



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

375 MAIN STREET • NEW LONDON, NH 03257 • NEWLONDON.NH.GOV

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES April 18, 2024 Whipple Memorial Town Hall 5:30 PM

PRESENT:

Bill Helm, Chairman
Bebe Hammond Casey, Selectman
Janet Kidder, Selectman
Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator
Lynn Lewis, Finance Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

Will Kidder, Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Laura Abrahamsen, Tracy Library Interim Director
Eula Kozma, Chair, Tracy Library Trustee
Steve Solomon, Tracy Library Trustee
Karen Epstein, Budget Committee member
Rich Epstein, New London resident
Mary Rakow, New London resident
John Ellis, New London resident
Collin Beasley, New London resident
Nancy Marashio, New London resident
Joe Cardillo, New London resident
Leigh Bosse, Publisher for *The Messenger*

Chair Bill Helm called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

TRACY LIBRARY

Eula Kozma asked the Board to consider appointing David Click as an alternate Tracy Library Trustee, pointing out that he was the first runner up in the recent elections, he serves on the board of the Friends of Tracy Memorial Library, and he has shown an interest and commitment to the library.

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Bebe Casey) to appoint David Click as an alternate to the Tracy Library Board of Trustees. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Steve Solomon explained that the Tracy Library generator is at the end of its useful life. The Tracy Library Facilities Committee has received a contract to replace the unit at a cost of \$9,918. If it is determined that the propane gas line also needs to be replaced, there is an additional contingency amount of \$1,757 that would be needed. The Trustees are asking the Board to authorize up to \$11,675 from the Library Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

Selectman Kidder asked the age of the current generator and Mr. Solomon responded that it was approximately 15 years old. Selectman Casey asked how much would be remaining in the reserve fund.

Lynn Lewis reported that after the funds committed for 2024 are spent, there is approximately \$48,000 remaining. This request would bring it down to about \$36,000. The amount being transferred into the account for 2025 is equal to the planned expenditures for 2025.

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Bebe Casey) to authorize the expenditure of up to \$11,675 from the Library Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, for the generator replacement. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Rakow, from Bunker Road, commented on the condition of the foliage near the water's edge at Elkins Beach. She mentioned that the bench near the jetty is hard to access due to overgrown vegetation and she would like to know if it's something that could be addressed as a part of New London Day Cleanup, or by the Town. Kim Hallquist explained that no shrubs or trees could be removed in the shoreland area however they may be able to be cleaned up and trimmed by the Department of Public Works.

Ms. Rakow also expressed concerns about the size of the swimming area at Elkins Beach and the distance of the boat moorings from the swim line. She understands there is a process for new moorings to be installed, however she has noticed changes since last year. Kim Hallquist explained that the Town has a permit for the swim line and the swimming area is specified by the permit. Eula Kozma, a member of the Elkins Mooring Cooperative, spoke regarding the significant work the Cooperative has done to address proper spacing, and the number of moorings at the site. The Cooperative is aware of a new mooring, and they have plans to address it. Chair Helm stated he had spoken with Putnam Kidder, the Recreation Director, and Mr. Kidder felt the Mooring Cooperative was working well. Selectman Kidder explained that if someone has access to the lake they are allowed to drop a mooring into the water. The State of New Hampshire recognizes that lakes and ponds belong to all citizens in the state. Selectman Kidder said the Board would investigate the question of the size of the swim area.

FORMATION OF POLICE FACILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair Helm explained that the Selectmen were ready to finalize the establishment of the Police Facilities Advisory Committee and asked Selectmen Kidder and Casey if they had additional names for consideration.

Selectman Casey nominated **Malaika Sidmore** and **Ashley Seybold** to the Police Facilities Advisory Committee.

Selectman Kidder nominated **Susan Warren** and **Annie Beck** to the Police Facilities Advisory Committee.

IT WAS MOVED (Bebe Casey) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve four nominations to the Police Facilities Advisory Committee. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The first meeting will be at the beginning of May and will be posted on the town website, as well as the Public Meeting Schedule, when the date is finalized.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Chair Helm read the following recommendations for appointment:

Planning Board:

- **Tim Paradis (reappointment)**

- Paul Vance (reappointment)
- David Royle, (reappointment as alternate)

Zoning Board of Adjustment:

- Ann Bedard (reappointment)
- Frank Anzalone (reappointment)
- Heidi Lauridsen (reappointment)
- Steve Root, (reappointment as alternate)

Conservation Commission:

- Rob Prohl (reappointment)
- Jim Dexter (reappointment)

Recreation Commission:

- Jackie Christensen (reappointment)

Archives Committee:

- Pam Bright (reappointment)
- Emma Crane (reappointment)
- Deborah Hall (reappointment)
- Constance Reece (reappointment)

Board of Firewards:

- Steve Ensign (reappointment)
- John Ryan (reappointment)

Energy Committee:

- Davis Paradis (reappointment)
- Robin Raine-Lobacz (reappointment)

Housing Commission:

- Marilyn Kidder (reappointment)
- Randy Foose (reappointment as alternate)
- Neil Bergquist (new appointment)
- Nancy Rollins (reappointment, moving from alternate to regular member)
- Amy Kaplan (new appointment as alternate)

Citizens Committee:

- Celeste Cook (reappointment)
- Karen Hogle (reappointment)
- Nick Ourusoff (reappointment)
- David Royle (reappointment)
- Peter Hogle (reappointment)

Waste Reduction Committee

- John Ellis (new appointment)

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission Representative:

- Jerry Coogan (reappointment)

IT WAS MOVED (Bebe Casey) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve the nominations to boards as committees as listed. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Selectman Casey thanked all residents who have volunteered. Chair Helm asked residents to consider volunteering and also asked them to speak with their neighbors regarding the opportunities available.

ANNUAL ADOPTION OF RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Board discussed four changes to their Rules of Procedure:

1. *Section II, B. Meeting Time:* it was proposed to update the stated meeting start time from 6:00pm to 5:30pm.
2. *Section II, C. Meetings open to the public:* it was proposed to change the statement “A public comments session *shall* be allowed at each public meeting” to “A public comment session *may* be allowed at each public meeting.” This change will reflect the fact that there is not always time for public comments and there are meetings with only one topic, such as a nonpublic session, when public comments would not be possible.
3. *Section II, H. Meeting Agenda:* it was proposed to change the statement “by noon on the Tuesday prior to the meeting” to “by noon two days prior to the meeting” as meetings are not always scheduled on Thursdays.
4. *Section II, K. Recording Secretary:* it was proposed to add a statement reflecting the intent to provide video recording of meetings when possible. There was a discussion on the pros and cons of having a specific time frame, 96 hours as suggested by Chair Helm, and the clearest language for how to communicate that video recordings would only be available when technically possible. The statement regarding minutes does not include a time frame because there is already language in NH state law for when they must be made available to the public.

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Bebe Casey) to accept the proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Kim Hallquist reported that the current focus is getting the two new committees up and running. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee is expected to have its first meeting in the next few weeks. She reported that she, Chair Helm, Chief Lyon and Chief Cobb met with representatives from the New London Hospital Ambulance group to continue work on a formal contract which will affirm the services that New London Hospital Ambulance has provided to the town for many decades. When the agreement with the Town of New London is finalized, the hospital will be working with other towns in the region to develop a similar contract.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS & REPORTS

Selectman Casey reported that a representative from the Town of Springfield has been joining the group previously referred to as the Tri-Town Watershed Committee. The group reviewed Newbury’s proposed septic ordinance and is considering the lessons learned from its failure to pass at town meeting. Selectman Casey hopes that the idea of a septic ordinance, and what it would mean for New London, could be discussed at the Selectmen’s next community gathering in June to see if citizens are interested in adopting one.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Helm thanked the New London Fire Department for their hospitality in including them at their annual dinner.

MEETING MINUTES: - Approve Selectmen’s Minutes of April 6th

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Bebe Casey) to accept the minutes of the April 6th meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next regular Selectmen’s meeting will be Wednesday, May 1st at 5:30pm, at Kearsarge Professional Center. Meetings will continue to be held on Wednesdays throughout the summer.

The Selectmen have scheduled another Community Forum at Colby-Sawyer College, for the morning of June 27th. More information will be made available at a later date.

APPROVAL OF PAY VOUCHERS, PERMITS etc

Items to be signed:

- Payroll Authorization Vouchers
- Intent to Cut – Jonathan Paul, 186 Page Road
- Application to Use Town Property:
 1. Center for the Arts, Whipple Hall (4:30pm-8:00pm, May 3rd, Sept 6th & Nov 1st)
 2. New London-Springfield Water Precinct, Sydney Crook Room, (1:00pm-4:00pm April 24th)
 3. Garden at Tracy Library, Library Grounds/Garden
- Application For Current Use – Hoyer & Mauser-Hoyer, 440 Pleasant Street
- Veteran's Property Tax Credit Applications (2)

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:53pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Leone
Recording Secretary
Town of New London

Note: RSA 91-A:2, II provides that “*Minutes of all such meetings, including nonpublic sessions, shall include the names of members, persons appearing before the public bodies, and a brief description of the subject matter discussed and final decisions.*” A video of the entire meeting may be available for viewing on the town website, NewLondon.NH.gov, if more than the brief description contained in these meeting minutes is desired.