

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

August 21, 2007

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:07 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen C. David Weathers (Chair), Mark Hounsell, Larry Martin, Gary Webster, and Howard C. Dickinson; Town Manager, Earl W. Sires; and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Weathers 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.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Board reviewed and signed the manifest dated August 23, 2007.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mr. Webster noted the date on the cover page of the minutes of 6/12/07 should be corrected. Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to approve the minutes 5/29/07 non public meeting, 6/12/07 non public meeting, and 6/26/07 and 7/2/07 regular meetings as written, and the minutes of the 6/12/07 meeting as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING TO ACCEPT UNANTICIPATED REVENUE
A) \$24,947.80 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE TO THE TOWN
OF CONWAY (FEMA \$) (BAIRD HILL RD AND POTTER ROAD); AND
B) \$30,070.00 FROM THE CONNIE DAVIS WATSON FOUNDATION
TO THE TOWN OF CONWAY

Mr. Weathers opened the public hearing to discuss the acceptance of unanticipated revenue at 4:09 p.m.

Mr. Sires explained the \$24,947.80 received from FEMA was for the storm wash out to Potter Road and Baird Hill Road.

Mr. Sires next advised that the Connie Davis Watson Foundation provided \$30,070.00 for a map at the Intervale Scenic Vista. The Committee is ready to order the map, which is a 6x6 3-dimensional map of the White Mountain region with many features.

Mr. Weathers asked for public questions or comments. There were none and the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, that we accept the \$24,947.80 from FEMA to help pay for the damage done to roads from the spring storm. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, that we accept the \$30,070.00 from the Connie David Watson Foundation to the Town of Conway for the map that will appear at the Scenic Vista. The motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES (TANS)

Finance Director, Lucy Philbrick, joined the meeting. Ms. Philbrick requested permission from the Board to apply for TAN's for a line of credit in the amount of \$1.5 million. Ms. Philbrick explained that information from the school is that they will be looking for \$2.5 million more than last year. There was brief discussion by the Board. **Mr. Martin moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, that we allow the Finance Director, Lucy Philbrick, to take TANS for \$1.5 million. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO GENERAL ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

General Assistance Officer, Billie Jo Parker, joined the meeting. Ms. Parker requested the Board adopt the new guidelines as set forth in the packets provided for food stamps. Mr. Parker also stated she would like the Board to consider granting permission to allow her to do the updates automatically every year along with the state changes as per the guidelines. Ms. Parker further explained that these guidelines help determine eligibility for assistance when a person applies to the Town.

Mr. Martin questioned if the increase could impact the Town budget. Mr. Sires explained that there are potential budget impacts. Mr. Hounsell stated that he preferred to review this information yearly. Ms. Parker stressed the fact that it does need to happen on a yearly basis. Mr. Webster suggested it be done during the budget process.

Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, to review the General Assistance Guidelines per RSA 165:1-II at the time that we consider our annual budget on General Assistance. There was a discussion regarding the need to update the guidelines. Mr. Hounsell felt this should be a special order of business at the next meeting that Ms. Parker could agenda, which was September 25, 2007. **Mr. Hounsell moved to reagenda this for a special order of business for September 25, 2007. There was no second no Mr. Hounsell's motion. Mr. Hounsell withdrew the motion.** It was pointed if the vote was delayed the guidelines would still not be current. **Mr. Webster next withdrew the second and Mr. Dickinson withdrew the motion.**

Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, that we update the package by accepting Appendix A Food and Non Food as Allowable. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Parker next gave an explanation of the Fair Hearings process to the Board and there was a brief discussion.

Ms. Parker next suggested to the Board that she provide a workshop on the Town's Welfare Board to the Board. The Board agreed that Ms. Parker should provide

further information on the program and attend a future meeting to give a brief overview of the program.

CDBG GRANT DISCUSSION WITH CVFD

Conway Village Fire District Commissioner, Carl Thibodeau, and Superintendent, Tom Steele, joined the meeting. Also, present were Commissioners Janine Bean and Joe Quirk.

Tom Steele explained that the CVFD is applying for a CDBG grant and part of the grant process requires that a survey be filled out by residents. Mr. Steele explained the survey is an income qualification factor and helps to get money toward capital improvements projects. Mr. Steele explained the survey is anonymous. Mr. Steele advised they have tried to meet the requirement of completing 67% of the surveys and have failed miserably in getting the survey done. They have canvassed, put notices in the paper, articles in the newspaper, etc and so far have been unsuccessful. They are here to day to see if there are any suggestions from this Board to help get this done and to help get this money. Mr. Steele further explained the Town of Conway is the applicant on this application.

Mr. Sires noted that he must recuse himself because he sits on CDBG board but would help out in any way he ethically could.

There was discussion with the Board regarding the survey, and possible ways to get the word out about the survey, i.e. public notices, meetings, Valley Vision, etc. There was also a discussion as to why people may not be filling out the forms. Mr. Steele explained what questions are contained on the survey and that is it anonymous. Mr. Steele further explained the purpose of the survey is to get money for lower income areas to help subsidize projects and provide better services. Mr. Weathers suggested a Q&A format story in the newspaper to answer common questions citizens may have about the survey. Mr. Steele requested the Town of Conway put a Public Notice in the newspaper. Mr. Hounsell suggested this mater be given over to the ACID committee. Janine Bean also asked that the Board consider sending this to the ACID committee. **Mr. Martin moved, seconded by Mr. Hounsell to send this to the Infrastructure Committee for their review and recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.** It was agreed the ACID committee will plan a meeting date and formulate an agenda and advise the CVFD. The Commissioners thanked the Board.

BOSTON POST CANE

Carolyn Brown joined the meeting. Ms. Brown inquired about presenting the Boston Post Cane name a Conway resident who will turn 100 years old on Monday, August 27, 2007, and whose name is Mary Welch.

Mr. Sires reviewed a brief history of the Boston Post Cane with the Board. Mr. Sires next reviewed the Town of Conway's cane is actually kept at the Conway Historical Society. If the Board declares someone the holder of the cane, the person is presented with a certificate stating same and the cane is kept at the Historical Society. Mr. Sires reviewed that Laura Lyman King was the most recent holder of the cane until her passing.

Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, that we formally state that Mary Welch is to be the next holder of the Boston Post Cane and in the near future that the Chair of the Board of Selectmen make a presentation of this cane at the Conway Historical Society and that the Board be made aware so that they can attend. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGARDING
RESTRICTIONS PERTAINING TO REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

Mr. Sires presented a first draft of a proposed ordinance regarding restrictions pertaining to registered sex offenders to the Board and reviewed same. Mr. Sires advised that someone from the police department will be at an upcoming meeting to review and discuss same with the Board. Mr. Webster asked to be provided with a GPS map with the shaped areas that are being discussed in the proposed ordinance. Mr. Webster also suggested this may be construed as a zoning ordinance and this issue should be looked at. The Board agreed.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO SPECIAL EVENT
PERMIT APPLICATION, PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Sires requested this agenda item be carried for a few weeks. The board agreed.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Time Warner Cable – Mr. Sires distributed a packet of information to the Board from Time Warner Cable wherein they requested the commencement of the renewal process of the contract with the Town of Conway and reviewed same.

Tax Sale – Mr. Sires distributed a list of real estate property owned by the Town of Conway and reviewed same. Mr. Sires reviewed that any properties owned by the Town more than three years are available for auction if the Board is ready to set an auction date. The sale could be held this fall or in the spring. The Board asked for a map of the properties as well as the amount of taxes owed. It was agreed this matter would be brought back for further discussion.

Birch Hill – Mr. Sires he and Paul DegliAngeli had discussions with the NCWP to discuss options regarding Birch Hill. The next step is that Birch Hill and Pennichuck are going to work on alternatives and as soon as alternatives are defined same will be brought forward to the Board of Selectmen.

Route 16 Informational Meeting – Mr. Sires reported that Councilor Burton will hold a Route 16 Informational meeting, Friday, August 24, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall.

10-Year Plan Meeting – Mr. Sires reported the State has scheduled a meeting regarding the 10-Year Plan for Thursday, September 13, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.

Kennett High School - Mr. Sires reported the Kennett High School Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for Thursday, August 23, 2007.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Board Schedule – Mr. Weathers reviewed the Board had set a scheduled through October 9 and questioned if the Board would like to continue with every other week through October and the pick up with regular weekly meetings again. Mr. Webster questioned when the proposed budget would be presented. Mr. Sires advised November 6. There was brief discussion and the Board agreed to schedule meetings for October 9 and October 23 and then go back to a schedule of weekly meetings in November.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / MEDIA QUESTIONS

Laura Slitt questioned if any other towns are coming up for renewal of cable television contracts. Mr. Sires advised he does not know who else is up for renewal. Ms. Slitt questioned if any other cable provider could be used. Mr. Sires advised that it is not an exclusive franchise. Ms. Slitt questioned if the town can have the cable provider pick up the attorney fees. Mr. Sires advised this could be looked at.

NON PUBLIC SESSION / RSA 91-A,II(a) / TOWN MANAGER REVIEW

At 6:10 pm, a motion to go into Non-Public Session in the meeting room of Conway Town Hall under RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) was made by Gary Webster and seconded by Larry Martin. Chair David Weathers, Mark Hounsell, Larry Martin, Gary Webster and Howard "Crow" Dickinson voted in the affirmative by a roll call vote.

The Board returned to Public Session at 6:36 pm on a **motion made by Larry Martin and seconded by Gary Webster and voted by a roll call vote in the affirmative by all present.**

Minutes of the non-public session were sealed on a **motion by Larry Martin and seconded by Gary Webster.**

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm, the motion made by Larry Martin and seconded by David Weathers and voted in the affirmative by all present.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary