Londonderry Town Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 19, 2026 | 7:00 p.m.
Moose Hill Council Chambers, Londonderry Town Hall

Council Members Present:
Chair Ron Dunn
Vice Chair Shawn Faber
Councilor Dan Bouchard
Councilor Deb Paul

Council Members Absent:
Councilor Ted Combes

Meeting Video Link:
http://173.166.17.35/internetchannel/show/14369?channel=4

Other Staff Present:
Acting Town Manager Kim Alan Bernard
Finance Director Justin Campo
Controller Sarah Jardim-Lee
Deputy Director of Public Works James Danis

Minutes Prepared By:
Kirsten Hildonen using Gemini Notebook AI

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dunn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Dunn opened public comment:

Name: Brian MacDonald
Address: 6 Picadilly Circle
Represented Braver Angels (a national organization working to depolarize communities) and discussed scheduling a 'Managing Difficult Conversations with Colleagues' workshop for the Council. Reviewed potential meeting dates with the Council, concluding that November 23 or November 30, 2026, would be optimal as October 26 was too short notice and November 9 conflicted with the Budget Committee. Chair Dunn agreed to poll Council members regarding available dates.

Name: John Perez
Address: 5 Wesley Drive
Expressed deep disdain over Council dysfunction and municipal turmoil following recent executive decisions, announced that he was distributing signs, and reiterating his commitment to actively oppose the re-election of Council majority members.

Name: Denise Drolet
Address: 25 Kimbell Road
Expressed strong frustration over the CCTV broadcast feed being disabled during the previous

meeting recess, characterizing it as censorship. Criticized secret legal expenditures exceeding budget, hiring multiple outside law firms without transparent justification, and removing former Town Manager Shaun Mulholland without due process or the four-vote charter requirement under Section 3.02.

Name: Sandra Lagueux
Address: 2 Fiddlers Ridge Road
Stated her concerns stem from the Council majority's actions, including driving up legal expenses, tabling policy modernizations, and altering Town Manager job qualifications. Asked for the immediate release of the final report from a prior anonymous investigation—which Vice Chair Faber stated would be released in early November following court proceedings—and criticized the lack of written specifics or a public hearing regarding the former Town Manager's removal.

Name: Chris Oliverio
Address: 1 Trolley Car Lane
Commended Police Chief and Acting Town Manager Kim Bernard for exemplary municipal leadership, recommending that the Council model the job profile for the next permanent Town Manager after Chief Bernard. Shared personal experience with solar panel installations at his church in Derry, noting unexpected ongoing electrical costs ($40,000 annually) despite solar capacity.

Name: Martha Smith
Address: 38 Shasta Drive
Asked who would be representing the Town in the lawsuit filed by the former Town Manager. Chair Dunn replied it would be Shaheen & Gordon. Councilor Bouchard asked why it wouldn't be handled by Primex. Chair Dunn stated he would look into it. Ms. Smith is apprehensive about a firm without municipal experience handling the case.

Name: Beth Marrocco
Address: 4 Westwood Drive
Questioned whether the Council had reflected on meeting rules and transparency, expressing concern over councilors collaborating outside public meetings. Urged the Council to follow established rules in the public light and expressed concern that council-driven legal expenses and liabilities would force town departments, including the library, to cut their budgets.

Name: David Armstrong
Address: 30 Sherwood Road
Expressed disappointment with Council leadership for dividing the board into 3-2 and 4-0 factions rather than fostering five-member collaboration, questioned spending additional taxpayer funds on outside law firms, and criticized attempts to circumvent the Town Charter.

Chair Dunn closed public comment.

Following public comment, Councilor Deb Paul addressed statements made at the October 5 meeting regarding alleged complaints against herself and Councilor Bouchard, clarifying that Acting Town Manager Kim Bernard confirmed no active formal complaints exist. Councilor Paul summarized some of the legal matters and course cases that the Town is involved.

Councilor Dan Bouchard addressed the Council under Council rules, stating he would not be silenced regarding ongoing governance issues. He criticized Chair Dunn for allowing an unscheduled speaker to present for over seven minutes while strictly enforcing five-minute limits on others, criticized the lack of communication regarding lawsuits filed by the former Town Manager, questioned an unannounced $1,500 monthly stipend for the Acting Town Manager, and urged the Council to restore transparency and unity.

C. BOARD APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS

1. Resignation of Bill Manning from the Recreation Commission.

The Council considered the resignation of Bill Manning from the Recreation Commission.

> ***Vice Chair Faber moved that the Londonderry Town Council hereby accepts the resignation of Bill Manning from the Recreation Commission with regret and sincere appreciation for his service to the community. Seconded by Chair Dunn. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.***

D. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Receive public input, discuss, and accept unanticipated revenue in the amount of $14,700.00 from the New Hampshire Department of Safety for the 2027 Highway Safety Grant, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b, III(a).

Councilor Bouchard stepped out of the meeting at approximately 7:35 p.m.

Controller Sarah Jardim-Lee presented Resolution 2026-19 regarding the FY2027 Highway Safety Grant from the NH Department of Safety, Office of Highway Safety, in the amount of $14,700.00. The grant provides pass-through funding for police officer overtime dedicated to speed enforcement, DUI patrols, distracted driving, seatbelt mobilization, and impaired driving control.

> ***Vice Chair Faber moved to open the public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Paul. Motion carried 3-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.***

Public Comment:

Name: Ray Breslin
Address: 3 Gary Drive
Inquired what the grant is being used for. Controller Jardim-Lee confirmed it is strictly for overtime wages and is an annual pass-through grant awarded by the federal government through the State of New Hampshire.

Councilor Bouchard returned to the meeting while Mr. Breslin was speaking.

> ***Councilor Bouchard moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Vice Chair Faber. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.***

> ***Councilor Bouchard moved that the Londonderry Town Council hereby accepts the unanticipated revenue from the New Hampshire Department of Safety as presented in the amount of $14,700.00***

under RSA 31:95-b, III(a) and further authorizes the Town Manager to move forward in accepting this award and enter into a grant agreement with the New Hampshire Department of Safety. Seconded by Vice Chair Faber. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.

2. Receive public input, discuss, and accept unanticipated revenue in the amount of $12,000 from the New Hampshire Department of Safety through the 2025 Homeland Security Grant, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b, III(a).

Controller Sarah Jardim-Lee presented Resolution 2026-20 regarding the 2025 Homeland Security Grant from the NH Department of Safety in the amount of $12,000.00. Funding supports local first responder overtime, specialized anti-terrorism training, exercises, and equipment for Londonderry Police Department operations at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT).

Vice Chair Faber moved to open the public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Bouchard. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.

Chair Dunn asked for public comment. There was none.

Vice Chair Faber moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Paul. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.

Vice Chair Faber moved that the Londonderry Town Council hereby accepts the unanticipated revenue from the New Hampshire Department of Safety as presented in the amount of $12,000.00 under RSA 31:95-b, III(a) and further authorizes the Town Manager to move forward in accepting this award and enter into a grant agreement with the New Hampshire Department of Safety. Seconded by Councilor Paul. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss and approve an expenditure from the Cable Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to the Londonderry School District in the amount of $8,000.

Controller Sarah Jardim-Lee presented Order 2026-19 regarding the annual withdrawal from the Cable Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Under the franchise agreement with Comcast, the town receives $32,500 annually for PEG access support, of which $8,000 is allocated to the Londonderry School District for educational television programming and studio equipment (including hard drives, microphones, and streaming headsets).

Vice Chair Faber moved that the Londonderry Town Council hereby approves the withdrawal request and directs the Town Treasurer to disburse $8,000.00 from the Cable Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to the Londonderry School District for educational programming equipment. Seconded by Councilor Paul. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative.

2. Discuss and authorize the Town Manager to execute the Off-Site Improvement Agreement for the Procopio project.

Item postponed to November 2, 2026.

3. Receive a presentation from the Department of Public Works regarding the Pavement Condition Index (PCI).

Item postponed to November 9, 2026.

4. Receive a presentation from the Department of Public Works and Weston & Sampson regarding Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) stormwater requirements.

Deputy Director of Public Works James Danis and Jaurice Schwartz from Weston & Sampson delivered a detailed presentation on Londonderry's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit compliance and surface water quality requirements under EPA regulations. The presentation covered the six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs), ongoing catch basin cleaning and street sweeping programs, illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) protocols, stormwater pollution prevention plans (SWPPP) for municipal facilities, and chloride reduction strategies. Discussion followed regarding catch basin cleaning equipment efficiency, maintenance costs, and budget tracking.

5. Receive a fiscal update for Fiscal Year 2026 year-end results and the unaudited first quarter of Fiscal Year 2027.

Finance Director Justin Campo presented the unaudited financial status for Fiscal Year 2026 year-end and the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2027. For FY2026, total municipal expenditures and encumbrances totaled $45,076,231 against a budgeted appropriation of $45,269,995, ending the fiscal year $193,764 under budget (99.57% spent). For FY2027 Q1 (July 1 – September 30, 2026), departmental expenditures totaled $12,148,212 against a budgeted appropriation of $48,217,746 (25.19% spent, exactly tracking the 25.21% benchmark). In addition, ongoing water expansion projects received $1,500,000 in state grant funds and $1,565,806.79 from the state PFAS Remediation Loan Fund.

6. Review the initial drafts of projected warrant articles for the 2027 Town Meeting.

Finance Director Justin Campo and Acting Town Manager Kim Bernard presented a preliminary overview of draft warrant articles for the March 2027 Town Election (FY2028). Key draft articles include: Warrant Article #2 (Leach Library Renovation Bond for $1,418,117 with first-year debt service of $209,173); Warrant Article #5 (IAFF Local 3160 Collective Bargaining Agreement); Warrant Article #6 (Teamsters Local 633 Library CBA); Warrant Article #8 (Establishing a Town-Wide Communication Systems and Equipment Expendable Trust Fund for $300,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance to eliminate radio dead zones); Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund ($800,000); Roadway Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund ($650,000); Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve ($600,000); Fire Truck Capital Reserve ($400,000); Information Technology Capital Reserve ($350,000); Establish and Fund a Revolving Fund for Fire Alarm Services; Leach Library Non-Capital Reserve ($20,000); Transportation Capital Reserve; and Water System Capital Reserve ($200,000). Key statutory deadlines noted: January 8, 2027 (petition articles with bond), January 12, 2027 (standard petition articles), February 6, 2027 (Deliberative Session), and March 9, 2027 (Election Day).

Councilor Bouchard and Vice Chair Faber discussed whether the Public Works position should be in the budget or on a warrant article. Councilor Paul advocated that all of the positions should be treated the same and asked that the policy be put in place. The Council came to a consensus to discuss a policy around hiring at a future date.

F. OLD BUSINESS

None.

G. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

1. Town Council Meeting Minutes from October 5, 2026

> ***Councilor Bouchard moved to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Seconded by Councilor Paul. Motion carried 3-0-1, with Councilor Bouchard, Councilor Paul, and Chair Dunn voting in favor, and Vice Chair Faber abstaining due to absence from the October 5 meeting.***

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Liaison Reports

Councilor Dan Bouchard raised questions regarding a Saturday gathering on Stokes Road involving Chair Dunn, Vice Chair Faber, the Fire Department, and local residents concerning the Stokes Road bridge. Councilor Bouchard expressed concern that the full Council was not notified in advance and asked whether funds were being transferred back from Hall Road to Stokes Road. Chair Dunn and Vice Chair Faber clarified that they attended as individual councilors to address constituent safety concerns and that a formal public hearing on the matter is scheduled for November 2, 2026.

The Council discussed the schedule for the Fiscal Year 2028 initial budget presentations. By Council consensus, the Saturday budget workshop was scheduled for November 7, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

2. Town Manager Report

Acting Town Manager Kim Bernard provided a brief operational update regarding ongoing municipal department coordination and FY2028 budget preparation.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Dunn opened public comment:

Name: Richard Bielinski
Address: 89 Hall Road
Expressed frustration over feeling disenfranchised by Council leadership, criticized lack of direct answers to resident inquiries, raised concerns regarding CCTV broadcast interruptions, and called for greater accountability and responsiveness to taxpayers.

Name: Sandra Lagueux
Address: 2 Fiddlers Ridge Road
Clarified her earlier remarks regarding Town Manager job qualifications, quoting Acting Town Manager Kim Bernard ("What we allow is who we become") to urge transparency and criticize spending and charter non-compliance. Inquired about the historical email BCC practice, prompting Chief Bernard to confirm it was not in place during his prior interim tenure and Vice Chair Faber to clarify job description origins.

Chair Dunn closed public comment.

J. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

None held.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Faber moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Paul. Motion carried 4-0-0. Chair votes in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

L. MEETING SCHEDULE

- November 2, 2026; Moose Hill Council Chambers; 7:00 p.m.
- November 7, 2026; Moose Hill Council Chambers; 10:00 a.m. (FY2028 Initial Budget Presentation)
- November 9, 2026; Moose Hill Council Chambers; 6:00 p.m.