

Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 11, 2005

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:04 p.m. in the meeting room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, Gary Webster (Chair), David Weathers, and Karen Umberger; Town Manager, Earl W. Sires; and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

Selectman, Larry Martin, was not present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Webster led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

The Board reviewed and signed various documents contained in the signature folder.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The Board reviewed and approved the manifest dated 1/13/05.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Umberger advised of three changes to the regular minutes of 11/30/04. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to approve the minutes of 11/30/04 regular meeting as amended and 11/30/04 non public session as written. The motion carried unanimously.**

VALLEY VISION

Bob Barriault, Selectmen's Representative to Valley Vision, was present for discussion.

Mr. Sires distributed a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement with Valley Vision and reviewed same.

Mr. Sires next distributed a copy of "Town of Conway Peg Services Concept Paper" and reviewed same with the Board. (See attached).

Mr. Sires next advised he attended a meeting along with Bob Barriault, Zach Ambrose and representatives of Adlephia to talk about showing programming just in Conway. Rodney King of Adlephia advised that he would have to do some research to see if this could be done and, also, will be supplying information to the Town by the end of the month telling how Valley Vision is distributed by zone.

Selectmen's Representative, Bob Barriault, distributed a copy of his quarterly report and revised financials to the board and reviewed same.

It was agreed that Valley Vision would be back at the next Selectmen's meeting for further discussion.

There was a brief recess at 5:00 p.m. The Board reconvened at 5:10 p.m.

WARRANT ARTICLES

Mr. Sires distributed and reviewed a copy of proposed warrant articles to date. Mr. Sires reviewed changes made to the wording of some of the proposed articles as suggested by the Board.

The Board next held a discussion regarding whether to put forward a warrant article regarding the budget committee doing the default budget calculation. Ms. Umberger explained that this issue did not arise out of any problem with the way the Town has calculated the default budget in the past and she does not see this as a problem to have the Budget Committee do the calculation in the future as it would have to be done in conjunction with the Finance Director and the Board of Selectmen and would be a cooperative effort. Ms. Umberger further explained that the Budget Committee is asking the school for the same warrant article. Mr. Sires pointed out that the default budget is defined by state law, however, there is always room for interpretation, and ultimately must be approved by the New Hampshire Division of Revenue Administration. There was further brief discussion by the Board and the Board agreed to put this forward as a Selectmen's article as requested. Ms. Umberger advised that she would report on this to the Budget Committee tomorrow night. Ms. Umberger next read aloud language contained in RSA 40:14(b) for the warrant article.

BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTION

It was agreed that this agenda item would be carried to a future meeting.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Meeting Calendar – Mr. Sires reviewed various dates in connection with the Town Meeting calendar as follows: Deadline for Zoning Petitions – January 12, 2005; Non Profit Budget Presentations – February 5, 2005; Deadline for Petitioned Warrant Articles – February 8, 2005; Deadline for Collective Bargaining – February 8, 2005; Budget Committee Public Hearings – February 8, 2005; Deadline for Posting the Warrant – February 18, 2005; Candidate Filing Period – February 23 through March 4, 2005; Deliberative Portion of Town Meeting for the Town Budget – March 7, 2005; Deliberative Portion of Town Meeting for the School Budget – March 9, 2005; Voting Day – April 12, 2005.

Homeland Security Grant – Mr. Sires advised the town needs to schedule a public hearing with regard to grant monies received for homeland security. The Board agreed to schedule the public hearing for February 1, 2005.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Board Vacancy – Mr. Webster advised that he had received an inquiry regarding the vacancy left on the Board due to the passing of Selectman O'Brien. The Board briefly discussed this matter and agreed at this point they would encourage people to file

for the seat during the upcoming filing period for the next election as it is too late to appoint someone at this juncture.

Budget Committee – Ms. Umberger reported the Budget Committee will meet on January 12, 2005 and they will be reviewing the town budget.

School Building Committee – Ms. Umberger reported the School Building Committee that was scheduled for last week was canceled due to weather and has been rescheduled for this evening.

Infrastructure Committee - Ms. Umberger reported that the first Infrastructure Committee meeting was held this week with the Town, North Conway Water Precinct, and Conway Village Fire District, to discuss infrastructure planning. The Committee elected David Bernier as chairman. The Committee also decided to alternate the meeting locations each month. The next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2005 and thereafter they will try to meet once a month.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported a Conservation Commission meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2005 at the Whitaker Meeting House.

PUBLIC COMMENT/MEDIA QUESTIONS

There was a question from the media regarding whether the Budget Committee had come to the Board to ask for the Warrant Article regarding the Default Budget. Ms. Umberger explained that she had brought this up to the board and they had agreed to put this article on the warrant.

There were no further public comments or media questions.

ADJOURN

Mr. Weathers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Umberger, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary