

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

December 20, 2005

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Martin 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 12/22/05.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was agreed that consideration of the minutes of 11/21/05 would be carried to the next meeting.

ENCUMBER REMAINING CONSERVATION FUNDS

Finance Director, Lucy Philbrick, was present for discussion.

Mr. Sires reviewed a copy of a memo from the Conservation Commission requesting the encumbrance of funds with the Board. (See attached). There was a brief discussion. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Ms. Umberger, to encumber the balance of the Conservation Commission 2005 operating budget in the amount of \$1,400 to 2006. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

VALLEY VISION BUDGET DISCUSSION

Valley Vision Station Coordinator, Jeff Flynt, and Conway Board of Selectmen Representative to Valley Vision Board of Directors, Bob Barriault, joined the meeting.

Mr. Sires first reviewed that Mr. Barriault has been the Selectmen's representative to Valley Vision for some time. Mr. Barriault has advised that he has enjoyed his service to the Town but has stated that he wishes to step down as the Selectmen's representative and has asked that the Board look for a replacement.

A copy of Valley Vision 2006 budget was distributed and Mr. Flynt reviewed same with the Board.

There was next a discussion regarding Valley Vision and channel sharing with other towns and also funding and franchise fees. Mr. Sires suggested sending a letter to Adelpia advising that we have been informed that only certain towns have access to Valley Vision and asking that the other Towns be shut off to Valley Vision as it is an equity issue. There was further discussion. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, to write the letter to Adelpia as suggested by Mr. Sires. The motion carried 4-1-0 with Mr. Hounsell voting in the negative.**

There was next brief discussion regarding \$3500 left in the 2005 equipment line. The Board reviewed Valley Visions request for equipment totaling \$3118. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we provide \$3118 plus shipping costs out of the equipment money received from Adelpia to Valley Vision to purchase these items that were identified. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

DISCUSSION OF AMBULANCE CONTRACT RFP

Mr. Sires distributed a proposed Ambulance Contract Request for Proposal (RFP) to the Board and reviewed same.

There were several members of the EMT community present for this discussion who participated and provided input regarding ambulance services. There was also review and discussion regarding a letter sent to the Town by Ray Leavitt Jr., Asst. Fire Chief and EMS Coordinator of the Center Conway Fire Department. (Copy attached).

The Board discussed ALS and BLS levels. The Board agreed that language regarding the level of service should be added to the proposal. Mr. Sires proposed that the following language be included: Provide a quote that asks for ALS level and BLS level and any creative solution for maximum savings to community. The Board agreed.

Mr. Weathers left the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Mr. Sires questioned if this RFP will go out for townwide service and the Board agreed.

There was next discussion regarding mutual aid agreements. It was agreed that some language in the proposed RFP would be adjusted. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Ms. Umberger, to authorize Town Manager, Earl Sires, to run the final copy of the draft for Requests for Proposals (RFP) for Emergency Ambulance Services by striking in the second paragraph the word "private" and by adding two tier pricing for ALS and BLS, by striking paragraph J1, and by adding the sentence "Provide a quote that asks for ALS level and BLS level and any creative solution for maximum savings to community." and in C1 replacing the word mutual aid with "The provider shall maintain one primary response ambulance shall be kept within the Town at all times." and to also add to the RFP the language regarding BLS level of care shall include a provision for ALS transfers. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

WARRANT ARTICLES

Mr. Sires distributed a draft warrant article for a capital reserve fund for police vehicle and reviewed same with the Board. Mr. Sires advised this is a proposal by the

Police Commission and Police Chief. Mr. Sires further advised that the Budget Committee liked the idea of a capital reserve fund. Mr. Sires advised this is for review only tonight and no decision is needed as yet.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Budget – Mr. Sires briefly reported on the year end budget. Mr. Sires advised the Town is in good shape and hopefully will not have to use the emergency over expenditure that was applied for a few months ago.

Fryeburg Water – Mr. Sires distributed information to the board for review regarding the Fryeburg water matter. The PUC has denied reparations to E Conway residents. Also, Fryeburg Water has asked to do plumbing inspections in E Conway now.

Adelphia – Mr. Sires reviewed a letter received from Adelphia regarding rate increases with the Board.

Roundtable Meeting – Mr. Sires reviewed a letter from Governor Lynch in response to the letter sent by the Town regarding the recent roundtable meeting in Conway. Mr. Sires next questioned the letter we are now putting together as per the Board's direction to send to the Governor about our position. Mr. Sires questioned if the Board would like just Conway Selectmen's position or to get all surround town's positions on the matter to send. It was agreed it should be Conway's position in the letter. Ms. Umberger suggested contacting Madison and asking them to send a letter supporting Conway's position as well.

Conway Area Humane Society – Mr. Sires distributed a copy of a proposed contract from the Conway Area Humane Society for the Board's review. It was agreed this would be on a future agenda.

Holiday Schedule – Mr. Sires pointed out that Christmas and New Year fall on Sunday and, therefore, the holiday will be Monday and so Town Hall will be closed December 26 and January 2. There was brief discussion as to possibly closing the day before instead and opening the Monday after the holiday. The majority of the Board felt it was better not to confuse the issue and stay with the Federal holiday closing day.

Vacation – Mr. Sires advised he would be on vacation from December 23, 2005 through January 3, 2006.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Hannaford v Town of Conway – Ms. Umberger questioned if this action will delay the roundabouts. Mr. Sires advised that it could delay the roundabouts and need to see how the court case works out. Mr. Sires suggested having Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, provide the Board with a update on this matter in early January and the Board agreed.

County Budget - Mr. Hounsell expressed concerns over the county budget increasing 20%. Mr. Hounsell suggested sending a letter to the delegates regarding this increase and why the county government is growing so fast.

Budget Committee – Ms. Umberger reported the Budget Committee met December 19, 2005 and reviewed the Library, Police and other parts of the town budget. The Budget Committee will meeting again on Wednesday, December 21, 2005 and will begin looking at the school budget.

Meeting Schedule – Mr. Martin advised there will not be a Board of Selectmen meeting on December 27, 2005. The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2006. Mr. Martin wished everyone happy holidays.

PUBLIC COMMENT/MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no public comments or media questions.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3,II(c)/Tax Matter

It was agreed that this non-public session would be carried to the next meeting.

ADJOURN

Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Ms. Umberger to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary