

**Minutes of Meeting  
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

November 6, 2008

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:05 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, Larry Martin, (Chair), C. David Weathers, March Hounsell, Howard C. Dickinson and Bob Drinkhall; 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.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Board reviewed and signed the manifest dated November 6, 2008.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consideration of minutes was carried to the next meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION

There were no special event applications submitted for the Board to review or consider.

AUTHORIZATION TO SERVE AS FISCAL AGENT FOR CARROLL COUNTY ALL HEALTH  
HAZARDS PLANNING REGION

Mr. Sires reviewed the Town is involved in regional all health hazards planning and that the town would no longer serve as the lead agency. Mr. Sires advised he met with our region and no one else wanted to take this over. Mr. Sires advised that he has met with southern Carroll County. Mr. Sires reported that where we are at is that our northern region and the southern region are amendable to forming one region and the southern region is willing to do the work for the w whole region. They have a contractor to do the work and this will be managed out of Huggins Hospital.

Mr. Sires requested the Board reconsider that we not serve as the lead agent and serve as the fiscal agent. Mr. Sires explained that DHHS is asking that we serve as fiscal agent. We would have to write a check once a month and the money would have to pass through Conway. Mr. Sires next distributed a contract to the Board and reviewed same. Mr. Dickinson questioned if the Town gets any money for any of the work. Mr. Sires advised that we would for some administrative time. Mr. Hounsell questioned why this isn't at the county level. Mr. Sires reported that he had this discussion, the county level does not have the manpower to do the work. Mr. Dickinson agreed with Mr. Hounsell that it should be a county function. Mr. Hounsell questioned how long we would be committing ourselves. Mr. Sires advised until June of 2009. There was further brief discussion. **Mr.**

**Hounsell moved to rescind the previous action. The motion carried 4-1 (Mr. Dickinson in the negative). Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall to serve as fiscal agent for All Health Hazard Planning. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

#### DISCUSSION OF NORTH CONWAY PARKING LOT LEASE

Ed Bergeron and Doug Burnell of H.E. Bergeron Associates joined the meeting.

Mr. Bergeron advised that he, Mr. Sires, and Mr. DegliAngeli, had discussions in the past with regard to the North Conway parking lot and about the repair and lease. Mr. Bergeron asked that this matter be discussed in non-public session due to it being a lease discussion. **Mr. Hounsell moved to go into non-public session.** Mr. Sires reviewed the criteria for non-public session and there was a brief discussion by the Board. **Mr. Hounsell withdrew his motion.** All agreed to discuss the matter in public session at this point.

Mr. Sires recapped the Board's discussion on this matter to date. Mr. Sires reviewed the discussion was leading to direction to staff look into getting out of the lease early due to costs.

Mr. Bergeron advised their intent is that the parking lot stays public. Mr. Bergeron advised his employees use the lot, Gibson Center uses the lot, the public uses the lot, the North Conway Community Center uses the lot, craft show goes use the lot, users of the park, Polar Express, etc. He feels the parking lot serves a big benefit to the public. Mr. Bergeron also stated that commercial site plans have been able to claim commercial credit due to this parking lot in the past.

The Board discussed expenses associated with the parking lot and the fact the town is committed until 2011. The Board explained they are looking at this now to prepare for the future.

Mr. Martin asked for input on the parking from Town Planner, Tom Irving. Mr. Irving explained there does not appear to be a deficiency of parking in the village. The analysis does not include this parking lot. The analysis includes on street and town parking lots owned by the precinct and the school.

Mr. Drinkhall questioned when and at what cost is the next rehab of the parking lot. Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli explained the work was planned for this summer, the sidewalks are in disrepair. We were going to upgrade curbing and concrete to granite and HEB would help pay for this work. Work is also planned for catch basins, crack sealing or overlay. The sidewalks, curbing and overlay are \$15,000.

Mr. Drinkhall questions if all of this work is necessary before the end of the contract. Mr. DegliAngeli advised that it is as it would not be in good faith to not do the work at this point since using the parking lot and then not do the work. We had planned doing the work this year until the spending freeze.

After further discussion, the Chair requested that Mr. Sires, Mr. DegliAngeli, Mr. Bergeron, and Mr. Burnell sit down and discuss this matter further. All agreed.

### PRESENTATION OF 2009 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Sires presented the 2009 proposed Town Manager budget to the Board.

Mr. Hounsell discussed parameters for a zero based budget approach. Mr. Hounsell stated his view is that each number in the town manager's budget goes to zero and then we go from there. Mr. Weathers stated it would be nice to obtain a zero percent increase but not his goal. The Board further held discussion on a zero based budget and zero based approach.

Mr. Sires next reviewed his budget narrative with the Board. The proposed budget is a 2.2% increase over the 2008 budget including police and library.

Mr. Martin advised the Board will be meeting next Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss this proposed budget. The Board review will start with Recreation and Public Works.

### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

NH Retirement System – Mr. Sires and Ms. Philbrick reported on information received from the New Hampshire Retirement System. There is a requirement that towns make up for exceptional pay packages to employees now. Mr. Sires advised he copy the information and distribute same to the Board for review.

CVFD – Mr. Sires reported the application the town submitted on behalf of the Conway Valley Fire District to they CDBG was granted for \$500,000.

Cable Franchise Renewal Committee – Mr. Sires advised that the Cable Franchise Renewal Committee met last week with Attorney Pat Scully and talked about the process of renewal. The meeting was very informative.

### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Valley Vision – Mr. Drinkhall questioned the schedule on Valley Vision for airing meetings. Mr. Drinkhall also advised he has received complaints about how much football is being shown. Mr. Hounsell advised that Valley Vision is trying to revamp from the old to the new and some bugs still remain. The primary task of the Valley Vision contract is to show government programming. Mr. Hounsell questioned when people would like to see government meetings. Mr. Drinkhall advised they would like to see them on weekends. Mr. Hounsell stated he would advise Valley Vision.

Red Jacket – Mr. Drinkhall advised there is a plan for Red Jacket which the Planning Board will be reviewing next week.

Paige Brook – Mr. Dickinson questioned how much the Paige Brook culvert cost the town. Mr. Sires advised that he will get this information and advise on same.

Motion on Table – Mr. Hounsell reviewed the motion on the table from the meeting of 10/21/08 as follows: Motion that the Town Manager look into the legality of the town taking property owned by the school district by eminent domain. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to take this motion off the table. Motion carried unanimously. The Board next acted on the motion and the motion failed 0-5-0.**

Election Day – Mr. Weathers commented that the Town Clerk, Rhoda Quint, and staff did an excellent job with voting at the school and would like to look into having voting take place at the school in the future. Mr. Weathers stated he understands there may not be enough time to do this for the April election. Mr. Weathers added he feels it was very efficient at the school. Mr. Martin added that the town crew should also be thanked as well as Carol Lyman and other Supervisors of the checklist. A fine job by all.

CMF v. Town of Conway – Mr. Sires noted mediation has been scheduled in the CMF matter prior to trial and we need to have a selectman present. Mr. Hounsell agreed to attend the mediation.

Meeting Schedule – Mr. Martin reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2008.

Roundabout – Mr. Drinkhall asked about the halt in the repair work on the roundabout. Mr. Sires advised that the contractor is not coming back this fall. The work will continue in the spring. Mr. Sires stated that the work is being done at the developer's expense.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no public comments or media questions.

#### ADJOURN

At 5:38 p.m. **Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Mr. Hounsell, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell  
Executive Secretary