

NEW LONDON-SPRINGFIELD WATER SYSTEM PRECINCT
Commissioners Monthly Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2023

PRESENT: Kenneth Jacques (Chairman), John MacKenna (Commissioner), Rip Cross (Commissioner), Rob Thorp (Superintendent) and Rhonda Gauthier (Office Manager).

Others in Attendance: New London residents; Rich and Karen Epstein, Bob Bowers, Bill Helm (New London Selectman) and Peter Nichols from NH Housing Commission.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00PM.

Rip made a motion to accept the minutes of November 6 and November 20, 2023, meetings with corrections.

Ken asked Rhonda to call the tax collector of Springfield and request the Precinct's bill for payment in lieu of taxes.

The Board reviewed the Superintendent's monthly report. Rob reported; all the Main Street project plan corrections are complete and sent to Underwood Engineering, the one-ton floorboard repair is completed, Micah Seneca was hired for some digging at Hilltop that was difficult for the Precinct to manage. Also, the main line from TLV back to Colby Point Station was flushed due to a high buildup of manganese.

The Board received the estimate for the Main Street Project from Underwood. The estimate is 4.5 million dollars. Ken- after the corrections are made, the job will be ready to go out to bid.

Bill Helm – asked what the timeline of the project will be. Ken – need to wait until the bids come in. It depends on a lot of variables, one being how busy the contractors are.

There was discussion on the sidewalks. Rob – the town might have to wait until settled. Should wait a year or two. Bill Helm- the Town will do the sidewalks after the Precinct's work is done but will ask the Town to be able to expend the money when ready.

There was discussion on the history of the Glengae Development. Ken -zoning changes increasing the density in the town puts a strain on water availability.

Bill Helm asked Ken to discuss the Safe Drinking Water Act at the New London Selectmen's meeting on December 14, 2023, at 5:30.

Ken discussed the new water main to the New London Hospital was for fire protection. Ken explained that the growth in town has been steady and low, and the Precinct has acted accordingly.

Mrs. Epstein asked when the precinct takes on a major project what does it mean for the Precinct voters as far as the tax rate is concerned. Ken explained that the Precinct has always tried to keep the tax rate around a dollar per thousand. It would depend on the size of the project and the terms of the bank loan.

Discussion with Bow Bowers regarding costs and number of taxpayers in the Precinct.

Ken stated that due to economic constraints the Precinct is not able to take on the alternative water source project at this time. Rip made a motion to vote to not take on the alternative water source project at this time, John seconded the motion. All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Submitted by Rob Thorp