

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

November 10, 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 November 12, 2009

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Consideration of minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

There were no special event applications before the Board for consideration.

PRESENTATION ON PUBLIC HEALTH
NETWORK FOR CARROLL COUNTY

Carlene Ferrier and Dana Littlefield joined the meeting and gave an overview to the Board of the Public Health Network for Carroll County.

The Board discussed that Conway has never entered into any agreement with the Coalition and has never given formal authority for them to act on the town's behalf.

DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED SKATEBOARD PARK

David Rudewick and Mandy McDonald joined the meeting to discuss the idea of a skateboard park in Conway with the Board. Mr. Rudewick discussed with the Board sites used in town for skating, the roots of this effort, funds raised so far, and the funds to be raised. Ms. McDonald stated that she feels that kids need a safe place to skate and distributed data to the Board regarding injuries, etc., and reviewed same with the Board. Mr. Rudewick asked for the support of the Board for this project. Mr. Rudewick advised there are other parks around the county that have relationships with the towns and advised they need to have liability insurance under the town. Mr. Rudewick next advised their group also feels they would like to have the park in Conway and not North

Conway. The feels there is a good spot for a skateboard park at Davis Park and would like to propose the park the park be made there or at another existing park in Conway. The reason they would like it at Davis is due to location, visibility, police patrol and that it is a mixed use, multigenerational, they have portable toilets, and it is lighted. Mr. Rudewick advised they expect to spend in the range of \$30-50,000 for the proposed park and feels this skateboard park will compliment the site. Mr. Rudewick next advised that he has met with Chief Wagner, Mr. Sires, kids, and there is a Facebook group involved and now they have brought this to this Board.

Mr. Dickinson questioned what other communities have skateboard parks. Ms. McDonald advised Ossipee, Wolfeboro, Meredith, Berlin and Windham. Mr. Dickinson asked if they are on public land. Ms. MdDonald advised she did not know. Mr. Sires asked if they had a plan available. Mr. Rudewick advised they do not have a plan for Davis Park. Mr. Weathers expressed concerns regarding the 100 year floodplain in the David Park area. Mr. DiGregorio advised he is in favor but has concerns with long term funding. Mr. DiGregorio questioned long term funding for the project. Mr. Rudewick stated he understands there will be money needed for upkeep. Mr. Rudewick advised the materials they are using wont need much for upkeep as they are steel and concrete materials.

Skateboarder, Gabe DeFeo, stated he felt this would be a safer environment for kids. Chairman Martin asked if the skateboarders police themselves. Mr. DeFeo stated he can't control them, but kids prefer to go somewhere they are not going to get in trouble. Skateboarder, Jake White, stated they would rather go to a skate park. Mr. DiGregorio counseled the skateboarders on the importance of not leaving trash in the area, safety, and if you see something wrong to speak up, etc.

Mr. Martin stated that he also could support this as long as there is no cost to the town. The Board asked that Mr. Rudewick bring this back to the Board in a few weeks with a plan for consideration. Mr. Rudewick agreed.

A member of the public, Dave Robinson, spoke and stated he is in support of the Town of Conway putting in a skateboard park for kids. This would be for all people and what people have been looking at for a long time – many years. Mr. Robinson also stated he feels Davis Park is a good spot but not an end all.

COURTHOUSE PROPERTY

Mr. Sires reviewed the Bond has been paid off regarding the Courthouse property. The property now goes to the State; however there is no drawing on file. Mr. Sires reviewed we needed to do a subdivision of the property. Mr. Sires next distributed information regarding subdivision to the Board and reviewed same. Mr. Sires next questioned if the Board would like to proceed with disposing of the full acre around the courthouse and advised we would need to have a public hearing to do same and, also, if the Board so chose, could ask for compensation for the additional land. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to expand the property line as proposed.** Mr. Drinkhall questioned what could be the possible amount of compensation from the state. Mr. Sires advised we would have to have appraisal. Mr. Sires further advised that the state has refused to take the land through condemnation. Mr. DiGregorio advised he is against this and feels the state should buy the additional land. Mr. Sires reviewed that the town is obligated to turn over the courthouse property and that the state has agreed

to split the cost of the transfer. Mr. Sires further reviewed it is the DES that is saying there is a minimum lot size requirement and they are requesting this land be added. Mr. Drinkhall stated he would like to know the cost of the additional land and Mr. DiGregorio agreed. Mr. Dickinson stated he does not agree with the DES at this time and should only give the amount of land they have and not any additional land. **The motion failed 0-5-0.**

Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, that we transfer to the state the courthouse and the curtilage related thereto as it sits there on the ground as it is described in the existing lease. There was further discussion. **Mr. Drinkhall withdrew his second and Mr. Dickinson withdrew his motion**

Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we transfer the property as stated and the additional property as requested on the plan equal to one acre at no cost to the town whatsoever and fair market value of the additional property. Mr. DiGregorio advised that he disagrees and is not interested. They will have access to parking and to property. Mr. Drinkhall agreed. Mr. Sires suggested that the Board review the lease at the next meeting. The Board agreed. **Mr. Dickinson moved to table the motion. All in favor.**

PRESENTATION AND OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET

Mr. Sires first distributed information concerning the tax rate to the Board and reviewed same. The tax rate is at \$4.59. Mr. Sires advised tax bill are expected to be mailed next week and will be due around December 18, 2009.

Mr. Sires next reviewed the proposed 2010 budget with the Board. There was also a review of the optional health care plans available.

Recreation Director, John Eastman, was present and gave an overview of the Parks and Recreation proposed budget to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Eastman discussed the need for a new lawn mover. Mr. Eastman reviewed one mower his department has had for 13 years is a high quality mover and is still in good condition; however the other mower is not working well and needs to be replaced. Mr. Eastman presented pricing for mowers to the Board and reviewed same. Mr. Sires reviewed that one time purchases could be presented as warrant articles or the Board could decide to use revolving funds to make the purchase. The Board discussed same. **Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to further investigate for long term maintenance information to get more detailed information for the lawn mover and to go through the way of a warrant article. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, next gave an overview of the Public Works and Solid Waste 2010 proposed budget to the Board. Under Highway Tools and Supplies, Mr. DegliAngeli advised the Board there is the request for a Sickle Bar. Mr. Sires advised this could also be put on a Warrant Article if the Board so chose as the cost for this item is around \$10,000. Mr. DiGregorio requested information on the Sickle Bar and Mr. DegliAngeli advised he would provide further information to the Board regarding model, etc. Under Highway Asphalt, it was noted the request by being reduced from \$400,000 to \$386,600 (a \$13,400 reduction).

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Executive Councilor Burton – Mr. Sires reported that Executive Councilor Raymond Burton has scheduled office hours at the Conway Town office on Friday, November 13, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

Veteran's Day – Mr. Sires reminded everyone that Veteran's is tomorrow, November 11, 2009.

BOARD REPORTS

PEG TV– Mr. DiGregorio reviewed that a letter was sent to the school advising the Town will no longer be able to fund the program of the MWV Career and Tech Center.

Mr. DiGregorio next advised that he and the Town Manager are looking for guidance for the next step and are looking for the Board's opinion on a buy in fee to see out channel and were thinking about \$4,000-\$5,000. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers for \$5,000 for view only fee.** The Board held a brief discussion. **Mr. Drinkhall amended the motion, seconded by Mr. Weathers, for \$5,000 or all of their franchise fees, whichever is less. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported the Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet tomorrow night at the Whitaker Meeting House.

Motorcycle Parking - Mr. Martin reported the Public Hearing concerning Motorcycle Parking will be held in December.

Veteran's Day – Mr. Martin reported the Veteran's Day ceremony will be held tomorrow in Schouler Park.

US Navy Day – Mr. Martin reviewed that US Navy Day is November 14, 2009 and read aloud the Proclamation signed by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Martin reviewed this Proclamation was signed by the Board back in October but was reading it as a reminder and this day was approaching.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no public comments or media questions

ADJOURN

At 7:12 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary