

Minutes of Meeting CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

February 15, 2005

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:11 p.m. in the meeting room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, Gary Webster (Chair), David Weathers, Karen Umberger, and Larry Martin; Town Manager, Earl W. Sires; and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

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 2/17/05.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, to approve the regular and non public minutes of 1/4/05 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY FOREST FIRE WARDEN

The Board reviewed a letter and appointment form from the State of New Hampshire DRED/Division of Forests and Lands recommending Al Sherman as a Deputy Forest Fire Warden for the Town of Conway. **Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, to appoint Al Sherman as Deputy Forest Fire Warden. The Motion carried 4-0-0.** The Board signed the Appointment form.

WHITAKER WOODS BRIDGE

Mr. Sires reviewed that at the last CDRC meeting there was discussion regarding the Whitaker Woods Bridge. Styles of bridges were discussed and the CDRC recommended an arch style bridge and felt the decision of the material (wood vs. steel) of the bridge should be left up to the Selectmen. Mr. Sires advised the Conservation Commission has been asked for their recommendation for materials for the bridge and they indicated they would prefer a steel bridge with a concrete base with a fabric covering for ski season. Mr. Sires advised that we may be on our own for the covering but that we can ask the NHDOT to supply the covering. Mr. Weathers advised that it was unanimous by the Conservation Commission to ask for a steel structure to due fire danger. Mr. Webster reviewed that the town will own and maintain the bridge. There was next a brief discussion on maintenance costs for wood versus steel bridges. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we tell the state that we are going to go with the steel bridge with the concrete decking. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

AMBULANCE CONTRACT

Mr. Sires reviewed that the proposals for ambulance service have been accepted by the providers, Conway Village Fire District and North Conway Ambulance, for 2005-2006. Mr. Sires reviewed the contracts with the Board. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to sign the rollover agreement for the emergency ambulance service for 2005 and 2006. The motion carried 3-0-1 with Mr. Weathers abstaining.** The Board signed the agreements.

MOUNT WASHINGTON VALLEY PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Ben Wilcox and Peter Edwards of the Mount Washington Valley Preservation Association (MWVPA) joined the meeting

Mr. Sires reviewed a proposed Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Conway and the MWVPA.

There was discussion between the Board and the representatives of the MWVPA regarding the Board's concerns that some business owners may not want to be part of underground utilities portion of the North Conway streetscape project. These concerns are covered in the Memorandum of Agreement. Mr. Edwards stated he doesn't see concerns yet as they are only burying conduit at this point. Mr. Sires pointed out that it is an issue as how can they make a business owner do this at this point and three years from now a business owner comes to this board and asks how they could let this happen. Mr. Sires reviewed that this is a voluntary project. Mr. Webster commented that he feels that it is absolutely critical that they get everyone's support for this project. Mr. Wilcox acknowledged that this is an issue and advised that this has been an issue with fundraising and that they are aware of it and will stay aware.

There was next brief discussion regarding providing surety for the project. The MWVPA agreed they would review the Memorandum of Agreement and get back to the town with their response.

CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
TOWN OF CONWAY AND AFSCME LOCAL 859

Mr. Sires reviewed the agreement made with the Public Works Union for 2005 with the Board. The Board signed the Agreement.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Mr. Sires reviewed the Warrant needs to be posted by Friday, February 18, 2005. Mr. Sires next distributed copies of the proposed 2005 Warrant and reviewed same with the Board. Mr. Sires further confirmed that the article regarding the Police Commissioners request for a raise has been removed pursuant to the request made at the last meeting and at the direction of the Board.

Mr. Webster reviewed that if the Budget Committee makes any changes the Board can sign the Warrant on Thursday.

Mr. Martin moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to post the Warrant for the year 2005. Mr. Webster confirmed this is subject to any changes made by the Budget Committee tomorrow night. **The motion carried 4-0-0.**

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

NCVPA – Mr. Sires reported he and Mr. Martin will be meeting with the NCVPA on Friday, March 18, 2005 to talk about logistics and planning relative to the streetscape project.

Skateboard Park – Mr. Sires reported he met with a group of people who are looking at options for a skateboard park.

Valley Vision – Mr. Sires reported Valley Vision did provide a response to the funding proposal and the dollar figure is what the Board proposed. A briefing will be provided at the next Board meeting and a Memorandum of Agreement will be brought forward for consideration.

Historic Barn Easement Application – Mr. Sires reported that a Public Hearing regarding an application for an Historic Barn Easement had been scheduled for today but has been postponed as the applicant has withdrawn his application and advised that he will be reapplying in the spring when he is able to attend the meeting.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Planning Board – Mr. Martin reported there was no Planning Board meeting last week due to a winter storm. Mr. Martin further encouraged the public to attend Planning Board meetings as there are many exiting things going on. Mr. Martin next reported that Mr. Webster will be filling in for him at the next Planning Board meeting as he will be on vacation.

Budget Committee – Ms. Umberger reported a Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night, February 16, 2005, and there will be discussion on school warrant articles.

Deliberative Meeting – Ms. Umberger reviewed the deliberative portion of town meeting is scheduled for March 7 and the school meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2005.

Infrastructure Committee – Ms. Umberger reported an infrastructure meeting was held yesterday with the Town, NCWP and CVFD. At that meeting they looked at plans for Conway and North Conway for the next two years and where improvements would be made. The next meeting of the committee will be held in April.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported the Conservation Commission met Wednesday, February 9, 2005. They had discussion regarding budget cuts and, also, the pedestrian bridge at Whitaker Woods.

Conway Fire Department – Mr. Webster thanked the Conway Fire Department for the quick response to his home during the winter storm last week where when his

house took a limb through the roof. Mr. Webster commented that their quick response helped to minimize damages to his home.

PUBLIC COMMENT/MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were not public comments or media questions.

ADJOURN

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary