

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1
2 **November 3, 2014**

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4 The Town Council meeting was held in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, Town Hall, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry,
5 NH.

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7 Present: Vice Chairman Jim Butler; Councilors Tom Freda, Joe Green and John Farrell; Town Manager Kevin Smith;
8 Executive Assistant Kirby Wade; Absent: Chairman Tom Dolan

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10 **CALL TO ORDER**

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12 Vice Chairman Butler opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for all
13 those who serve us here and abroad. Councilor Farrell gave a brief update on Chairman Dolans situation.

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15 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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17 Town Manager Smith stated that the PSNH presentation has been moved to the next meeting on the 17th.

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19 **OLD BUSINESS**

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21 Town Manager Smith stated that the Council has consulted with this Town Attorney and after going through a variety of
22 different issues with the Attorney, the Council is going to go in a slightly different direction than having another workshop.
23 Councilor Farrell stated that the Council is going to ask the Town Manager to start the process to form a task force which will
24 be sanctioned by a Resolution and sanctioned by the Town Council to go out and study and understand all of the issues
25 surrounding the target shooting in the Musquash and come back with a recommendation and report back to the Town Council
26 with their findings. Town Manager smith stated that at the next meeting on the 17th he will be bringing forward a Resolution
27 to have the task force formed and we will go from there.

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29 **NEW BUSINESS**

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31 Town Manager stated a high level overview of the FY16 budget. Town Manager Smith stated that there will be a budget
32 workshop on Saturday, November 15th at Town Hall when the Council and the Budget Committee together. Smith stated that
33 he was tasked with coming in with a budget that starts off at default which is what has been done for the last two years. When
34 looking at the default operating budget, the increase is just over 2%, most of which is due to retirement rates since the rates
35 have gone up and the decrease/amount of State funding the Town is getting for retirement has gone down. Smith stated that it
36 has become the Municipalities obligation to fund more of that. Smith stated that there are some adjustments that will be made
37 between now and then. Smith stated that originally it was budgeted in the default budget of 3% increase for health insurance.
38 Smith stated that what he found out on Friday, the maximum increase is actually only going to be 1.7%. Smith stated still,
39 typically the rate has come in lower than the maximum. Smith stated that aside from the operational budget, as was stated in
40 previous meetings regarding how FY14 year ended, Smith stated that there is the ability to use some of the fund balance this
41 upcoming budget cycle. Smith stated that no appropriations were made into the Capital Reserve Accounts and made very
42 small appropriations to Roadway and Expendable Maintenance Trust Funds. Smith stated that in putting his budget together
43 this year the priorities are going to be Capital Reserve Account, which will include appropriations to ambulance, fire
44 equipment, fire trucks, highway trucks, heavy equipment and the Pillsbury Cemetery along with higher appropriations to
45 roadway maintenance fund. Smith stated that there are a couple other potential separate warrants which would include
46 improvements made to the money from the Reclamation Fund to be used for the Drop Off Center, that's self-funded so that
47 would not require use of the Fund Balance or raising taxes either. Smith stated equipment for ambulance he is looking at 3

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48 CPR devices, one for each ambulance. Smith stated there will also be money for both the GIS Services and the Zoning Code
49 re-write. Smith stated that there are five Union Contracts that are still in negotiation at this time. Smith stated that may be late
50 additions to the Warrants. Smith stated that he is looking to do all of this with looking to achieve a steady tax rate. The three
51 main variables making up the tax rate are the total appropriations, total Town evaluation and outside revenues. Smith stated
52 that outside revenues were up due to the addition rooms and meals money from the State. The Town evaluations went up on
53 the commercial and industrial side. Smith stated that the hope is to set the evaluations right so that it may improve the tax
54 rate, which is exactly what that did. Smith ended by saying that the goal is to come to the Council on November 15th with a
55 budget that keeps what the Town has for the current tax rate, pretty much steady.

56
57 Vice Chairman Butler introduced Resolution #2014-05, a Resolution Declaring the month of November “Pancreatic Cancer
58 Awareness Month” in the Town of Londonderry, New Hampshire. Councilor Green read the Resolution into the record.
59 Councilor Green motioned to approve Resolution #2014-05. Second by Councilor Freda. Chair votes 4-0-0.

60
61 Vice Chairman Butler introduced Resolution 2012-19 (B), an amendment to the sanctioning of Londonderry express soccer
62 association. Councilor Farrell voted to waive the reading. Butler stated that because it is a Resolution it is not open to the
63 public but understanding the issue surrounding the Resolution it will be open to the public. Councilor Green stated that he is
64 the Recreation Committee liaison for the Town Council. Councilor Green stated that he attends each one of the meetings so
65 that he can bring the information back to the Council. He doesn’t vote on it and he has nothing to do with the Recreation
66 Commission as far as what they bring to the Council as far as voting goes. Councilor Green stated that anytime a Resolution
67 has come forward for a sanctioning regarding Londonderry United Soccer Club or Londonderry United Youth Soccer Club,
68 because he is Vice President of Londonderry Youth Soccer Club, Green stated that it is important to step out of the vote and
69 not take his Council privilege and vote on it tonight. Councilor Green stated that this Resolution was never about breaking up
70 teams. The intention is to try to illuminate this cross fighting that was going on.

71
72 Art Psaledas stated that in the past there has been no age limits. Psaledas said if it goes through with an age limit, it is going
73 to shut out a team, or several teams that have been in existence since the nineties’. Councilor Freda sked what the names of
74 the groups are. Psaledas stated that LYSA is the recreation soccer and Express Soccer is the travel team, registered with the
75 State. Now they have been going by Londonderry United Soccer Club for the past twelve years. Psaledas stated that that is
76 the reason for the confusion with their name. Councilor Freda stated that the other Recreation Resolution that was passed
77 recently had an age limitation; participants had ot be over the age of eight. Councilor Freda stated now we are looking to
78 change that to drop the age limitation and to also change the name. Psaledas stated that is correct. Councilor Freda asked
79 what the effect will be of dropping the age limitation. Psaledas stated that they will be able to continue with forty kids in the
80 fall and the sixty kids in the spring that are under that eight year old limitation, that are currently playing. Councilor Freda
81 asked why there is an age limit to begin with. Psaledas stated that it was necessary to come up with some better definitions of
82 what they were doing. It just happened. The age limit came up because there is one soccer groups said that they shouldn’t
83 start playing competitively until eight years old. Psaledas stated if we don’t get rid of the age, what will happen is those
84 people whose kids are playing travel now and can’t in Londonderry, will move out of Town to play.

85
86 Todd Ellis, 298 High Range Road, stated that US Soccer does run different in regards to ages. Currently there are U-7 and
87 those kids turn 7 after August first. Ellis stated that people will go out of Town if they cannot play in Londonderry.

88
89 Dave Kelly, 3 Angelo Lane, stated that Art had mentioned difficulty a few years ago about another soccer club being formed
90 and it did cause the process to slow down because of all of the competition. Kelly stated that what happened this past winter
91 that ignited a lot of grief between the two organizations were that some of the people in the recreation group tried to form
92 another travel soccer club and use West Road fields. Kelly stated that is what caused the trouble. Kelly stated that his kids
93 played both recreation and travel soccer. Kelly stated that he feels there is a place for both organizations in Town but the
94 most important thing is the families have a choice. Clinics are done for the younger kids and that’s all it is, skills clinic.

95
96 Gary Sloper, 13 Buckingham Drive, passed out a handout to the Council. Sloper stated that he is currently a U-6 coach for
97 LYSA as well as a parent to a child who is one the travel time. Sloper stated that he has been a coach for the past three years.
98 Sloper stated that there is a targeted bias towards soccer. He has kids in both organizations. Sloper stated that he doesn’t do
99 player profiles and he doesn’t keep scores. Sloper asked the Council before they put the Ordinance through, think of the kids.

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100 Sloper stated that it would be up to him to tell his daughter he can't play soccer next year and they will have to go somewhere
101 else.

102
103 [Crowd clapped]

104
105 Abby Kelly, 3 Shelly Drive, stated that she has two girls on the United Team. Kelly stated that things are that competitive.
106 Kelly stated that this should be a decision for the parents to make.

107
108 Angela Hughes, 1 Chestnut Hill Drive, stated that she chose something challenging for her daughter because that is who she
109 is so she started her off in Londonderry United. Hughes stated that her son plays LYSA. She is happy she was able to make
110 that decision. Hughes stated it is one hundred percent fun.

111
112 [Crowd claps]

113
114 Councilor Farrell stated that he has learned a lot by listening to parents.

115
116 Town Manager Smith stated that there had been meetings over the summer with himself, Councilor Green, Art Psaledas, Bill
117 Manning who is the Chairman of the Recreation Commission, to talk about the sanctioning. Smith stated that there were
118 changes made to both the ordinance and the sanctioning Resolution's. There was an initial vote at the Recreation
119 Commission that approved it in August which is one the original one was done with the age limit. Smith stated that there
120 were meetings after that where the Recreation Commission said; no they don't want the age restriction in there. That is why
121 tonight there is the current proposal that would move the age restriction limit out of the sanctioning.

122
123 Keith Gagne, 84 Hall Road, stated that he is the coaching coordinator for Londonderry United. Gagne stated that he believes
124 there was an agenda here when it was brought to the Recreation Commission. It was brought to a meeting before the
125 organizations were consulted.

126
127 Vice Chairman Butler stated that he speaks for the Council when he says there were no sneaky things in this. Vice Chairman
128 Butler stated that he assures that is not the case.

129
130 Members of the Londonderry girls travel team spoke up and asked the Council why does the age have to be eight. Vice
131 Chairman Burler explained to the group that the Town Council is listening and after everyone in the audience has had a
132 chance to speak, it is brought back to the board which one of the Councilors will read, and it will be voted on. Vice Chairman
133 Butler stated that this is the time to speak up.

134
135 Councilor Farrell motioned to removed that age limit since it hasn't been in place for over twenty years with the
136 understanding that it would be preference that the Recreation Committee would remain proactive with the soccer group and
137 try to work with them to co-exist.

138
139 Councilor Freda read Resolution 2012-19 (B) and motioned to approve. Second by Councilor Farrell. Chair votes 4-0-0.

140
141 Town Manager Smith stated that he needs a public vote to approve sewer abatement because there was an error in what
142 Manchester Waterworks had provided for the water consumption report for the Executive Health and Sports. It resulted in an
143 overcharge of the sewer bill. The original bill was \$5,140.80 and it should have been \$2,116.80. The discrepancy was
144 confirmed and corrected and the abatement is for \$3,024.00 plus any interest. Motion for acceptance made by Councilor
145 Farrell and second by Councilor Green. Chair votes 4-0-0.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes from October 20, 2014 made by Councilor Freda and second by Councilor Green. Chair votes 4-0-0.

BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Interviews for the open Alternate position on the Recreation Committee. There are multiple candidates so the interviews will be split up between tonight and the next meeting.

Kerri Stanley, 112 Hardey Road. Councilor Green asked Stanley if she has any conflicts of interest. Stanley stated that she does not. No questions from Councilor Freda or Vice Chairman Butler. Councilor Farrell asked Stanley why she would like to serve on the Reaction Committee. Stanley stated that she is involved in a number of organizations within the Town. She has been the chairperson for Beautify Londonderry since 2009. Stanley stated that she is involved with the PTA and she is a coordinator for LYSA. Stanley stated that she would like to try something different. She would give the same amount of dedication and commitment to the Recreation Commission as she has to all the other organizations as well.

Ryan Ouellette, 8 Tanager Way. Councilor Green asked Ouellette if he has any conflicts of interest. Ouellette stated that he does not. Councilor Freda asked Ouellette why he has interest in being on the Recreation Commission. Ouellette stated that he has three kids involved in youth sports, including soccer. Ouellette stated that the Recreation Commission has done a good job at managing all of the teams in Town. Councilor Farrell asked Ouellette if there was anything special that uniquely qualifies him for the position. Ouellette stated that he knows a lot of the soccer people and he is very familiar with how they work.

Glenn Douglas, 6 Overlook Ave, stated that he is the President of the Blue Lions. He was one of the founding members back in 2006. Councilor Freda stated that Douglas has been attending Recreation meeting since 2006. Councilor Freda asked Douglas what he sees as the Recreation Commission needing at this time. Douglas stated attention to detail. A lot of the soccer thing that has been going on, there has been confusion as far as the rules. Douglas stated that he has asked for information and has had to wait. Vice Chairman Butler asked Douglas if he could explain the Blue Lions. Douglas stated that the Blue Lions is a competitive cheer group. They don't cheer at football games, the cheer at competitions. Councilor Farrell asked Douglas what he would like to point out that will put his as a good choice for the Committee. Douglas stated that his look at it is that in business, he doesn't like hiring people who haven't done the job. Douglas stated that he can't say he has done the job but he has been to lots of meetings and has been participating for a while.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Farrell and second by Councilor Green. **Chair votes 4-0-0.**

Notes and Tapes by:	Kirby Wade	Date: 11/03/14
Minutes Typed by:	Kirby Wade	Date: 11/05/14
Approved by:	Town Council	Date: 11/17/14