

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

August 25, 2009

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:02 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, Larry Martin (Chair), C. David Weathers, Howard C. Dickinson, Bob Drinkhall, and Mike DiGregorio; 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 August 30, 2009

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to approve the minutes of 5/19/09, 6/2/09, 6/11/09, 6/16/09 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

It was agreed that consideration of the minutes of 6/30/09 would be held until the next meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

a)11TH Annual Reach the Beach Relay on 9/18/09 – The Board reviewed the application. The application was complete. **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers to approve the application for the 11th Annual Reach the Beach Relay. The motion carried unanimously.**

b)Praise in the Park by Valley Christian Church on 8/25/09 – The Board reviewed the application. The application was complete. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson to approve the application for Praise in the Park. The motion carried unanimously.**

c) Jazz Nights by Wine Tyme LLC on 8/11, 8/18, 8/25, 9/1, 9/8 & 9/15/09 – The Board reviewed the application. The application was complete. This application was signed out of session and needed to be affirmed. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio to approve and affirm this application for Jazz Nights. The motion carried unanimously.**

d) Wine Festival by Wine Tyme LLC 9/26 & 9/27/09 - The Board reviewed the application. The application was complete with the exception of a copy of the event holders liquor license extension which they can not get until just before their event and they need the license from the town first. The event holder will be serving wine in their parking lot under a tent and are asking their license be granted conditionally upon receiving their extension of the liquor license. **Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to approve the event application for the Wine Festival, pending receipt of the extension of liquor license. The motion carried unanimously.**

e) Mud Bowl Championships 9/11/09-/13/09 - The Board reviewed the application for Mud Bowl. The application was complete with the exception of liquor license which won't be received until first week of September. The eventholder has asked that the license be granted conditionally upon receiving a copy of liquor license. **Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to approve the event application for Mud Bowl, pending receipt of the liquor license. The motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING: UNANTICIPATED REVENUE: \$13,554 TO THE CONWAY POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Chief Wagner of the Conway Police Department was present.

At 4:10 pm, Chairman Martin opened the public hearing concerning the unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$13,554 to the Conway Police Department from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Program. Chief Wagner explained Conway recipient and will be splitting with the Carroll County Sheriff's Department If Conway accepts the grant.

There were no questions or comments from the public and the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson that we accept the grant in the amount of \$13,554. The motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF NANCY LEAVITT FOR RECEIVING DESIGNATION OF CERTIFIED DEPUTY TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Rhoda Quint, and Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Nancy Leavitt, joined the meeting.

Ms. Quint advised that Ms. Leavitt has been taking certification classes for the last four years; one week every year on all different aspects of the job of town clerk/tax collector. Ms. Leavitt has graduated this year in the 20th graduating class. Ms. Quint further advised that there is no schooling to become a town clerk/tax collector and this is very important and Ms. Leavitt deserves recognition

for attaining this certification. It was well worth the time she spent, the duties she learned and also the classes taken on public speaking, public relations, and stress management. This was also an opportunity to bond with other town clerk/tax collectors and was a networking opportunity which is important.

Mr. Martin stated on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, a thank you to Nancy Leavitt.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR UNITED STATES NAVY DAY PROCLAMATION

Mr. Sires advised the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce is asking the Board of Selectmen to consider a Proclamation recognizing the Navy and November 14, 2009 as US Navy Day. The US Navy Band will be playing that day at Kennett High School. **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, that we approve the Proclamation for US Navy Day and sign it out of session. The motion carried unanimously.**

DISCUSSION OF JOINING LAWSUIT REGARDING DOWNSHIFTING OF COSTS FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE RETIREMENT

Mr. Dickinson requested that the Board consider having the town join the lawsuit regarding downshifting of costs for NH Retirement being prepared by the Local Government Center. As of last week, 159 of 199 towns, 62 school and several counties had joined. The Board asked what amount the LGC was requested from the town to join in the lawsuit. Mr. Sires advised \$1304.69. There was brief discussion. **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, that we join the lawsuit and contribute the \$1304.69.** Mr. DiGregorio stated he agrees with Mr. Dickinson on this and that we need to send a message to lawmakers they need to follow the constitution. Mr. Drinkhall stated he is also in favor of this and has also discussed this with the Budget Committee. **The motion carried unanimously.**

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED NH PUBLIC HOUSING STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETINGS

Mr. Sires reporting that NH Public Housing Strategic Planning meetings have been on going and staff has been attending from time to time. Mr. Sires reviewed an email regarding this issue with the Board. Mr. Sires advised he will be asking the General Assistance Officer to listen and find out what is going on and also through our Planning & Zoning Department t we have taken steps to address affordable housing. Mr. Drinkhall stated he believes we have addressed this and believes we are very well covered regarding affordable housing availability.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Bike Lane Project – Mr. Sires reported he is working on this. The deadline for the application is September 15. Mr. Sires next reported we may need to have a public hearing prior to the application deadline.

DOT Request for Letter – Mr. Sires reported the NHDOT is asking the Board to write a letter of support for their application for \$114,000 to continue with their project to survey and assess the condition of historic bridges. Mr. Martin questioned if we send a letter of support for this is this competing for money for projects. Mr. Sires advised it could dilute funds for projects. Mr. DiGregorio questioned if when it comes to bridge repair and maintenance is the town responsible for certain town bridges. Mr. Sires replied in the affirmative and added that there is some state aid available. Mr. Martin questioned if the Board wanted to take any action on this matter. There was further discussion by the Board. The Board agreed that the work sounds redundant with what the Town does and unless someone from the NHDOT to give further explanation otherwise they would not take action on this at this time.

Old Bartlett Road Sewer Manholes – Mr. Drinkhall inquired if anyone has looked into this issue. Mr. Sires advised that he can have Mr. DegliAngeli provide a report on this matter.

CVFD – Mr. Drinkhall inquired about what has gone on in meetings since the last meeting. Mr. Sires reported that he would ask Mr. DegliAngeli to provide a report on this matter.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Cable Negotiations – Mr. DiGregorio advised that he hasn't received any negative or positive input from the Board on the draft agreement and so we will move forward with negotiations with TWC. Mr. Sires advised that Attorney Scully is also reviewing the draft agreement. Mr. DiGregorio next advised that he has met with the Town of Bartlett and they are interested in getting back involved –he had a positive meeting with them. Mr. DiGregorio advised his plan is to have a meeting with all sending towns.

Special Event Policy Review Committee – Mr. DiGregorio advised the next meeting of the Special Event Policy Review Committee is scheduled for September 9, 2009.

Lighting Committee – Mr. Drinkhall reported the Lighting Committee has had had two meetings. The first one was an organizational meeting and the last meeting it was decided we would meet with the utilities and eventually determine what is to be done by district.

Garage Committee - Mr. Drinkhall reported the Garage Committee met and of the six members present, it was voted unanimously to not use the existing plans, other than using it for detail, but to look at a less expensive manner of having the job built. Also, the Committee wanted feedback from the Board on this before moving forward. The committee does not want to move forward with plans as they exist. Mr. Martin advised that he missed the meeting and added that you don't want to scrap \$65,000 plans and you use them as reference and not totally throw them out. Mr. Drinkhall stated they did not want to use them as they exist. There was discussion by the Board. Mr. Drinkhall advised the next

meeting of the Committee will be held at the garage and storage area and everyone wants to look at the buildings. The meeting is next Tuesday. Mr. Drinkhall added first we need an answer from the Board and then we will proceed. There was discussion regarding the existing plans and not wanting to through out the plans. The Board discussed the Committee coming up with an alternate plan for the Boards consideration.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers advised the Conservation Commission met on August 12, 2009. They did a general review of expenditures for Whitaker Woods. There was also a note on the condition of the Abenaki site. The State is excited about the buildings but they are concerned about the condition of the buildings as a liability. The Conservation Commission will be looking for grants to fix and make the buildings safe.

Road Construction – Mr. Martin commented that will all the aggravation last week with road construction –it was well worth it. Mr. Martin asked the public to please be patient with the construction as the ruts in the road are much better now.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Andrea Osmun of the Conway Daily Sun questioned when the NH Public Housing meeting is today. Mr. Sires advised the next planning session are the 8th and 14 of September tentatively.

Andrea questioned what the \$13,000 to the Police Department will be used for. Mr. Sires advised this can't be spent on existing budget it and to call the Chief of Police for specifics.

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

At 4:59 p.m. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to go into non public session under RSA 91-A,II(c) to discuss a tax matter.** Tax Assessor, Tom Holmes, Town Manager, Earl Sires, Recording Secretary Karen Hallowell, and a taxpayer, were present for discussion. **The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

At 5:18 p.m. the Board returned to public session.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary