

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING/BUDGET WORKSHOP

December 03, 2012

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

PRESENT: Chairman, John Farrell; Vice Chairman Tom Dolan; Councilors: Jim Butler; Joe Green; Tom Freda; Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief William R. Hart; Finance Director, Sue Hickey, Executive Assistant Margo Lapietro.

Budget Committee Members: Dan Lekas, Chairman; John Curran, Vice Chair; William Mee; Lisa Whittemore; Chris Melcher; Tom Dalton; Todd Joncas.

Call to Order

Chairman Farrell opened the meeting at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for the men and women fighting for our country both here and abroad and for first responders.

Public Comment

Pauline Caron, 369 Mammoth Road asked in the FY14 budget are there funds earmarked for what we were short on the impact fee re-payment. Chairman Farrell said we have refunded all those funds, there is no impact on the budget going forward, we paid whatever was owed out of last years budget. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Bill Hart responded technically yes, there is no money owed. Some money is being held in escrow awaiting a Rockingham Superior Court review. P. Caron asked how much money did the town pitch in to pay the difference. Finance Director Sue Hickey responded approximately \$259K. P. Caron said the Secretary of State won a suit against the Local Government Center (LGC) regarding insurance paid by municipalities to the LGC. The LGC has to make payment to the municipalities by 9/1/13 if they lose their appeal to the Supreme Court. She asked Council if they have thought about this. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief said they have thought about it, and expect about \$68K will be returned to Londonderry pending the appeal. P. Caron said that amount is pro-rated based on the amount of employees in the town and the Acting Town Manager confirmed that.

Public Hearing

None

Old Business

None

NEW BUSINESS

FY14 Budget Workshop Discussion – Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart said the direction given by Council was to come in under default by approximately \$100K with up to 40% from salaries/benefits. He said he has come up with \$110,898. below default of which \$43,512. representing 39% of that total below default is made up of salaries and benefit adjustments. \$22,500K of that came from the library. There were insurance adjustments of about \$7,200 and we came up with further reductions in proposed reductions in salaries from non-represented personnel. Those reductions will be implemented on 7/1/13. Budget member Todd Joncas reiterated that the major cost of increases was due to retirement and health costs. Open for discussion. Dan Bouchard, 8 O’Connell Drive said the people not represented by a union are being targeted, it is a bad move. We have great employees who have worked extremely hard. When he started with the LPD there was only one union, now the whole town is union exactly for that reason. He said it is a bad move on Councils part to go after the non-union salaries. **Councilor Green made a motion to go to a public hearing on 12/15/12 with the budget as presented of \$27,525,281.00, second Councilor Dolan. Councils vote 5-0-0.**

Order 2012-22 – Distribution of Capital Reserve Funds – Chairman Farrell read the Order, second reading waived. **Councilor Dolan made a motion to accept the Order, second Councilor Green . Open for discussion. Councils vote 5-0-0.**

Initial Discussion of Preliminary Warrant Approval – Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart proceeded to review the 16 items on the proposed Warrant (copy attached).

Councilor Dolan asked the Finance Director to explain the difference between the Town Operating Budget which they voted on tonight and the amount in Warrant Article 3. S. Hickey responded the top part of the Warrant Article talks about the actual gross amount of appropriations which is the amount we vote in after our first and second public hearings. The second amount talks about the actual net amount that we need to raise in property taxes which is \$16,378,149.00. It takes the \$27M for appropriations, it subtracts the various sources of local revenue which is a little over \$11M as well as monies for overlay. The net amount is the \$16M.

Councilor Freda addressed Article 14 Roadway Maintenance Trust Fund. Last year in the budget Public Works took the largest adjustment to fund impact fees. He asked if the Council would consider raising this Trust Fund by \$100K to be \$500K. Budget member Todd Joncas clarified that he is proposing raising the amount from \$400K to \$500K, Councilor Freda said that was correct. T. Joncas said that that goes forward with weaning us off the bonds. He said he supports doing it in the long term rather than going back to bonding. Councilor Dolan asked how much impact would this have to the default. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart said he didn’t think it would have any impact because it is a specific trust set up to maintain roads. Councilor Dolan asked where is the funding coming from. Councilor Freda said it would come from the tax rate. He explained we pulled out more from the Undesignated Fund Balance (UFB) last year by almost \$100K. Councilor Dolan asked what is the “health” of the UFB, could they split it and take \$50K from the UFB and \$50K from the taxpayers. S. Hickey responded if you split it, it would be fine. Councilor Freda said he would be amendable to splitting it from the two sources.

T. Joncas asked if there are any bonds coming to maturity this year. S. Hickey responded about \$327K is coming off in bonds.

Dan Bouchard said he was glad to see Article 10 for an additional School Resource Officer (SRO). He asked the Chief if he had given any thought to making this part-time and hiring 2 SRO's for that cost. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart responded no. He said in general the notion of hiring part-time persons when the focal point is dollars is a good one. The gain often times is you don't have to pay the benefits. The problem from the police management perspective is twofold. The LPD does not now have a part-time program because more and more it has become an accepted professional practice to assure that those part-time officers are trained to the level of a full time officer. They go thru the Academy, go thru the annual certification. In his judgment as the LPD Chief it does not make good professional sense at this time to hire and train and begin a part-time process. D. Bouchard said he was suggesting hiring an officer who has already retired, who is certified and has had the training. The position would provide no benefits at \$50K/year and the employee would work 180 school days just like a teacher would. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart responded he would be willing to look at it because we have gained the value of the fleet manager who is retired, works part-time and gives the town far more value. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart said if we can do it and maintain our professional standards he will look at it.

Councilor Green suggested changing the wording on the Warrant so that person or one of the SRO's is designated to stay at LHS and have one as a floater. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart said he is opposed to changing the wording. The issue of a SRO is that he is a police officer first; they might have to respond to an emergency. The idea is that the primary responsibility of the SRO will be the high school. The second officer will float among the other various schools. The language of the Warrant should stay. Councilor Butler said that D. Bouchard's suggestion would enable him to have one full-time officer at LHS and the two part-time officers could be at the other schools. Chairman Farrell said if this warrant passes he would be happy with leaving the decision up to the Chief of Police. Pauline Caron said the article is for \$101K for one resource officer. If you should hire two part-time SRO's how many will you have, 3? Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief responded potentially yes. P. Caron suggested hiring just one part-time SRO, amend this Article to half of the figure listed in the Article. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart responded as the Police Chief he is not going to hire a part-time person right now; it is not a good idea because we don't have a part-time program in the LPD. P. Caron said if you hire one certified police officer part-time for half of the \$101K or less; you could save that much money for the tax payers. You have one SRO now, leave him full-time at the LHS and use the part-time as a floater. Councilor Freda cautioned that some part-timers have to have health benefits, that essentially is a fixed cost.

Labor Agreement Discussion – Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart said both unions have proposed agreements. The Londonderry Executive Employees Association (LEEA) have proposed an agreement that would in effect grandfather the current employees with more than 10 years service and adopt the prescriptions in the other agreement that have been adopted by the town. It will mainly focus on sick time buy-back, accruals and that sort of thing. Over three years that is a total of a \$28K impact. The AFSCME unit has asked for an extension of the current agreement for one year with zero increase and they would continue to discuss the agreement. The AFSCME has been reviewed and approved by Council. LEEA is in the process, he expects an answer tomorrow.

Cancellation of Budget Meetings Scheduled for 12/13/12 & 12/27/12 - Chairman Farrell explained that we are at the end of the workshops so we will cancel the meetings on 12/13/12 and since there are no bonds the 12/27 meeting will be cancelled.

At this point in the Meeting Chairman Farrell addressed item #3 of the Town Manager Report which addresses the updates on the Town Manager search and Planning & Economic Development search. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief Hart said he wants direction from Council on the Town Manager position. He also noted that internally they have discussed how to fill the position of the Planning & Development Director. He said they are looking at not hiring an employee and contracting the services out. He said he is looking for direction to prepare a report sometime the first of the year on possibilities to handle this position. Chairman Farrell suggested having a Non-Public meeting on 12/10/12 to reduce the top 10 applicants for the Town Manager position to move to the top 3-5 for interviews. They would need to discuss for further clarification of what their intent is for the Planning position and give direction in public to the Town Manager. Consensus was to have the Non-Public meeting on 12/10/12 under RSA 91-A, 3 (b).

Councilor Freda asked what was the last date for citizens to file petition warrant articles. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief said he was going to review that and put something up on the town website tomorrow.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council meeting minutes of 11/17/12 – **Councilor Dolan made a motion to accept the minutes, second Councilor Freda. Council’s vote 5-0-0.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Liaison Reports – Councilor Green met with the Master Plan Steering Committee. The final review of the Master Plan is on the website and he asked the Councilors to take a look at it.

Councilor Dolan said the Londonderry International Exchange Committee met last week and he was unable to attend the meeting.

Councilor Freda said the Planning Board meets this coming Wed.

Town Manager Report - Resignation of Kimberly Bean as the Senior Affairs Coordinator. Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief said K. Bean’s last day is this Friday. He thanked her for her service. He said they are ready to post the position but they are looking at that through the Affordable Care Act which might have an impact on the hours. It is currently 32 hours; the cut-off is 30 hours for the Affordable Care Act. There might be some penalties with how we offer insurance. He said they might have to go with 28 hours now and deal with it when we know what the rules are. **Councilor Dolan made a motion to accept Kimberly Bean’s resignation, second Councilor Freda. Councils vote 5-0-0.**

Presentation of Citizens Petition – Acting Town Manager, LPD Chief said the petition must be submitted by the 2nd Tuesday in January according to RSA 40:13, II-1 (b) and RSA 39:3. They have to be signed by 25 or more registered voters or by 2% of the registered voters in that town

which ever applies. Those voter signatures have to be checked by the Supervisors of the Checklist to make sure they are registered voters in the town of Londonderry. Certain Articles may require specific legal language to accomplish the policy goal of the citizen. He said the Town will assist the citizen in drafting the Article. The Deliberative Session may amend partitioned articles including but not limited to the amount of money that is in the Article. The information will be posted on the website tomorrow or the next day.

Budget member Lisa Whittemore suggested the citizens bring the petition in early so we can make sure the language is correct.

Councilor Dolan suggested getting the language cleared with the town before getting the required signatures.

Board/Committee Appointments/Reappointments

1. Resignation of Dana Coons from the Planning Board, term expiration of 12/21/12.
2. Resignation of Brian Farmer and Elizabeth Lee from the Londonderry Arts Council, Ad Hoc Positions.

Councilor Green made a motion to accepted the resignations of the above, second Councilor Butler. Councils vote 5-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Green made a motion to adjourn at 7:52PM, second Councilor Freda. Council's vote 5-0-0.

Chairman Farrell reminded the public that the next meeting is 12/17/12.

Notes and Tapes by: Margo Lapietro Date: 12/03/12

Minutes Typed by: Margo Lapietro Date: 12/05/12

Approved by: Town Council Date: 12/17/12

To the inhabitants of Londonderry in the County of Rockingham in said State qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

Voters are hereby notified to meet at the Londonderry High School Cafeteria in Londonderry on Monday the fourth (4th) day of February, 2013, at seven o'clock in the evening for the Deliberative Session of the Budgetary Town Meeting.

Voters are further notified to meet at the Londonderry High School Gymnasium on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 to choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year, and to act upon the proposed Fiscal Year 2014 budget, as may be amended by the Deliberative Session, together with any amendments to the Town Charter, all by official ballot, the polls to be open at seven o'clock in the morning and to close not earlier than eight o'clock in the evening.

ARTICLE NO. 1: **[ELECTION OF OFFICERS]**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year, or until another is chosen or appointed and qualified.

ARTICLE NO. 2: **[EXPENDABLE MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND]**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000)** to be placed in the Town's Maintenance Trust Fund created by the voters at the 2003 Town Meeting for the purpose of repairing and maintaining town facilities and to authorize the use of the June 30 Fund Balance in the amount of \$150,000 towards this appropriation.

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$50,000 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$0.01 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council by a vote of - recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee by a vote of - recommends a - vote

ARTICLE NO. 3: **[FISCAL YEAR 2014 TOWN OPERATING BUDGET]**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$27,525,281? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$27,635,887, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$16,378,149 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$4.74 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; The Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 4: [APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS TO REPLACE AMBULANCES, HIGHWAY HEAVY EQUIPMENT, FIRE TRUCKS AND HIGHWAY TRUCKS]

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums set forth below to be placed in capital reserve funds already established, and to authorize the use of the June 30 Fund Balance in the amount of \$400,000 towards this appropriation:

Ambulances	\$ 75,000
Highway Trucks	\$ 150,000
Highway Heavy Equipment	\$ 0
Fire Equipment	\$ 150,000
Fire Trucks	<u>\$ 335,000</u>
	\$ 710,000

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$310,000.00 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$0.09 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 5: [ESTABLISH A CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR CABLE DIVISION EQUIPMENT]

To see if the Town will vote to establish, pursuant to RSA 35:1, a Capital Reserve Fund for future equipment replacement at the Cable Access Center, to raise and appropriate **ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000)** for said purpose, to authorize the use of the June 30 Fund Balance for this purpose, and to designate the Town Council as Agents to Expend.

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$0.00 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$0.00 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee by a vote of - recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 6: [FUND SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT]

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **FOUR HUNDRED NINETY THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY THREE DOLLARS (\$490,423)** from the Police Outside Detail Fund already established. Such appropriation shall be used for the purpose of covering Police Outside Details and shall be funded from users of Police Outside Detail Services. Any surplus in said fund shall not be deemed part of the General Fund accumulated surplus and shall be expended only after a vote by the legislative body to appropriate a specific amount from said fund for a specific purpose related to the purpose of the fund or source of revenue.

(These services are funded through user fees and require no property tax support.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 7: [FUND SEWER FUND]

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **TWO MILLION SIX HUNDRED SIXTY ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY NINE DOLLARS (\$2,661,129)** for defraying the cost of construction, payment of the interest on any debt incurred, management, maintenance, operation and repair of newly constructed sewer systems. Such fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, shall not be commingled with town tax revenues, and shall not be deemed part of the municipality's general fund accumulated surplus, all in accordance with RSA 149-I.

(These services are funded through user fees and require no property tax support.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 10: [POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL COSTS]

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **ONE HUNDRED ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$101,000)** for the purpose of hiring one additional Student Resource Officer (SRO).

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$101,000.00 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$0.03 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.) This position with attendant salary & benefits will become part of the default budget in FY 15.

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee by a vote of - recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 11: [RATIFY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN LONDONDERRY EXECUTIVE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (LEEA) and THE TOWN OF LONDONDERRY]

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Londonderry and the Londonderry Executive Employees Association (LEEA), which calls for the following appropriations for salaries and benefits over what was raised under any current agreements and policies for the employees of the Union:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cost Increase From Prev. FY</u>	<u>Tax Increase From Prev. FY</u>	<u>Total Estimated Cumulative Cost</u>	<u>Average Pay Rate Incr.</u>
FY 13	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0.00%
FY 14	\$ 13,668.00	\$ 0.004	\$ 13,668.00	2.00%
FY 15	\$ 13,941.00	\$ 0.004	\$ 27,609.00	2.00%

and further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **0.00** (0.00 on the tax rate) for the FY 14 expenses, such sum representing the additional cost attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at the current staffing levels paid under any existing agreements. (LEEA represents 10 full time and 2 part time employees, consisting of Department Managers.)

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise an additional \$0.00 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate increase of \$0.00 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; The Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO 12: [RATIFY THE EXTENSION OF THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN AFSCME 3657 and THE TOWN OF LONDONDERRY]

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the one-year extension of the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Londonderry and the AFSCME 3657 (Public Safety), and in doing so, to approve the cost items within said Agreement, which calls for the following appropriations for salaries and benefits over what was raised under any current agreements and policies for the employees of the Union:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cost Increase From Prev. FY</u>	<u>Tax Increase From Prev. FY</u>	<u>Total Estimated Cumulative Cost</u>	<u>Average Pay Rate Incr.</u>
FY 14	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0.0%

and further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **0.00** (\$0.00 on the tax rate) for the FY 14 expenses, such sum representing the additional cost attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over

those of the appropriation at the current staffing levels paid under any existing agreements. (AFSCME 3657, represents 60 full time officer positions in the Police Department.)

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$0.00 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate increase of \$0.00 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; The Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 13: [AUTHORIZATION FOR SPECIAL MEETING ON COST ITEMS]

To see if the Town will vote, if any of Articles 11-12 is defeated, to authorize the Town Council to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 11-12 cost items only.

(This article, if passed will have no tax impact.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 14: [ROADWAY MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND]

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$400,000)** to be placed in the Town's Roadway Maintenance Trust Fund created by the voters at the 2012 Town Meeting for purpose of maintenance, replacement, removal or improvement of the Town's roadways and to authorize the use of the June 30 Fund Balance in the amount of \$200,000 towards this appropriation.

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$200,000.00 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$0.06 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 15: [ZONING ORDINANCE COMPREHENSIVE RE-WRITE]

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000)** for the comprehensive re-write of the Zoning Ordinance in accordance with the implementation section of the 2012 Comprehensive Master Plan, \$30,000 to come from a grant.

W -5

(If passed, this article will require the Town to raise \$20,000.00 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$0.01 in FY 14 based upon projected assessed values.)

The Town Council unanimously recommends a - vote; the Budget Committee unanimously recommends a - vote.

ARTICLE NO. 16: [TRANSACTION OF OTHER BUSINESS]

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. No business enacted under this article shall have any binding effect upon the Town.

Given under our hands and seal, this fourteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

**TOWN COUNCIL
LONDONDERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

John Farrell - Chairman

Tom Dolan - V. Chairman

Joseph V. Green - Councilor

Tom Freda - Councilor

James Butler - Councilor

I hereby certify that notice was given to the inhabitants of the Town of Londonderry to meet for the 2013 Town Meeting at the time and place indicated in this Warrant, by posting an attested copy of this document on January 15, 2013 at the Londonderry High School Gymnasium and Cafeteria, the place of meeting, and at the Town Hall, School District Office and Leach Public Library.

William R. Hart
Acting Town Manager

Town of Londonderry
 FY14 Budget Adjustments - Draft
 As of November 29, 2012
Limited Non-Personnel Adjustments

Department	Item	Amount	Total below Default	Priority
Town Manager Budget				
			27,604,201.00	
			27,635,887.00	
			(31,686.00)	Current amount below default
Zoning	OT	1,500.00	(33,186.00)	
Finance	Bank Services	8,000.00	(41,186.00)	
TC/TX	Mileage for bank delivery	728.00	(41,914.00)	
	Office Supplies	4,000.00	(45,914.00)	
Human Services	Charitable Donations per BC	12,472.00	(58,386.00)	
TM Management Services	Error - (PW) Wetland Delin.	9,000.00	(67,386.00)	
Various Departments	Salary/Benefit Adjustments	43,512.00	(110,898.00)	
			(110,898.00)	Total Amount Below Default
Employee Portion		43,512.00		
Total Reductions		110,898.00		
Percentage		39.24%		
Town Manager Budget				
			27,524,989.00	
			27,635,887.00	
			(110,898.00)	Current amount below default

November 2012

To: William Hart

With a heavy heart, and much consideration I have decided to resign as Senior Affairs Director. The new position I will be starting I feel offers opportunities for benefits that I will not get in my current position. I believe this move will be the best for my family and I for the future. I have enjoyed working at the Senior Center and interacting with the seniors. I wish them only the best.

Kimberly Bean



Margo Lapietro

From: Arthur_Rugg@vrtx.com
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 7:53 AM
To: Dana Coons
Cc: Margo Lapietro
Subject: Re: reappointment to the Planning Board

Hi Dana,

I just want you to know that I understand fully. I do appreciate and thank you for your service to the Town. You did it very well, and it was a pleasure having you as a member. You will still be there (before the end of the year) to help us set a tone for Woodmont.

As always,

Art

From: "Dana Coons" <dc.coons@comcast.net>
To: <Arthur_Rugg@vrtx.com>, <mlapietro@londonderrynh.org>
Date: 09/06/2012 07:49 PM
Subject: reappointment to the Planning Board

Arthur and Margo,

This email is to notify you that I will not be seeking reappointment to the Planning Board at the end of December. It has been a pleasure serving on the board and I wish you all the best of success going forward.

I would like to respectfully request that there be no form of recognition for my service. My service was to better the community, not to receive an award.

Please express my thanks to the Town Council for the opportunity to serve the community.

Best Regards,

Dana

Dana E. Coons

2 Aspen Circle

Londonderry, NH 03053

Phone: (603) 421-0049

Mobile: (603) 557-6411

Email: dc.coons@comcast.net

Margo Lapietro

From: elaineart56@gmail.com on behalf of Elaine Farmer [elaineart@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2012 6:10 PM
To: Margo Lapietro
Subject: Re: Karen Giguere

She had applied but there had not been an opening until our last meeting. You should also see a letter from Steve Sullivan for membership.

Just to catch you up there are two members who have resigned.
Brian Farmer
EJ Lee

Elaine Farmer
White Birch Fine Art
603-801-0703
elainefarmer.com
whitebirchfineart.com

Simplify...

-Richard Busey

On Tue, Nov 27, 2012 at 3:54 PM, Margo Lapietro <mlapietro@londonderrynh.org> wrote:

Hi Elaine:

I just realized she has already been voted in by Council to the position. My mistake. I guess her letter to me threw me off – so she is all set.

Thanks

Margo Lapietro

Executive Assistant - Town Manager/Town Council

268B Mammoth Road

Londonderry, NH 03053

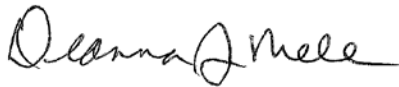
November 19, 2012

Londonderry Town Council

For some time I have been concerned about Dotty Grover's tone and manner towards me at the Dog Park Committee meetings. I spoke to John Farrell, council chairman, about this. He asked what I wanted him to do about it. Talk to her and tell her there is a complaint, was my reply. I also mentioned that perhaps she should not be chairperson and John Beaulieu would do better communicating with all members. John suggested having a council member attend our meeting. I felt this was of no use. At a later date, I spoke with Chief Hart, Acting Town Administrator. I told him I felt Dotty was pressuring me so I would leave the committee.

I felt uncomfortable attending meetings not knowing how I would be addressed by Dotty. However, I did attend meetings. Some I left early, as others have done as well. If I couldn't attend, I would leave information to be reviewed and shared by those present. On Thursday, October 11, I had a message on my answer machine from John Farrell telling me I should be at the October 15th council meeting. Dotty /committee was going to ask for my resignation. I had planned to attend this meeting as the dog park was to be discussed. What a shock I would have received to find at that time about the resignation request. I called John back to find why my resignation was being requested. Since this was late morning/early am, I called and met with Sue Hickey, acting administrator for Chief Hart. She said for attendance. Steve Cotton, Sue and I met. I received the charter and other information. Friday I spent at the library preparing my response for Monday, October 15th meeting. I feel this backed up my belief --- NO CAUSE. On October 15th meeting Dotty discussed the dog park. She DID NOT ask for my resignation even though John Farrell asked twice if she had anything else to discuss. Her reply---NO. Dotty later said at the November dog park meeting she did not to request my resignation on the agenda. John Farrell said it was listed on the agenda. I stayed at the council meeting until Dotty left. Later spoke to John asked him about her not requesting my resignation. He said he/council considered this a DEAD ISSUE. I did too. I thought it was only it was not with Dotty/committee. She/committee were still intent on my resignation. It seems she/they are on a mission. Too bad all this energy wasn't put to more constructive use, instead of going after one who disagrees with her/them. Sanborn Road has been mentioned since conception of the dog park committee as a desired area; heritage committee meeting I attended in September and recently at the November dog park committee meeting. I did not attend September's meeting as I felt I needed a break from all that was going on. This has been very stressful for me. On the day of Sandy's affecting New Hampshire, Monday, I received a call from Dotty that Tuesday there would a meeting. My position on the committee was to be addressed. I said, you will call me if the meeting is cancelled. Yes and she did. John Farrell told me that if Londonderry was closed the cable building would be too. Therefore, there would no meeting. This was not our regular meeting date. I feel she wants to get me resigned at the November council meeting. I attended our meeting for November. Dotty, it seems,

had E-mailed the members. I WAS NOT CALLED. John Curan did not reply. John Beaulieu not present but wanted to be called if there was a vote. After reading a statement to the council [not dated or signed] it was obvious I was to be the topic of discussion. Some at the meeting who had not been attending meetings and missed three or more in consecutive order spoke. One in particular seemed to be most verbal. How he knew about my manner, etc if not present is questionable. All present were encouraged to speak about me. It was a stressful experience. The October minutes mentioned an argument between me and another member. A meeting I left early as did John Beaulieu. When I arrived and mentioned I wouldn't be staying long. Before I left Doty's tone and manner about my not answering her three calls [when she wanted to share with me] were not answered made me feel this would not be something I nor those present should discuss at this time. She asked if I would be attending future meetings and leaving after a few minutes. I said I don't know. I would let her know. As I was leaving, she lowered her head and said YOU BETTER. At the November meeting everyone present was encouraged to speak about me. Remarks about my lack of attendance, behavior and my impeding progress were said. Raj was the only one who said something must have triggered my behavior. I believe he was looking at others involvement as well. A vote was taken for my resignation. 4-yes, 2 abstains-1 no. John Beaulieu was to be called. I decided to leave. Scott Benson asked for the information I brought to discuss concerning Auburn Road and the questioner. He and I discussed this briefly. I left it with him to present to others. Doty was calling John Beaulieu as I was leaving. I told her to leave message on my machine. She curtly replied no. I spoke to John Farrell at length about this meeting. Chief Hart as well. It was mentioned that perhaps the dog park committee should be disbanded if they cannot act like adults. Although this had not entered my mind or what I had hoped for as a solution, I said maybe it should be. I will not be a part of a character assassination or psychoanalysis of this committee as I was subjected to at this November meeting. Perhaps God is telling me step aside—leave the issues/problems in his hands. SO BE IT. I RESIGN.



Deanna J Mele

cc Dog Park Committee
cc Chief Hart, acting town administrator

Memo To: Planning Board, Londonderry, New Hampshire
Town Council, Londonderry, New Hampshire
From: Heritage and Historic District Commission, Londonderry, New Hampshire
Date: November 15, 2012
Re: Zoning Ordinances

The Heritage and Historic District Commission (Commission) recommends that the Planning Board and/or the Town Council take no action to modify or suspend the Town's Zoning Ordinances with regards to outdoor and electronic signs. The Commission feels that the current regulations for signage are adequate to

The current sign regulations help to preserve the look and character of the Town of Londonderry. The Commission feels that there are no underlying feelings amongst the citizens for a reversal of the signage rules. The Commission thinks that the citizens like the non-electronic sign status of the Town in which they have chosen to reside. cover any needs for private or governmental entities.

Recently the Londonderry Fire Department has been considering the erection of a permanent, electronic sign at the Central Fire Station to provide emergency communications to the Town. Such a sign would be contrary to the current zoning ordinances regulating such signage.

The Commission recognizes that the Town Government may choose to ignore the Town's Zoning Ordinances in order to achieve goals that it feels provides a betterment for the citizens. The Commission feels that the current use of temporary signs to address temporary situations is a course of action that has been useful.

The Commission feels that the Fire Department staff should consider other means of providing mass communications. These could include cellular telephone calls, text messaging, possibly increasing the power of the school's FM station and the use of a reverse 911 calling system. A single stationary sign is only good for those people who can get to it and if it contains the information that they want. The Commission feels that the wired and wireless world holds more promise than the line-of-sight visual approach to disseminating news and information.

The Commission strongly recommends that the Town government and its entities adhere to the current Zoning Ordinances.

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This recommendation is prepared pursuant to a vote of the Commission in session on November 15, 2012. Approved 7-0-0.

David Colglazier, Secretary