



# Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire February 2020

## Notes from the Citizen's Advisory Committee

There were two main topics of discussion for this month's meeting: waste management in town and school district updates.

Responses to Question #22 of the Master Plan Survey revealed strong support for the town to collect food waste for composting, thereby reducing the weight/cost of trash that is transported to Berlin. The group discussed the pros and cons as well as the complexities of this type of project. Related discussions included the recent study of the transfer station, upcoming warrant article, and other ways to reduce use of plastics and recycle what is used. As a result of the discussion, suggestions were made to gain more information by: contacting the town's Solid Waste Committee; contacting our representatives to the Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission; develop an informational handout for citizens regarding what may be recycled and what more sustainable options are available.

Our School Board Representatives, Bebe Casey and Ben Cushing were our guests for updates on school issues. We learned that, after much discussion, the school calendar will remain as is for the foreseeable future. School transportation continues to be very costly, just shy of 4 million dollars per year; we are the largest geographical district in the state, and the law requires that each child be transported to school if not within the walking distance of one half mile. There will be an increase in the number of Social Workers in the schools, due to increased needs of children. The KRSD is in the first year of a two-year endeavor to improve school climate across the district. It was reported that there was a divisive social dynamic occurring at the HS, and in order to stem its continuation, the School Board decided to work on school relationships across the district. Though money was approved to fund School Resource Officers for the HS and MS, the Sutton Police Department and the KRSD have been unable to fill the positions. The renovations to the end of the SAU complex facing Pressey Court are slated to begin in April and be completed by July of this year. Over the past 10 years, there has been a 10% decrease in average daily

membership; this decrease is comparable to our neighboring towns, and to the state overall. 40-50 HS students are transported to Concord HS for attendance in technology classes, and the HS has a long waiting list to attend the culinary class. The school district is looking into addressing these students' needs in the home school.

The Committee expressed interest in following up on both discussions in the near future.

### Solar Energy Systems Exemption Applications Due – April 15, 2020

Town Meeting 2019 - a warrant article was approved to 100% exempt Solar Energy Systems. It has been the Assessing Office policy to inventory the solar system data in order to provide it to the Fire Department for their safety in the event of a fire. The Assessing Office had not been valuing the systems as the sales have not shown solar to provide a higher market value. Now that the Town adopted the exemption, we are required to report a value and the amount of the exemption to the Department of Revenue. If you have installed solar, or plan to, please get the application in on time. The exemption will be given for 100% of the assessed value, however, without a timely application being filed you will be assessed a value for the system.

#### Pick Up's/New Construction

The Assessors are currently out and about collecting all new building permit data along with the ongoing construction carried over from the prior year(s). Assessments are based on the physical characteristics of the property as it stands on April 1 of the given year. Example; if your home/project is 50% complete on April 1 - that is the billed amount for the year.

### MUD SEASON IS APPROACHING

Please be aware that roads could become muddy.  
Postings for load limits will be March 2.

The New London Conservation Commission (NLCC) is proud to be a member of the American Tree Farm System (ATFS). NLCC manages several Town owned parcels, with the goal of improving both the health of the forest land while enhancing wildlife habitat.

The mission of the ATFS is to promote the growing of renewable forest resources while protecting environmental benefits of productive forestry. As members, NLCC manages Town lands in accordance with American Forest Foundation Standards of Sustainability for Forest Management. NLCC has received Tree Farm Certifications at 5 different forest locations:

- Phillips Memorial Preserve, 79.6 acres, Goose Hole Rd. 8-1-2013
- Esther Currier Wildlife Area at Low Plan, 169 acres, Andover Rd. - Mountain Rd. - 9-6-16
- Mountain Rd. - Wilmot Town line, 31 acres, 10-1-19
- Mountain Rd. - Shepard Spring Trail, 40 acres, 10-1-19
- Shaker St. - Andover Rd. 30 acres, 10-1-19

NLCC continues to evaluate Town forest lands and develop forestry/wildlife management plans as deemed appropriate.

Tree Farm projects are self funded, so that Town tax dollars are not required to complete these important programs.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Mon., March 2 @ 6 PM – Board of Selectmen
- Wed., March 4 @ 7 PM – Energy Committee
- Thurs., March 5 @ 2 PM – Buildings & Facility Committee @ SAU office
- Sat., March 7 @ 7:30 AM – Citizens Advisory Committee
- Tues., March 10, 7 AM – 7 PM Town & School Elections @ Whipple Town Hall**
- Wed., March 11 @ 7 PM – Annual Town Meeting @ Kearsarge Learning Campus/Gym**
- Thurs., March 12 @ 8:30 AM – Master Plan Committee
- Mon., March 16 @ 5:30 PM – New London/Springfield Water Precinct Annual Mtg @ Whipple Town Hall
- Wed., March 18 @ 8:30 AM – Conservation Committee
- Wed., March 18 @ 5 PM – Recreation Commission @ Whipple Town Hall
- Tues., March 24 @ 6:30 PM – Planning Board

**Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Town Offices, 375 Main Street, 2nd floor.**  
**For a complete list of meetings go to the town website: [www.nl-nh.com](http://www.nl-nh.com)**

## Town of New London Public Notices

### Supervisors of the Checklist

**Saturday, February 29**

**11:00 - 11:30 pm**

Town Office, 375 Main Street

At this public session voter registration applications will be accepted and corrections to the checklist can be made. No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session until Election Day on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 7am-7pm.

### COMING IN THE MARCH ISSUE:

- ◆ *Police Chief Ed Andersen to retire after 22+ years in New London;*
- ◆ *Chief Assessor Norm Bernaiche leaving for a position in Hanover;*
- ◆ *Warrant Articles for March Town Meeting reviewed.*

### Town Meeting Town Warrant Articles

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020 @ 7:00 PM**

Kearsarge Learning Campus/Outing Club Gym  
114 Cougar Court

Please bring can good donations for the  
KLS Community Food Pantry

Proposed Zoning Amendments & Warrant can be found on line at [www.nl-nh.com](http://www.nl-nh.com)

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

- ◇ Town Office
- ◇ Tracy Memorial Library
- ◇ Transfer Station
- ◇ Also available on line at [www.nl-nh.com](http://www.nl-nh.com)

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