



New London Springfield Water System Precinct
2025 ANNUAL REPORT



*Providing Water to the Towns of New
London and Springfield NH since
1925*



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New London-Springfield Water System Precinct Commissioners

Richard (Rip) Cross, Chairman Term expires 2026

Kenneth Jacques, Term expires 2028

Peter Hoglund, Term expires 2026

New London-Springfield Water System Officers

Robert Bowers, Moderator Term expires 2026

Joseph Kubit, Treasurer Term expires 2026

Tracey MacKenna, Clerk Term expires 2026

Report to the Voters

The Annual Meeting of the New London- Springfield Water System Precinct was held on March 18, 2025, Bob Bowers served as Moderator.

All articles set forth on the warrant for the 2025 annual Meeting were passed.

The Commissioners regretfully accepted John McKenna's resignation in May. The Commissioners would like to thank John McKenna for his 18 years of service as Commissioner of the Water Precinct. John initially got involved because his mother had a large bill and he came in to understand it. It turned out to be a leaking toilet.

The Commissioners sought out a candidate to complete John's last year of his three-year term and Peter Hoglund graciously accepted. He is working hard to get up to speed with all that is going on at the Precinct.

In review, the following actions were approved for 2025: a domestic service for a 4,500sf Montessori School - Strawberry Blossom- on Main Street, and New London Hospital expansion of two operatories. There were repairs made to a major water line leak at Hilltop Place, a water main break on Birch Acres, 3 service line leaks repaired, and 1 hydrant replacement. Once again, thank you to the New London DPW and Sunapee Water and Sewer for your continued support and assistance. Other repairs and upgrades were made to 2 well pumps at Colby Point, a New VFD (electrical drive) at the Colby Point Pump station, and all storage tanks were cleaned and inspected in 2025.

The major water line project is closing out with a few punch list items to complete, mainly some paving redo's on Main Street. Our project engineer, Underwood Engineers, is estimating that the project cost will be somewhat less than the initial contract amount of \$3,954,525.00. These savings are primarily due to a significant reduction in paving required on the project and due to the contractors' speed of execution of the work. The Commissioners would like to again thank our staff, SUR West (the successful bidder), Underwood Engineers, Hanson Bridge Works, Colby Sawyer College and all the Town of New London Departments to help facilitate this significant undertaking.

The Asset Management Plan has made significant progress, particularly with Phase 2 (GIS locations) and the Service Line inventory. The inventory, which initially included approximately eleven hundred (1,100) services has now been narrowed down to around seventy-seven (77) unknowns. This puts the Precinct in a strong position to complete the project well within the state's 10-year deadline. The Precinct was also awarded a \$60,000 grant to help with the cost of this project.

Another project completed this year was the leak detection survey conducted in the summer of 2025 and the results showed that our system is in great shape, with negligible water loss.

In 2025 the Twin Pines commercial Housing Project was anxious to have the Precinct sign a request for water agreement for domestic water service. A Mediation was held in January 2025 with all interested parties and no resolution. There was a hearing with the Housing Appeals Board in April with no definitive conclusion. There was another settlement discussion in December 2025 with no resolution. The Precinct cannot commit to water we don't have and until we can prove that we can support the demand for a project we can't make a commitment to do so.

As of 2025, the New London Place Project (aka Continuum Project) which is adjacent to the New London Hospital has not moved forward resulting in the lapse of their application and all associated design plans. In addition, they were unsuccessful in developing their own water source due to environmental issues. They have now initiated a suit against the Precinct and the Town of New London. Our insurance provider Primex is currently providing legal support on this issue.

The results of the engineering work done in the winter and spring of 2025 with Emery & Garrett and Underwood Engineers have raised additional questions. We have received a proposal from both firms for some additional studies of Colby Point. The report will help guide the commissioners in a decision as to how to move forward with engineering and upgrades to the well field at Colby Point.

We would like to recognize Rod Reyelt on his retirement from the Water Precinct in February 2025, after 41 years of service. We also would like to thank Rhonda Gauthier for 3 1/2 years of service with the Water Precinct; and we would like to thank Jon Dame for his 20 years of service at the Water Precinct. Jon retired and moved to the UP in Michigan, but not before teaching our new hire, Tony DeCosta the ropes. We are hoping that Jon will join us in the summer on a part-time basis. As noted above, we have hired Master Plumber Tony DeCosta as Jon's replacement. Tony has picked things up quickly and has been working hard to get all the required licensing.

As always, many thanks to our dedicated staff; Rob Thorp, Superintendent, Tony DeCosta and Jon Dame (summer part-time), water System Operators who have put in at times, 7 days a week, keeping our water system maintained and working efficiently. Under the capable administration of Maggi Winn, our new Office Administrator who joined us in early February 2025, The Precinct office is operating very efficiently, and she is a pleasure to work with.

The Board of Commissioners would once again like to remind everyone to practice best water conservation. The Commissioners raised the water rates on the incremental water use to create some initiative for water conservation. Also, the staff is available during normal business hours to answer questions and our Consumer Confidence Report and a link to pay your bills online are located on our website, nlswp@tds.net

The Board wishes to extend to the voters their appreciation for the opportunity to serve the Precinct and looks forward to continued service in 2026.

Thank You,
The Board of Commissioners
New London-Springfield Water System Precinct



New London-Springfield

The inhabitants of the District/Precinct of New London-Springfield in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in District/Precinct affairs are hereby notified that the Annual District/Precinct Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: March 17, 2026
Time: 6:30pm
Location: Whipple Hall - 25 Seamans Road New London NH 03257
Details: Voting for Elected Officials 6:30pm-7:00pm

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Transaction of All Other Business)

Date: March 17, 2026
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Whipple Hall - 25 Seamans Road New London NH 03257
Details: Business meeting begins immediately after voting

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before <DATE>, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at <LOCATION> and that an original was delivered to <OFFICIAL>.

Name	Position	Signature
Richard Cross	Chairman	
Kenneth R. Jacques	Commissioner	
PETER HOGGUND	COMMISSIONER	



2026
WARRANT

Article 01 Election of Officers

To Elect the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct Officers: one Commissioner to serve a one-year term; one Commissioner to serve a three-year term; one Treasurer to serve a one-year term; one Clerk to serve a one year term; and one Moderator to serve a one year term.

Yes No

Article 02 Operating Budget for the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct

To see if the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Three Hundred Twelve Thousand, Three Hundred Nine Dollars (\$1,312,309) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Yes No

Article 03 Funding for Emergency System Repair

To see if the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for the purpose of funding Emergency System Repairs. This sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) will be taken from the unassigned fund balance and not raised by taxes. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the improvements are completed or by 12/31/2029, whichever is sooner. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Yes No

Article 04 Funding for Building Maintenance, Repair and Upkeep

To see if the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to appropriate the sum of Forty-seven Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$47,225) for the purpose of Building Maintenance, Repairs and Upkeep. The sum of Forty-seven Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$47,225) to be taken from the unassigned fund and not raised by taxes. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the work is completed or by 12/31/2029, whichever is sooner. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Yes No

Article 05 Funding for Lead Service Line Inventory

To see if the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) for the purpose of identifying unknown service lines as required by NHDES.. The sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) was awarded to the New London Springfield Water System Precinct by NHDES in the form of a 100% Lead Service Line Inventory Grant and will not raised by taxes. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the work is completed or by 12/31/2027, whichever is sooner. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Yes No



Article 06 For the purpose of continued Evaluation and engineering of additional water supply needs of the Water Precinct

To see if the New London Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for the purpose of continued evaluation and engineering of additional water supply needs of the water precinct. The sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) will be taken from the unassigned fund and not raised by taxes. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the work is completed or by 12/31/2029, whichever is sooner. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Yes

No

2026 Budget Worksheet

	2025 Approved	2025 Expenditures	2026 Proposed
Salaries, Benefits, Taxes	\$471,694.13	\$462,939.13	\$490,844.00
Maintenance	\$35,000.00	\$79,566.99	\$40,000.00
Pump and Tank Maintenance	\$50,000.00	\$13,788.00	\$59,700.00
Meter maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Utilities	\$85,000.00	\$102,677.13	\$110,000.00
Supplies	\$30,000.00	\$37,008.99	\$40,000.00
Insurance	\$17,348.00	\$17,348.00	\$17,700.00
Administration	\$18,500.00	\$15,231.79	\$20,000.00
Audit Expense	\$12,000.00	\$8,640.00	\$12,000.00
Legal Expense	\$40,000.00	\$31,744.50	\$40,000.00
Election/Annual Meeting	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Engineering Review	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Equipment(capitalized)	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Payment in lieu of taxes	\$4,219.00	\$4,264.00	\$4,350.00
Interest (Long Term)	\$223,473.42	\$223,473.42	\$207,465.00
Principal (Long Term)	\$218,650.00	\$218,650.00	\$218,650.00
Interest (Short Term)	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Lease Expense	\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,257,484.55	\$1,247,330.95	\$1,312,309.00

New London-Springfield Water System Precinct Annual Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025

Moderator Bowers opened the meeting at 6:30pm. Chairman Kenneth Jacques made the announcement that 40-year employee Rod Reyelt retired from the Precinct in February, and Office Manager Rhonda Gauthier will be retiring, but will be staying on consulting when needed. Chairman Jacques Thanked both for their service to the Precinct.

Moderator Bowers announced he would be following Roberts Rules of order Plus Fairness, Moderator Bowers asked anyone making a motion or seconding a motion to announce their name. He then requested a motion to waive the reading of the articles and to refer to them by number. Peter Stanley moved the motion. Second by Joe Cardello. Motion passed. Bowers advised they have waived the reading of the articles and will take them up by number.

Article 1-Election of Officers

To Elect the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct Officers: one Commissioner to serve a three-year term; one Treasurer to serve a one-year term; one Clerk to serve a one-year term; and one Moderator to serve a one-year term. **82 people voted. Results of the vote, Commissioner Ken Jacques won with 79 votes. Treasurer Joe Kubit won with 76 votes. Clerk Tracy MacKenna won with 78 votes. Moderator Robert Bowers won with 76 votes.**

Article 2 - Operating Budget for the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct

To see if the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Two Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand, Four Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars (\$1,257,485) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion by Peter Stanley, seconded by John Ellis, to take up Article 2. Bowers requested Chairman Kenneth Jacques to speak to Article 2 first. Chairman Jacques explained the increases in salaries, benefits and taxes were going up for a few reasons, first would be the change in the office position going from part-time to full-time and the 2 other employees were being brought up to competitive rates and increased cost of health Insurance. There were also increases in The Financial Auditing, Pump and Tank Maintenance, Utilities, Supplies, Property Liability, and Legal Fees. The 20-year Main St Bond is an interest payment of \$223,473, and Principal payment of \$218,650.

Monique Jeffrey asked what the rate was, it was explained it is around 4%.

Greg Sargent asked what the rate that this results in, (meaning the impact on the tax rate) it was explained that Rhonda had estimated approximately \$1.90.

John Fink asked for an explanation of what went into the legal expenses. It was explained this was to cover the precinct representation with respect to the Twin Pines Project, and any other legal needs.

Cara Leoni, how much of the proposed budget is funded from water usage fees versus funded from taxes? It was explained capital expenditures and major costs that everybody benefits are covered through taxation, and then the users pay for most of the operating costs. It was explained that there will be an increase in fees for services with the semi-annual charge going from \$55 to \$65 and the average fee will be \$5.50 per 1000.

Julie Elliman advised there were multiple breaks on MainStreet. "Do you see actual savings?"

Kathleen Sulmans asked about the estimated lifespan of the system that was just replaced. It was explained it is estimated to be approximately 75 years.

Kathleen Sulmans also asked about the pipes running from the Mains to someone's house, is to know when those need to be changed, and is that on the subscriber? So, the lateral lines that run from the main street. It was explained that many have been replaced and many upgrades, and the precinct will continue to upgrade with prioritization in mind.

John Fink asked if the lease expense, is that the money that we pay to Cotton Cleveland it was explained it is paid to the Cleveland Corporate.

John Fink asked if that price was a fixed price. It was explained it is fixed due to the last negotiation. It was a 10-year contract that is up in 2030.

Moderator Bowers seeing no further questions called the vote. Article 2 Passed.

Article 3-Funding for Water System Improvements and Lead & Coppler Rule Compliance

To see if the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for the purpose of funding improvements to the Water System, including but not limited to necessary upgrades, repairs, and replacements of pipes, equipment, and infrastructure, as well as compliance with the New Hampshire Lead and Copper Rule, which may require specific actions to address lead service lines or other related work. This sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) will be taken from the unassigned fund balance and not raised by taxes. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the improvements are completed or by 12/31/2028, whichever is sooner. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Motion made by Peter Stanley to adopt Article 3, Seconded by Peter Hoglund. Superintendent Rob Thorp explained we Budgeted \$10,000 because the EPA handed down new lead and copper mandates as part of the revised lead and copper rule, that all lead service lines need to be identified positively. The \$15,000 is for continued system maintenance.

Cara Leoni asked what the Unassigned fund balance was.

Peter Hoglund asked where the pipes were. Rob Thorp advised the pipes were scattered.

Moderator Bowers called the vote. Article 3 Passed.

Article 4-Funding for the exploration of water resources on Colby Point

To see if the New London-Springfield Water System Precinct will vote to appropriate the sum of Fifty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred Dollars (\$56,900) for the purpose of funding the exploration and assessment of water resources on Colby Point, including but not limited to feasibility studies, testing, and necessary evaluations to determine the availability and suitability of water sources for future use. The sum of Fifteen Thousand (15,000) will come from the NH DES Strategic Planning Grant (grant award is a 50% match grant not to exceed \$30,000) with the remaining Forty-one Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$41,900) to be taken from the unassigned fund and not raised by taxes. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the work is completed or by 12/31/2028, whichever is sooner. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion made by Peter Stanley to adopt Article 4, motion seconded by Rich Epstein, Moderator Bowers asked Commissioner Cross to explain the Article. Commission Cross advised this money will be used to have experts investigate and evaluate the 6 production wells we have to make sure we are getting the most out of what we have and recommend any improvements that can be made.

Kathleen Shulman asked if there was a plan to explore other options. Commissioner Cross advised we have all our infrastructure, out on Colby Point. So, we're trying to figure out what, if anything, we can do to maximize or to improve their net.

Don Durgin asked if the exploration and the evaluation, at Colby Point, fails or come up to only give you 150,000 gallons more, what plan do you have in place, plan B, or are you looking at other avenues for bringing more water into the precinct? It was advised the Precinct did ask Emery and Garrett originally, to do a, and I'll call it a broad paintbrush look of the area as to where you might be able to find water.

John Fink motioned an amendment to article four that the consultants, Emery and Garrett, should be directed to analyze strategies for water conservation in the water precinct, especially with reference to the top users in the area.

Eve Burden seconded the motion. It was advised that this motion was not funded, and there is no way to do it unless other projects were abandoned, which is to look for more water.

Commissioner Cross also advised the precinct has no means to police this.

Kathleen Schulman stated, "it's not clear to me that the same group of engineers, that are very good at finding water, is also the right group to talk about conservation measures."

Julia Ellimens stated that the language in the warrant article says including but not limited to feasibility studies testing and necessary evaluation.

Joe Kubit asked if this amendment scrapped everything else that's originally proposed in the original Article 4 or is this an addition to the Original Article. It was advised He is asking that the article as written be amended to contain the language he said, which is in essence that this engineering firm be asked to do some review and recommendations regarding water conservation.

Moderator Bowers called for a vote on the *amendment* to Article 4, The amendment Failed.

Continued discussion on Article 4 as written, James Foley asked if the goal of the study is to identify a water source, to restore or maintain the current water capacity or is it to expand the water capacity so that we can facilitate large application?

It was explained that it is not directed at being able to accommodate large projects in the future because we don't know the result of this study yet. The idea is to see whether the technology of today is better suited to try to provide more water with the current well field that we have, with the current infrastructure that we already have in place.

It was mentioned that our license is for 750,000, We cannot go above the 750 unless we go back to the state and ask for approval for that.

Moderator Bowers called for the vote on Article 4, Article 4 passed,

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Moderator Bowers advised This is a non-debatable motion, therefore I will ask for a show of all in favor of adjourning.

Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted

Tracey Mackenna

New London-Springfield Water System Precinct Staff

Robert Thorp, Superintendent
Maggi Winn, Office Administrator
Anthony DeCosta, Water Operator
Jon Dame, PT - Water Operator
Micah Seneca, PT - Water Operator

Administrative Office hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Friday 8:30-am-12:30pm

Shop hours: Monday through Friday 7:30 – 4:00

Phone: 603-526-4441

Email: nlswp@tds.net



Water Conservation

The drought of 2002 made us all aware of how precious and fragile our water supply is. The New London-Springfield Water System Precinct's water supply continued to provide water during this time, but overuse of water during this dry spell forced the well field and pump station to run 24 hours/day for days on end. This resulted in increased pumping day. When water use the drought of 2002 made us all aware of how precious and fragile our water supply is. The New London-Springfield Water System Precinct's water supply continued to provide water during this time, but overuse of water during this dry spell forced the well field and pump station to run 24 hours/day for days on end. This resulted in increased pumping costs and maintenance for the year 2002. The well field could produce about 500,000 gallons a day. When water use exceeded 500,000 gallons/day, we saw a gradual decline in our storage tank level. The precinct must maintain a certain level in the storage tank for fire protection. The precinct decided to act before the tank reached a critical level and imposed a water ban on all unnecessary use of water.

Water conservation tips to help lower water usage year round

Draw only the water you need when you turn on the faucet.

Keep water in the refrigerator for cold water, don't let the faucet run to get cold water. Rinse vegetables in short sprays and defrost foods in the refrigerator instead of under running water.

Take quicker showers and invest in a low flow shower head-available at a local hardware store.

Check for leaks, a silent leak in a toilet can use several gallons of water a day. Be sure all faucets are turned off.

Use leftover drinking water for pets or to water household plants.

Match the washing machine's load selector to your load size. Try to wash only full loads. Minimize detergent use.

Water lawns and plants only as they require, when the grass is dull green and you can see your footprint as you walk on it. Water only dry areas and consider changing your landscape to include less grass, more mulch and native plants.

Wash vehicles with a sponge and bucket, using hose for rinsing only.

Cover swimming pools when not in use to prevent evaporation loss and lower the water level to avoid loss due to splashing and overflow.

Sweep driveways, walks and decks with a broom instead of hosing them off.

Check appliances that use water for leaks.