



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

May 17, 2021

6:00 PM

Via Zoom

PRESENT:

John Cannon, Chairman
Nancy Rollins, Selectman
Janet Kidder, Selectman
Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator
Lynn Lewis, Finance Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

Police Chief Emily Cobb
Lou Botta, Emergency Management Director
Fire Chief Jay Lyon
Putnam Kidder, Beach Director
Bob Harrington, Public Works Director
Carolyn Elliott, New London resident
Nicholas Baer, Health Officer
Adam Ricker, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Minette McQueeney, *Intertown Record*
Rob Prohl, Budget Committee member
Karen Hoglund, New London resident
Tina Helm, New London resident
Joyce Bosse, *The Messenger*
Michael Doheny, New London resident
Nancy Marashio, New London resident
John Doyle, New London resident
Ute Schurrath, New London resident
John Raby, Budget Committee member
Lyndsay Harkins, Recreation Commission

Selectman Cannon called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Chair Cannon called the roll: Nancy Rollins; present, Janet Kidder: present, John Cannon: present.

Public Comment – None

Continue discussion of mask resolution and safety protocols for beaches this summer:

Town Administrator Kim Hallquist stated that Emergency Management Committee held a meeting last week and discussed the mask resolution considering the new CDC guidance. Emergency Management Director Lou Botta reported when making decisions they have to consider the safety and health of the citizens of New London. The Committee looked at all the factors and noted that it is difficult to have a more restrictive local resolution than is demanded by the CDC or the state government. Governor

Sununu has rescinded the mask state mask mandate and the Committee also agrees it may be appropriate to rescind the local mask resolution in New London. The Chamber of Commerce provided a statement that they encourage members of the community to follow the recommendations of the CDC.

Town meeting was also discussed, and it was felt that there needs to be accommodations for people that choose to wear masks and those who do not. The vaccine is now available to anyone who wants it. It is important to continue to support the local businesses, retail establishments and restaurants that decide to continue to require masks at their businesses.

Selectman Kidder is in favor of rescinding the mask resolution based on the suggestion of the Emergency Management Committee. She strongly encourages everyone to get vaccinated, wear a mask when appropriate and observe social distancing. Businesses have the right to require masks, and this should be respected and honored. Chair Cannon agrees. Selectman Rollins agreed noting that it's time to rescind the mask resolution and feels it's time for people to take personal responsibility.

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Nancy Rollins) to rescind the mask resolution. Nancy Rollins: yes, Janet Kidder: yes, John Cannon: yes. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

As far as safety protocols for the beaches, Chair Cannon stated now that the mask resolution has been lifted, social distancing and vaccination should be encouraged. Selectman Rollins stated hand sanitizer should still be available and the facilities should be cleaned regularly. All the bathrooms will be open and numbers at the beaches will not be limited as they were last year. Visitor passes will be available. Operation of the beaches will return to the pre-pandemic procedures. Ms. Hallquist noted that hiring of adequate numbers of lifeguards is the priority, they job market is very tight as many businesses are looking for summer help.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for funds to install emergency traffic signal on Main Street at fire station:

Fire Chief Jay Lyon met with the Board to request funds in the amount of \$39,900 to install an emergency signal in front of the fire department that would alert traffic on Main Street to stop when emergency vehicles are coming into, or out of, the station. Town Administrator Kim Hallquist indicated there may be some surplus funds that could be used for this purpose. They were notified many years ago that the signalized emergency light in front of the firehouse did not meet code compliance. There is a set location within the power lines for utilities only that are supposed to be non-energized. The reason is that when you are dealing with those utilities, the last thing you want is to have something accidentally energize those wires and have a worker get shocked or worse. Chief Lyon noted that currently the bulbs are out and need to be replaced so it would be a good time to transition over. Ms. Hallquist confirmed that there are unused funds in the Recreation Department that could be transferred out for this purpose.

The proposal is for the lights in the front of the station to be replaced and warning lights would be placed near Artisan's and the school. It would take about 4 weeks to get this installed and working from the time the order is placed.

IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Janet Kidder) to approve the request for funds to install the emergency traffic signal on Main Street at the fire station. Nancy Rollins: yes, Janet Kidder: yes, John Cannon: yes. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Town Administrators Report

Ms. Hallquist provided the following report:

- Work is being done for town meeting preparations. Last week there was a meeting at the Historical Society with the town moderator, police and fire chiefs, town clerk, sound engineer and town administrator to discuss issues that need to be addressed. Ms. Hallquist recommended that the Selectmen meet with the moderator on June 7, 2021 to go over the warrant. The town report is at the printers, Echo Communications, and will be ready in time for town meeting.
- The topic at the next Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting will be reviewing the warrant and candidates for the contested races: Budget Committee and Library Trustees, will be invited to attend to introduce themselves.

Committee Meetings & Reports

Building and Facilities Committee – Chair Cannon stated the Building and Facilities Committee met on May 13, 2021. They are looking for guidance and action on the records and retention policy. This policy will provide direction related to storage needs.

Planning Board – Selectman Kidder reported the Planning Board met on May 11, 2021. The agenda included a response by the Planning Board to a letter from abutters that raised concerns regarding to the New London Barn Playhouse.

A temporary access path in a waterfront buffer was approved and scenic road tree cutting is going to happen on Davis Hill by the Town of New London, Public Works Department. There was also a discussion with Ausbon Sargent about access and parking areas for conserved parcels on Morgan Hill and Pleasant Street.

Other Business

Selectman Rollins asked when the in-person Board of Selectmen meetings will resume. Selectman Kidder asked if this means all town buildings would re-open. Town Administrator Kim Hallquist stated they office staff have had discussions and would like to get through town meeting to give people enough notice and open town offices July 6, 2021. The challenge at the Academy building is not being able to socially distance, so plans are being developed to have people wait outside if needed and then be called in. She noted that in-person meetings can resume at Whipple Hall whenever the Selectmen would like to do so. The room is large enough to social distance and there is plenty of ventilation. The Board discussed this and decided that June 21, 2021 would be the target date to hold the Board of Selectmen meeting in person at Whipple Hall.

Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (Nancy Rollins) to approve the minutes of May 3, 2021 and May 11, 2021. Janet Kidder: yes, Nancy Rollins: yes, John Cannon: yes. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

Upcoming Meetings & Special Events

- Tuesday, May 18th, 6:00pm – Housing Commission
- Wednesday, May 19th, 8:30am – Conservation Commission
- Thursday, May 20th, 8:30am – Master Plan Committee
- Thursday, May 20th, 6:30pm – Buildings & Facilities Committee
- Monday, May 24th, 4:30pm – Board of Firewards
- Tuesday, May 25th, 6:30pm – Planning Board
- Monday, May 31st, OFFICE CLOSED

- Tuesday, June 1st, 5:30pm – Recreation Commission
- Wednesday, June 2nd, 7:00pm – Energy Committee
- Saturday, June 5th, 7:30am – Citizen’s Advisory Committee
- Tuesday, June 8th, 7:00am – 7:00 pm, Town Elections – Public Works Department
- Wednesday, June 9th, 6:00 pm – Town Meeting – New London Historical Society

Please see the calendar on the town website for a complete listing of other meetings, including subcommittee meetings, of the various town boards: www.nl-nh.com

Items to be signed:

- Accounts Payable Voucher
- Birthday Cards-June
- Town Use Forms (2, one has check for fee)

Applications Approved &/or Denied

Sign Permits – approved

- Temporary Sign. Pat Coogan, Lake Sunapee Rowing Club (LSRC). 71 Quarry Rd. TM 075-007-0-0-0. Approved 5/4/2021.
- Temporary Sign. Nina Tasi, Adventures in Learning/CSC. 541 Main St. TM 084-007-0-0-0. Approved 5/12/2021.

Building Permits-approved

- Mark & Marilyn Wendling, 31 Pingree Rd, TM 036-005-0-0-0. Build 12x18 garage. BP 21-050. Approved 5/6/2021.
- Beasley Family Trust, 1405 King Hill Rd, TM 138-004-0-0-0. Screen in existing porch. BP 21-055. Approved 5/7/2021.
- Jean Collins, 544 Lakeshore Dr, TM 050-011-0-0-0. Interior renovations, cabinets, flooring, lighting, windows. BP 21-054. Approved 5/7/2021.
- Jeffrey Davis, 402 Hall Farm Rd, TM 076-003-0-0-0. Install roof mount solar 6.12kw. BP 21-053. Approved 5/7/2021.
- Mountain View Shopping Center. 277 Newport Rd, TM 059-005-0-0-0. Demolish building @ 25 Ledgewood Ln. BP 21-051. Approved 5/7/2021.
- Thomas Zacaroli, 1 Highland Ridge Rd, TM 071-026-0-001-K01. Renovate bathroom and add mini split heat. BP 21-056. Approved 5/13/2021.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson
Recording Secretary
Town of New London