was not a lack of support for conservation land purchase, only that the funds would come from another source when a piece of land come before the voters for purchase.

**IT WAS MOVED (Bill Helm) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) not recommend the \$30,000 petition warrant article. The vote on the motion not to recommend the appropriation: Kidder and Helm in favor; Casey opposed. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 2-1.**

Selectman Casey noted that she votes no to the motion, stating that she wants to support the Conservation Commission and she wanted the voters to decide. Chair Kidder noted that the voters will have the vote as it is a petition article, and it will be placed on the Warrant for a vote.

**Draft Warrant**

The Board reviewed the first draft of the warrant.

The Board noted receipt of a petitioned warrant article that was submitted, having the requisite 25 signatures or more to be placed on the Warrant:

*“To see if the Town will vote to keep the Police Station at the current location and not spend more Town resources exploring, planning for, or designing a new police station are to be transferred to the town’s general fund”*

The Board noted that this article should be moved to the top of the warrant, near the \$900,000 bond article.

Selectman Helm suggested that the Board insert an article after the bond article that would say:

*“To see if the town will vote to support the intent and recommendation embodied in the 2021 Master Plan (pages 30-31) to "Identify and acquire a property suitable for the relocation of the Police Department.”*

Selectmen Helm explained his reasoning that the Board should take a more active role in letting people know why they are investigating a potential new site for a police station. He suggested that the Board indicate its recommendation or non-recommendation of both articles.

Selectman Casey understood Selectmen Helm’s intent with the article and asked if they could discuss it at their next meeting to give her time to think about the wording of the article. The Board agreed to take up the issue again at their next meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kimberly Hallquist  
Town Administrator