



The Littleton Weekly Record

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

Bethlehem

Fire Chief Resigns
After 4 Months On Leave

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FREE



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LITTLETON

Caswell, Cherian Elected To Select Board

Voters Reject School Resource Officer, Barely Approve Proposed Town Budget

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

LITTLETON — Taylor Caswell and presumably Ed Cherian were elected as the two newest members of the Select Board during Tuesday's town meeting ballot vote, which also saw voters approve a \$9 million bond for the sewer plant, barely pass the proposed town operating budget, and reject reinstating the school resource officer position.

The numbers tallied up shortly after 1 a.m. Wednesday's results were preliminary and not yet officially certified.

Caswell, seeking one of two open board seats, won handily with 732 votes.

As of Wednesday, Cherian, with 427 votes for the second

seat, narrowly edged out Bill Latulip, who netted 418

Coming up short were board candidates Rudy Gelsi (112 votes), Lana Belorit (86), and December Rust (66).

Squeaking by in a vote of 491-482 was the proposed general fund operating budget of \$11.527 million.

Residents also voted 593-444 to approve a petition to prohibit future casinos in town, beyond the casino that is currently in the pipeline and proposed for Meadow Street.

Although the petition referred to banning "games of chance," that wording is required in the new law that gives communities a local option to say no to casinos, meaning the charitable gaming that has traditionally taken place in Littleton to benefit nonprofits can



Taylor Caswell, seen here outside of Littleton's town meeting polls on Tuesday, was elected to the Select Board by a large margin. (Robert Blechl)

proceed as it has and will not be impacted.

Residents voted 482-546 to reject a petition to prohibit

KENO operations in town.

They voted 480-538 to reject the school resource officer, a position that would have authorized \$104,296 in 2026 and a subsequent full-year cost of \$125,266, offset annually by \$41,667 in 2026, 2027, and 2028 through a federal grant.

Proponents say the officer, who would have been a member of the police department, would improve safety and safety planning in Littleton schools.

Among opponent concerns was the cost.

Littleton last had a school resource officer in 2008.

In an 812-175 vote, residents authorized up to \$9 million in bonds for upgrades and repairs to the wastewater treatment plant.

The money could be reduced through possible grants or other funding, and any bonds and debt will not be paid through taxation, but by sewer user fees.

As a bond article, the \$9 million sewer plant request needed a 60-percent supermajority to pass, and it received more than 75 percent.

In a 670-365 vote, residents approved a new 3-year employee union contract for the police department, resulting in a roughly \$600,000 increase in salaries and benefits over the 3 years.

In a vote of 670-340, they approved a new 3-year employee union contract for the public works and transfer sta-

tion, amounting to a roughly \$450,000 increase over the 3 years.

Passing in a vote of 663-352 was a warrant article seeking \$25,000 for planning, architectural, and engineering services for the future town office building at 50 Pleasant St.

Approved 794-237 was an article asking voters to approve a lease of 15,000 square feet of land at the Littleton Water and Light substation at 1533 St. Johnsbury Road for the development of a battery energy storage system to allow LWL to use stored energy in lieu of purchasing it from ISO-New England during peak energy demand hours when prices are higher.

In a 581-437 vote, residents approved a petition to raise \$50,000 to support a donation to the Littleton Community Center for the second-phase rehabilitation of the carriage barn, or annex. The money will go toward a matching grant awarded to the center.

Rejected in a vote of 412-612 was an article asking voters to authorize \$85,500 from the unassigned fund balance to cover a possible manufacturer cancellation fee in the event that the town's planned \$1.9 million purchase of a new fire ladder truck, which would require a separate and future town meeting warrant article, is not pursued.

In a 796-241 vote, residents approved \$125,000 for the engineering, design, and temporary stabilization measures for the eroding Mill Street riverbank, which became an issue after the July 2024 flood.

After an unsuccessful motion at the February deliberative session to zero out the \$3,200 funding petition for Pathways Pregnancy Center, the \$3,200 request was approved on Tuesday's ballot in a 588-433 vote.

Residents also approved, in a vote of 792-165, a zoning petition to expand the allowed uses in the Littleton Industrial Park to include schools and educational facilities, medical facilities, animal hospitals, and

recreation facilities.

Approved in a vote of 907-118 is a modification in the elderly property tax exemption that doubles the exemption, based on assessed property, for qualified taxpayers who meet certain criteria. For people 65 to 75, the exemption increased from \$35,000 to \$70,000. For a person aged 75 to 80, it increased from \$52,500 to \$105,000. For a person 80 or older, the exemption increased from \$70,000 to \$140,000.

The 58-article town meeting warrant for 2026 was longer than in most years, owing to the town discontinuing capital reserve funds and creating new funds that broaden their purposes and give the Select Board greater expenditure discretion.

The process follows state rules and involves one article to close out a fund and a second to create a new fund.

By large margins, voters approved discontinuing the capital reserve fund for Remich Park and establishing a new parks and recreation buildings and facilities capital reserve fund; discontinuing the town-wide assessment expendable trust fund to establish a new property valuation and legal services capital reserve fund; discontinuing the vehicle and equipment capital reserve funds for the police, fire, and highway departments and establishing new capital reserve funds for those departments that can be used for more expenditures; and discontinuing the sidewalks capital improvements fund to establish a pedestrian infrastructure capital reserve fund.

Also approved by voters was the discontinuation of the transfer station revolving fund and the parks and recreation revolving fund, from which all revenues will go into the general fund, as a way to simplify the town budget.

On Tuesday, about 1,000 residents, equating to slightly more than 25 percent of all registered Littleton voters, cast ballots.



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Bethlehem Fire Chief Resigns After 4 Months On Leave

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

More than four months after being placed on paid administrative leave, John Galloway, who was hired as Bethlehem's full-time fire chief in February 2025, has resigned.

The announcement was made by the Bethlehem Select Board during Monday's board meeting, when Nancy Strand, chair of the board, said Galloway voluntarily resigned on Friday, March 6.

"That's the announcement," she said.

It was made after the board met an hour earlier for a non-public session.

The town will now publicly post the fire chief vacancy to find Galloway's

replacement.

Citing legal counsel, the Select Board has not provided details on why Galloway, who previously served as chief of the Sunapee Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, was placed on leave for what was an undisclosed personnel matter.

Resident and former Selectman Chris Jensen asked board members if they had asked Galloway to resign.

"Any town employee can resign," said Strand.

Jensen asked again if the resignation came at the Select Board's request.

Board members did not specifically say whether they asked Galloway to resign.

Town administrator Mary Moritz said "voluntary" resignation was a



After more than four months on paid administrative leave, John Galloway has resigned as Bethlehem's fire chief, effective Friday, March 6. (Contributed photo)

word that the town received from legal counsel.

She added that town employees have privacy rights, and if such rights are not respected, no prospective employee will want to work for the town.

Bethlehem's full-time fire chief position was implemented in 2010 through a town meeting vote. Prior to that, it was a part-time position.

Resident Chris McGrath said the town has had a part-time chief since Galloway was placed on leave and asked if the town could revert to a part-time chief position.

"The only way to change that is through another vote," said Strand.

Selectman Mike Bruno, who has served as a volunteer firefighter, said discussions have been held and input

has been sought from the fire department, and that input will be considered as the town determines what it can legally change.

Galloway was hired with an annual salary of \$80,000.

In December, as residents pushed the Select Board for answers, board members said the decision for administrative leave with pay was on the advice of town legal counsel, was an option that protects Bethlehem legally, and the town followed the legal process that could have been applied to any other town employee, given the circumstances.

Because of privacy exemptions for town employees under the state's right-to-know law, board members said they are limited in what they can say.

Police Chief Placed On Paid Leave Pending Recertification

BY PAUL HAYES
Staff Writer

LANCASTER — Lancaster Police Chief Jonathan Woodworth was placed on paid administrative leave Friday, March 6, after he did not pass a required physical fitness test, town officials said.

The leave will remain in effect pending Woodworth's recertification through the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council, which administers the test.

Physical fitness tests are offered once a month by the agency.

During Woodworth's leave, Lt. Rian Matthews has been

named officer in charge of the Lancaster Police Department.

Woodworth had previously said a back injury prevented him from passing the physical fitness test, which is required by law as part of routine recertification for all New Hampshire law enforcement officers every three years.

The timed test includes push-ups, sit-ups and a 1.5-mile run,

with standards adjusted for age and gender.

Woodworth said earlier this year he had received a two-year extension to complete the test but that extension had expired. At the time, he said he planned to take the next available test offered by police standards in Concord.

"It's not a secret. I'm not trying to hide it," Woodworth said in a Feb. 6 interview.

He said his certification was temporarily suspended pending completion of the test. The New

Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council will conduct the next test in April.

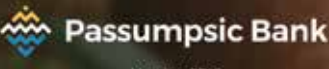
Woodworth became Lancaster police chief in October 2023. He previously served 14 years in the Navy before beginning his law enforcement career. He worked six years with the Northumberland Police Department and two years with the Gorham Police Department, where he attained the rank of lieutenant, before joining the Lancaster Police Department in March 2018.

In 2024, a bill that would have

eliminated the physical fitness test from the state's three-year law enforcement recertification requirements did not pass.

Another measure introduced this year in the New Hampshire General Court — House Bill 1805 — would extend the testing interval from every three years to every five years. The bill would also allow officers who have served as certified law enforcement officers for a designated number of years to request a permanent physical fitness waiver.


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LOCAL & STATE

Littleton Native Moves On From Deputy Secretary Of State Role

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

LITTLETON — As she plans to sub for her father-in-law at Tuesday's town elections, Erin Hennessey recounted her experience as the second-in-command at the New Hampshire Secretary of State's office.

After December, following 3 1/2 years as deputy secretary of state, Hennessey, who previously served as a state senator and a three-term state representative, stepped down to pursue other opportunities.

"I retired from the state in December and am taking some time — I'm calling it a sabbatical or a mini-retirement — to figure out what the next phase of my life will be outside of state government," Hennessey said Friday.

The secretary of state's office has a dedicated and knowledgeable staff, she said.

"I loved working with the people there," said Hennessey. "A lot of them have been there for a very long time and I learned a lot from them."

The office is very unique because it has five distinct divisions, she said.

"I've always liked a challenge and enjoyed learning all the different aspects of each of those divisions, from corporations to archives to vital records to elections and securities," said Hennessey, who often had little downtime in the role. "It was a fun job to have and very challenging, especially the elections piece at times."

That elections piece, which was 80 percent of her focus soon after becoming deputy, had Hennessey traveling to communities across New Hampshire as she monitored elections, did outreach and education, proofed ballots and got them out the door, answered questions, led training sessions, informed municipal elections officials about changes in laws, and helped them prepare for the 2022 and 2024 primary and general elections.

She also worked on legislation related to the Secretary of State's office.

Hennessey took the job in mid-2022, not long after the closely watched and contested November 2020 presidential election, whose reverberations could be felt across the Granite State, where elections were given added scrutiny.



New Hampshire Secretary of State David Scanlan, left, and former Deputy Secretary of State Erin Hennessey, center, seen here in October 2022, speak with municipal elections officials at the annual conference of the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks' Association. After 3 1/2 years as deputy, Hennessey, of Littleton, has stepped down to seek other opportunities. (Contributed photo)

"We were really fortunate in New Hampshire that we didn't have the issues that a lot of other states did," said Hennessey. "I think it's just because we do elections the correct way here in New Hampshire, being very local, and so you know, and you can trust your local elections officials."

Although she enjoyed the job as deputy, and although current Secretary of State David Scanlan has not announced

any plans to retire, Hennessey, an accountant by trade, said she came to the realization that she didn't want to become Secretary of State after Scanlan's eventual retirement.

As deputy secretary of state, Hennessey succeeded Scanlan, who spent two decades as deputy and had appointed Hennessey as New Hampshire's constitutional deputy secretary of state.

As such, the role she served

is separate from the senior deputy secretary of state, a part-time legislative position that is not a constitutional role, and from the assistant secretaries of state in the different divisions.

After recently turning 50, Hennessey, since 2022, has spent three hours almost every day on the road, driving to and from Concord, and more hours to points beyond.

She said she'll probably go back to her accounting roots, but more toward the business consulting work she did with Price Waterhouse.

"I think that I would do that on a smaller scale," said Hennessey. "That's what I'm looking at doing right now, but I am open to all sorts of things. I enjoyed it. I did just turn 50 and am looking at the next quarter-century of my work life to see what I'm going to do next."

Among the accomplishments she cited as deputy secretary was helping to modernize all the more the state's election process and continuing the tradition of transparency.

"While I was there, we adopted two new electronic ballot counting devices, and it was a very open and public discussion throughout the state, and I think

it went well," said Hennessey.

On Tuesday, she subs in for her father-in-law, outgoing Littleton Selectman Ed Hennessey, at Littleton's town meeting election.

She is succeeded as deputy secretary of state by Brendan O'Donnell.

In a statement announcing her departure, Hennessey said, "For over a decade, I have had the honor of serving the state of New Hampshire as the Deputy Secretary of State, State Senator, and State Representative. Now, it is time for me to step away and focus on the next phase of my life and work. I will miss the many friends I have made on both sides of the aisle, but not the commute."

Scanlan expressed his appreciation for the knowledge, experience, and dedication that he said Hennessey brought to the office.

"For the past three and a half years, Erin has been instrumental in helping to guide policy and implement important administrative improvements to the elections process, and she has been fun to work with," said Scanlan. "I wish her the very best in her future endeavors."



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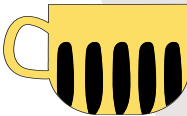
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OBITUARIES

SALLY COLBY

Sally A. (Forbes) Colby, 73 of Lunenburg, Vt. passed away at her home on March 5, 2026 with her family by her side. She fought a courageous battle with cancer maintaining dignity and grace throughout, always concerned with how everyone else was doing.

She was born on Sept. 13, 1952 in Lancaster, N.H., the daughter of the late Paul and Mary (Gibson) Forbes. She was raised in Lancaster, graduated from WMRHS class of 1970 and N.H. Vocational-Technical College in Berlin with an Associates Degree in culinary arts. She was crowned queen of the 7th Annual Snowmobile Grand Prix in 1970.

She met her husband of 51 years, Craig Colby, at a corn roast, married and settled down in Lunenburg where together they raised three sons. Being a wife, mother, grandmother, and spending time with family was her greatest joy. She was extremely proud of her sons and grandchildren and happiest in their company. She was a great cook, making countless loaves of homemade bread, rolls, doughnuts, and pastries in addition to delicious home-cooked meals. She made beautifully decorated cakes for all occasions - wedding and baby showers, birthdays, anniversaries, along with a very elegant three-tiered wedding cake for her sister's wedding. Cooking was her love language and anyone stopping by was strongly encouraged to have something to eat. She was creative, crafting gifts for friends and family and reveled in time spent



crafting and cooking with her grandchildren.

Once her sons were raised, Sally went to work outside the home. She was Lunenburg Town Clerk, worked at the Lunenburg Post Office, Santa's Village, a pastry cook at Omni Mt. Washington, and most recently at Weeks Hospital in the kitchen. She was a sweet, outgoing person, always greeted you with a big smile, remembered who you were and always happy to see you. She made many friends that she loved

and was loved in return. The love and support she received from friends, co-workers, and family was phenomenal which brightened her days and filled her heart with love and gratitude. She felt blessed with the outpouring love extended to her in visits, calls, cards, flowers, food, hugs, prayers, and support.

She is survived by her husband Craig, three sons Justin and partner Elizabeth Cummings, Luke and partner Bobbie Copen, and Seth Colby all of Lunenburg, her precious grandchildren Caleb Hartlen, Amos Colby, Dillon and Ella Colby, three sisters Joanne Savage (Alan) of Lancaster, Carol Provost (Leonard) of St. Petersburg, Fla., Linda Colby (Lee) of Lunenburg, as well as several cherished nieces, nephews, cousins, uncle, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements are entrusted to Bailey Funeral Home of Lancaster.

STEPHEN 'STEVE' CLOUTIER SR.

Stephen "Steve" Cloutier Sr. passed away peacefully on Feb. 27, 2026, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Steve, lovingly known as "Pops," was an avid lover of Harley-Davidsons, Elvis Presley, the beach, and most of all his family and friends. You could often find him relaxing on the porch, listening to his favorite music, enjoying the fresh air, and taking each day as it came.

Steve worked alongside his wife, Pam, for many years at Fransted Family Campground in Franconia N.H. Together, they built a life centered around family and community, raising their children in Bethlehem, New Hampshire, and opening their home and hearts to many who became family along the way.

He was incredibly proud of his children and



grandchildren, who were truly his pride and joy.

Steve was predeceased by his parents, Irene and William Cloutier, and his siblings, Pauline, Rodney "Stretch", and Paul Cloutier.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Pamela Cloutier of Bethlehem, N.H.; his son Chris and daughter in-law Virginia Cloutier of Littleton, N.H.; his daughter Sara and son in-law Carlos Roman of Bethlehem, N.H.; and his son Stephen and daughter in-law

Ashley Cloutier of Littleton, N.H. He also leaves behind his loving grandchildren, Joshua, Alexis, Levi, Keegan, and Braxten, along with his brothers and sisters Richard, John, Judy, Sue, Gail, Karen, and Arlene.

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Bitcoin Scams Bilk Local Victims Out Of \$100K

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

LITTLETON — Bitcoin scams involving Bitcoin machines in Littleton — where victims are directed by scammers to convert U.S. dollars into the cryptocurrency and transfer it to the criminals who are most likely living in another country — have bilked area residents out of near-

ly \$100,000 in the past year.

The fraud runs the spectrum from threats of arrests, to computer viruses that could destroy sensitive information, to lucrative investment opportunities.

Scammers have posed as law enforcement officers to demand Bitcoin or other cryptocurrency payments for fake warrants, criminal cases, or missed court dates.

The callers, said Littleton police officials, use aggressive fear

tactics and often instruct victims to stay on the phone while they withdraw cash or deposit money into a cryptocurrency ATM, and might even tell a victim not to contact the police or family members.

Police, though, said they will never request payment by cryptocurrency, gift cards, wire transfer, or by phone.

They advise anyone receiving such a call to hang up immediately, don't send money, and contact their local police department directly using a trusted phone number to make a report.

Littleton's Machines

"We've had close to \$100,000 of losses, not just one individual, but cumulatively in Littleton in the past year through Bitcoin scams," said Littleton Police Chief Paul Smith. "People are coming here from other communities. It's not just our own residents. The problem is we have three Bitcoin machines in our town. We have people who travel here from great distances to deposit their funds into these machines and be scammed out of their money because we have the machines."

As a hub community, Littleton likely has more Bitcoin machines, or kiosks, than smaller neighboring towns.

"They're going out of their way, at least in these recent cases, to come here at the direction of the people who are scamming them to make these deposits," said Littleton Police Detective Kyle Audit, who is investigating the cases.

Compounding the matter is that the odds of bringing a scammer to justice are slim to none, said Smith.

"Typically, these actors are very sophisticated and there are lots of different firewalls and routing that takes place," said Smith. "We don't have the ability to track them. Certainly the federal government tries to, but their success is limited because we're dealing with some very smart individuals."

"There are various scams and ways they will attack it," said Audit. "Sometimes they go the law enforcement route and say they have a warrant for your arrest, or you owe money to a government agency, and you need to pay through Bitcoin. Or,

they just play on people who make an investment in Bitcoin and say there's a good deal going on. That's how they hook them, too."

Before the rise of Internet-based scams, Littleton merchants were targeted.

"Back in the day, we were having shop owners getting ripped off every day with bad checks, which was a common thing," said Smith.

If losses then were added up for a given year, they, too, might be close to \$100,000, he said.

Afterward, in the early days of the Internet, there were Nigerian prince scams, in which email scammers would lure victims into paying money on the promise of sharing a much greater fortune that never materialized.

"They still do it, but they've mostly moved on from the Nigerian prince thing," said Audit. "The more obvious scams, they realize people are a little smarter and a little more educated, between our social media posts or just general awareness, and they have to be a little more intricate. Another unfortunate thing is with the invention of ChatGPT or AI. These people that you could generally sniff out through a language barrier or just bad grammar will put something in ChatGPT and it will clean up what they're saying or make them sound more intelligent about the subject matter and it makes it very convincing for people to think this is a legitimate thing."

As for enforcement, a local agency like Littleton has no jurisdiction to prosecute overseas.

"A lot of scammers are overseas because they know the likelihood of being prosecuted is slim and a lot of the countries where they're from won't do anything about it because the countries they're in don't necessarily care as long as they're not doing anything to their home country," said Audit. "In order for it to be taken by the FBI, it has to be such a substantial amount. It's in the six figures. It was somewhere between \$100,000 and \$250,000 recently before they'd even consider looking at a case. They just keep upping the number. I think the problem is more and more people are getting scammed and they're being inundated with it."

The nearly \$100,000 in aggregate past-year losses in Littleton involve at least 10 victims.

"Ten might not sound big in and of itself, but these scams are for a pretty hefty amount of change, at least for a single person to handle," said Audit. "I just had one last week that was for \$10,000. A female from Vermont was told to come here. The one before that was \$15,000. Those were amounts that were stolen."

Invented in 2008, Bitcoin was the world's first decentralized cryptocurrency.

It has become popular as an investment because of the value of the coin, or digital asset, and some large banks and brokerages are increasingly viewing Bitcoin as a legitimate asset.

But, lacking the traditional tracking and oversight of centralized currencies, it is commonly used by criminals.

Two of the three Bitcoin kiosks in Littleton are in the two Cumberland Farms locations, and the third is at the Circle K/Irving gas station.

The audit found that victims are using the kiosks at Cumberland Farms.

"A Bitcoin machine is basically a way to turn your money into a digital currency," he said. "At the kiosk, it lets people sell cryptocurrency using cash or debit cards, similar to an ATM. But the problem with these Bitcoin machines is that once you do a transaction, it's essentially irreversible. And it's very hard to trace. The whole idea of Bitcoin is to often make it hard to trace."

Victims And Schemes

Victims, though, don't believe a scam is a scam, and criminals use various methods to get them to the machines in Littleton, said Audit.

The scammer who swindled the victim out of \$10,000 actually tried to get her to pay \$24,000, but her bank was able to limit it to \$10,000 because she was determined to pay the person, who was walking her through the process on the phone, through Bitcoin, said Audit.

"She got some type of email phishing scam and clicked on a link, and that ended up allowing someone to get her contact information, and they called her and ended up convincing her to buy Bitcoin and lured her in with

some type of deal that was such a good deal she couldn't say no," said Audit. "She thought she was making a good investment by purchasing Bitcoin. She ended up putting \$10,000 into the machine, and when it was all said and done, she realized she had made a mistake. When she tried to confront the scammer, he hung up."

The scammer also had a convincing English accent that didn't sound troublesome, he said.

"Prior to that, the \$15,000 was somebody who got a hold of a female out of Coos County and said her computer had a virus and she had to pay x amount of money to get this corrected or else she's going to lose all sorts of sensitive information and is going to lose money," said Audit. "That's more along the lines of a threat. It just plays on the emotions of who they're dealing with. [Victims] don't want to lose all that sensitive information or all that money, and if they have to pay x amount to save the bigger amount, they're going to do it."

In that scenario, the feeling among victims is damage control, he said.

Afterward, many victims of any scam feel embarrassed, he said.

Safeguards

At least one Bitcoin machine at the new Cumberland Farms in Littleton has a fraud warning sticker that says: if the police, bank, or other entities directed users to the machine, it's a scam.

Littleton police will contact all property owners who offer Bitcoin machines to see if they'd be willing to post scam warnings in an effort to inform potential victims of the dangers, said Smith.

"If the property owners are cooperative, it's going to really get the message out there," said Smith. "It's kind of like the banks having the fraud alerts and working with law enforcement. It's a similar approach."

Warning stickers will help, but some victims remain convinced a scam is legitimate until it's too late, said Audit.

Sitting back rationally, a scam can be apparent, but some people are so caught up in the moment that rationality is not always

See **Scam**, Page 10

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LITTLETON

Industrial Park Plans For Fourth Phase Of Expansion

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

LITTLETON — After launching the Littleton Industrial Park half a century ago, the Littleton Industrial Development Corp. (LIDC) is gearing up for its planned fourth phase of expansion on 30 acres adjacent to the municipal transfer station.

Being considered by the town is a lot-line adjustment that would transfer land currently owned by the town to LIDC, but not before public hearings and review by the planning board and conservation commission, followed by two public hearings before the Select Board, which would then make the ultimate approval.

During Monday's Select Board meeting, the board voted 4-0-1 (Selectman Ed Hennessey is a board member of LIDC and abstained) to authorize LIDC to proceed with the next step by submitting its lot line adjustment application to town planners and the conservation commission for review and recommendation, in accordance with New Hampshire RSA 41:14-A, after which the Select Board will take it up for the final action.

Previously, LIDC presented the concept to the Select Board, which authorized LIDC to proceed, said town manager Troy Brown.

"They're at the point now where they've gone out and engaged with an engineering firm," he said. "It's consistent with what we originally reviewed, and it leaves enough space for our operations at the transfer station for many, many years and will allow LIDC to take advantage of the area that's

close to our transfer facility and be able to market and develop that land. They've already started some construction of the road and are getting the culvert in."

Consistent with state law, the proposal first goes to town planners and the conservation commission prior to the Select Board, in keeping with the state's intent to give ample opportunity for the public to weigh in and for town review, said Brown.

In 2016, Littleton town meeting voters adopted the RSA to grant the Select Board the authority to approve such lot line adjustments, he said.

"It is a transfer, if approved, of 29.52 acres," said Brown. "That's the land we'll be giving up to LIDC."

Transfer station director Michael Chamberlain and staff have said the land adjustment would still leave enough space at the transfer station, Brown said, adding that the plan is within the concept drafted.

"I hope it's enough that we save for our transfer station if we have to do something like scales or something else," said Selectman Roger Emerson. "We're cutting off quite a bit there."

"That's one of my concerns, too," said Kerri Harrington, chair of the Select Board.

Scales at the transfer station have been previously discussed as a way for the town to precisely determine how much a truck-load weighs before it leaves the station so the town is on the right end of the stick when it comes to being charged, and so the town can charge for the exact weight of a vehicle that comes in and receive what the material's worth, said Emerson.

"I really think in the future we're going to have scales," he said.

"We're still retaining all of that land area, and if we ended up doing scales, I'd like to think it would be closer to the buildings," said Brown. "We can just reconfigure the way we access the site."

A traffic flow can be created

that comes into the station, goes over the scales, and departs, he said.

And if need be, some transfer station storage could be moved toward the burn pit area, which Chamberlain and staff wanted to preserve, said Brown.

"It's pretty much the footprint we're using now," said Brown.

After the lot line adjustment, the transfer station would end up with 14.14 acres, he said.

Many eyes will be on the proposed adjustment at the planning and commission levels before it comes back to the Select Board, said Harrington.

If there are major concerns, they could first be voiced at the planning board level, said

Brown.

As for benefits to Littleton, LIDC expansion will create more businesses and new buildings, which equate to more taxable income for the town, said Emerson.

"LIDC has been a continuous good partner with us," said Harrington. "We want more businesses to come in."

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Second-seeded Groveton fights off No. 5 Newmarket 44-42 in the New Hampshire Division IV girls state basketball championship at Colby Sawyer College in New London on Saturday, March 7, 2026. It was the second straight title for the Eagles. (Photo by Michael Beniash)



Top-seeded Littleton blows past No. 3 Groveton 55-21 in the New Hampshire Division IV state basketball championship at Colby Sawyer College in New London on Saturday, March 7, 2026. (Photo by Michael Beniash)

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BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS & SERVICES GUIDE



Scam

Continued from Page 8 present, he said.

And while some scams target older people, the Bitcoin scams involving the kiosks in Littleton also target younger people, as newer scams have become more sophisticated and it's easier to fool more people across the age gamut, said Audit.

"If I could recommend anything for people, it's to basically take a second to think about the situation, don't let their pride get in the way of reaching out to somebody to clarify whether or not it's a real thing, and don't be afraid to reach out to the police department if they believe this is a possible scam so they can check on it before it's too late and they lose all that money," said Audit.

Concerns about cryptocurrency scams in the Granite State were the catalyst for Senate Bill 482, which seeks to establish consumer protections for digital asset transaction kiosks.

The bill would require the first digital asset transaction made by a customer to be held for at least 48 hours, after which the kiosk operator can complete the trans-

action.

A customer cannot complete a second transaction until the first hold period has lapsed. Customers would also be able to contact the operator to cancel the first transaction.

SB 482 would mandate a five-day refund period paid by the kiosk operator in the event of fraud, would cap daily deposits at \$2,000 per customer per day, and would require all kiosks to display conspicuous warnings, including that no government agency, law enforcement, court, bank, or employer will ever demand payment by crypto ATM.

It would also require the customer to answer fraud-screening prompts, including whether they are being coached by another person. If the customer is at risk of fraud, the transaction would be blocked.

Others at the state level have suggested regulating and restricting kiosks at the community level.

"We're finding that there are so many fraudulent uses that we would support that," Smith said of the bill.

Having certifications and safeguards would help, "but it's kind of like the Wild West out there now," he said.

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