

**Minutes**  
**Town of Londonderry**  
**Monday January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
*Approved January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016*

1. **Call meeting to order**

Steve Prouty called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in the absence of chair Jim Ameden.

Board Members Present: Steve Prouty, Cathy Aragi, Paul Gordon and Wayne Blanchard.

Staff Present: Stephanie Thompson, Tina LaBeau, Kelly Pajala, Duane Hart

Absent: Jim Ameden

2. **Additions or deletions to the agenda**

Executive Session for Land Purchase discussion

3. **Minutes**

Regular Board of Selectmen's Minutes – Monday December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Paul made a motion to approve. Wayne seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

4. **Convene Liquor Board**

Approval of Second Class Liquor License – Clark's Quality Foods

Paul made a motion to approve. Wayne seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

5. **Select board pay orders**

Passed around and signed.

**Announcements/correspondence**

Letter that Paul was asked to send for a Transfer Station employee, that he sent as a representative to the transfer station board.

Signing of Conflict of Interest Policy & Personnel Policy

6. **Visitors and concerned citizens**

Representative presentation from Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce

Wayne Granquist, Seth Bongartz, and Cindy Gubb.

- Chamber serves 18 towns including Londonderry. Seth has been working to revamp their model, which has been around since the 1950s or 60's and has not been operating as effectively, especially regarding economic development as necessary. They held public meetings with sectors represented, and citizens asking questions and hearing what people had to say. The two main points were that they need to do more with the tourism industry and taking it to a higher level of professionalism, and recognizing that such an economy goes up and down, so underlying all there must be more attention paid to economic development for steady jobs, and keeping people in the area. They heard this message and have been working on the model which will make that most effective. They are looking a long term commitment and process which requires people and money. Wayne worked with Southern Vermont Economic Commission for the State, who also found the same issues necessary to address. Manchester also reached essentially the same conclusion in its study efforts.
- Working with public/private partnership.

- They are seeking \$4,800 for the Town budget for Londonderry's contribution. Based on a formula that they developed to make sure it is fair and equitable. The \$75,000 that they are raising, is only a portion of what long-run will be needed.
- Cindy noted that the public/private partnership means needing funding from individuals, businesses as well as all of the municipalities represented by the Manchester and the Mountains Regional Chamber of Commerce. Looking at a destination marketing organization – working with events, etc., to bring people to this specific area. They also want to look at how to bring in more businesses that do not rely on the ski industry and grow the ones we have. They are looking at local assets that can be highlighted.
- It is a matter of needing to make the changes and not waiting for the changes to come to help the region.
- Seth noted this would begin on July 1, 2016 and they have already raised \$80,000.
- Cathy asked about the budget figures for their budget. Copies were provided to the Board.
- Wayne G said that several legislators including Oliver Olsen to implement the Southern Vermont Economic Development Zone. A report from the 9 committee members was recently released. They looked at data. Southern Vermont in particular is suffering from job loss, lack of opportunity, etc. They have a request that would go to the Governor for \$50,000 from the enterprise fund to address the economic development issues in all of Southern Vermont. He said this Manchester region is important as it is a hub in the region, and all need to work together.
- Cindy highlighted the formula and the costs for each Town in the Partnership to total the \$75,000 for 18 towns. It would be \$2.23 for Londonderry on the tax rate. She noted that a lot of work has gone into a thoughtful process to make these changes to will help stimulate the area.
- Seth said Manchester and Dorset are in agreement so far. They are making the rounds to the other towns.
- They are working with a consultant to get a three-year marketing plan under a 6-month contract with someone with Vermont marketing experience.
- Steve asked what the percentage of efforts would go to tourism services vs. manufacturing, etc. The idea, Seth said, is half-and-half, as they feed off each other. Wayne G said the right message will get people visiting as well looking to relocate.
- Steve talked about a manufacturing business in Town that is willing to work with folks to try to expand and promote. Cindy said there is a lot of great things, we just need to promote it.
- Paul asked the membership dues – Seth said they are the fees from the individual business members. Cindy says they will provide measurable results to the Towns to report out their achievements. They will have individuals from the Town's meeting once or twice per year to make sure everyone knows what has been going on.
- Cindy said that the Town's that are involved will be part of the assessment such as looking at commercial zoning, what open spaces exist to look at what opportunities there are to promote, while also displaying activities like skiing, hiking, etc. It helps the towns look at what they have and also what changes they may need to make to be ready when opportunity knocks.
- Steve said in the past he has served on a Board trying to get more jobs to the region, had someone very interested, but the Town wasn't prepared at that time.

- Seth said the first position they are hiring will be focused on economic development. Staff will be their two existing staff, and will build up as the program builds. They will bring in a tourism person following the economic development hire, later in year one. A few more positions will be added over the next few years.
- Paul said he lauds the efforts and would encourage the Board to put on the Warning for Town Meeting, and encourage their attendance at Town Meeting to present. He noted tight budgets, requested funds for SeVEDs, etc. However this group is more local to our region, and the efforts are likely to be more locally noticeable.
- It was discussed they could submit the information and be placed on the Warning as a separate item.
- Cindy highlighted she is a resident and wants to see the town involved and see this area represented.
- Dick Dale asked if there are two economic development groups looking to be Warned – would the Board endorse one or the other? Steve said he thought the Board might want to do that and he is personally in favor of that. He felt this group had more understanding of the need than the previous group did.

7. **Town official's business**

8. **Roads and bridges**

Updates

Truck Damage

- Duane provided an update on the damage to the truck/plow. Last Thursday a driver had an accident with the International and SG Reed does not yet know if it will be considered a total or not. They hope to have figures to us tomorrow.
- The State does not have a truck we can borrow. He checked with Windham on covering Howard Hill/Route 11 area to help, and they are agreeable to talk further about short term/long term. The cost they gave us is \$5226.00 based on mileage, for .82 miles, annually. This includes all salting and sanding. Duane said he just got the information and will compare what it is currently costing us per mile. He has old figures, but needs to update, to compare.
- They can also work with what we have and make the best we can, and take it from there. Steve said we have gone that route before, but this may be a little more long-term. Duane said it may be the rest of the season. Steve looked at a few vendors, and there are some trucks available online that we may be able to look into for a replacement. Duane has checked with a few places as well, in case and they will get back to us.
- Plowing isn't a big concern, however the access for spreading, etc that is a concern.
- Wayne asked about rental. Duane had not looked into that yet.
- Paul asked about Winhall as we have helped them in the past. Duane had not talked to them yet, but suspects they would be willing. He has a couple of thoughts – the area near Howard Hill/Route 11, is out of the way for much of their routes. Duane said if we continue to maintain if other roads are paved, we should consider paving Scott Pet Road as well to make it easier.
- Steve said have Duane keep us posted and if a special meeting is needed, we will call one.
- Steve mentioned a \$23,000 truck is available at Charlie Boy's, before we go out and pay other towns to do work. It might be a purchase now and then give us a test for the next purchase.
- Duane said nothing is finalized and is just exploring all options.

- Wayne asked if there was loss of use coverage for a rental under our insurance policy with VLCT? Tina will check on this – she has the policy.
- Hard copies of accident report were given to Stephanie.
- Steve said he has heard a lot of things on Facebook about speed, etc when it happened. He does not like hearing it and that other towns have had this happen before too. Without all the fact, this is an accident – they happen.

#### Other Updates

- Duane received a letter from CRW Woods about the grader as a reminder that our normal Volvo warranty is up 2/14/16 and covers travel and mileage and the extended warranty will run out at 2/14/20 or at 5,000 miles and does not provide any travel cost coverages. They said to call with any issues on the regular warranty before. Duane used it this weekend and thought it shifted strangely, so he is going to address that with them.
- Paul asked if they would come here to do the work – yes – some of it they can do with a computer with all the technology.

### 9. Transfer Station/ Recycling Center-

#### Approval of non-profit waivers

Waiver received for Windham Community Organization.

- o Application said they would be using it for a total of 4-6 bags per year.

**Paul made a motion to approve. Cathy seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.**

Paul will let Esther know of the approval.

Paul said the lane and barrel program to steer traffic at the Center has been working well and he and Steve helped up there over the weekend to help with sticker sales and name recording and it went well. Steve agreed that it seems to be helping and things are moving in the right direction. Paul said there may be some adjustments will be made as needed and situations arise.

### 10. New Business

#### Facility Use Agreement – proposed amendment

- With security changes at the facility, Stephanie, Tina and Kelly discussed that it would be good to amend the current document put in wording for obtaining an access code and key, and that the \$50 security deposit will also cover a key deposit. **Paul commented a change in the paragraph to outline the key/code just being for Twitchell Building, as the policy is for all town building.**

**Paul moved to change based discussion. Cathy seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.**

#### VTCMA membership approval consideration

- Kevin was not a member in the past. They offer conferences, training and expanded networking opportunities to managers and administrators around the State. The cost is \$85 and Stephanie would like to Board to consider paying this fee for membership.

**Paul made a motion to join for the 2016 year at a cost of \$85. Cathy seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.**

#### Renewable Energy Resolution (Rutland Resolution)

- Looks to sign-up a supporting municipality as the PSB looks at projects and how they affect the Towns.

**Paul made a motion to add the Town of Londonderry to the list of supporting Town's for the Rutland Resolution. Cathy seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.**

### 11. Old business

**12. Executive Session**

To discuss possible land purchase

**Wayne made a motion to move into executive session. Cathy seconded.**

**Motion passed with all in favor.**

**The board moved into Executive Session at 8:33 p.m.**

**The Board moved out of Executive Session at 8:58 p.m.**

**13. Adjourn**

**Wayne made a motion to adjourn. Cathy seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.**