

**Minutes of Meeting  
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

February 16, 2010

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:01 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 February 18, 2010.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Consideration of minutes was carried to the next meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

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

DISCUSSION WITH MWVCC REGARDING SCHOULER PARK  
EVENTS PROMOTIONAL SIGN AND NORTH SOUTH ROAD WELCOME SIGN

Janice Crawford, Director of the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce (MWVCC), was present for discussion.

Mr. Sires reviewed this matter was previously before the board for discussion. Mr. Sires reviewed that Ms. Crawford is here to today to have further discussion and, also, to talk about the sign on the North-South Road with an advertisement.

Ms. Crawford advised she would like to sell space for the Schouler Park sign and North-South Road sign to make money for the MWVCC, the Parks Department, and to help fund lights. Ms. Crawford advised that back when discussing this matter before she started pricing out costs for the sign and it was expensive and, because of the economy, this sat on her desk and then she confused it with other signs she had rented to Cranapalooza, which is an event and this is what caused her to review this again. In reviewing the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) there are things that stand out but, since they will be sharing the funds have come up she was hoping we can work things out in the MOU. Ms. Crawford explained it is hard to sell signage without a logo. Ms. Crawford next reviewed what she would like a change in the proposed MOU with the Board. Ms. Crawford first discussed signage specific to Schouler Park. Mr. Martin pointed out that we could not do this for Believe in Books when they

came before the Board. Mr. Martin explained that we don't do advertising on public property. Mr. Drinkhall agreed and pointed out that we have an ordinance regarding same. Mr. DiGregorio stated he agreed that we have an ordinance but he doesn't necessarily agree with it and suggested that it could be changed by the petition and advised there is a process for this to be done. Mr. Weathers stated with the way the ordinance is written and under the definition for current events this sign should be promoting events such as foot races etc. Ms. Crawford stated she understand and certainly can walk away without the logo and questioned if community events should be able to put something up on the sign and not have to pay \$30. For instance, the Mount Washington Auto Road's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as long as there is no logo and just event information. The Board advised this type of sign is correct so long as there is no logo. There was next discussion regarding events and event advertising. Town Planner Tom Irving, questioned if the Board finds the message board a legitimate public purpose – for instance special events sanctioned by the town or for private events. Mr. Dickinson stated the sign is small and should be limited to events happening in Schouler Park and not Mount Washington Auto road and not for events at Cranmore. Ms. Crawford stated then the Board should then tear it down. There was further discussion. Mr. Weathers stated that going along with what Mr. Dickinson stated, then we could have the Recreation Department maintain the sign. Mr. Sires advised that what we are not soliciting and asking event promoters if they want to advertise on the sign, which could be a potential benefit to the Town of Conway. Mr. Weathers pointed out that the Rec Department could post events on the sign and Mr. Dickinson stated it is in Schouler Park and it should be for things that are going on in Schouler Park or the immediate area. Mr. Martin stated that what he is hearing from the Board is that they will not go against the ordinance; however there is still the option if you want to take over management of the sign for events without logos.

There was next discussion on the North South Road Cranapalooza sign. Mr. DiGregorio questioned how this is different than state signs for private businesses. Mr. Martin pointed out that we do not have jurisdiction over state signs. Mr. DiGregorio stated he felt that we should not be making decisions against our businesses. Mr. Martin stated it is not against our businesses – it is going with our ordinances that have been voted in and that is what the legislative body has voted to do and we must enforce same until it is changed by the voting body. There was further brief discussion. Mr. Weathers stated he would like to take a look at the existing sign at Schouler Park before moving further. Ms. Crawford advised that this is not worth their time as they need to be able to raise funds. There was no action taken.

#### BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Drinkhall asked about discussing Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli's, time spent with the Conway Village Fire District. Mr. Sires advised a discussion with the Precinct Commissioners has not been scheduled yet. The Board discussed whether or not this discussion should be held at the next Board meeting. Mr. Martin polled the Board and it was agreed to try to schedule this for the next meeting.

Mr. Drinkhall next asked about street lighting. Mr. Drinkhall reviewed that he has asked about turning off lighting in residential areas without sidewalks. There was brief discussion. It was pointed out that the Board has voted on a budget that includes street lighting for this year. Mr. Martin stated he felt this is an item that can wait until after town meeting for further discussion.

CONSIDERATION OF UNANTICIPATED REVENUE IN AMOUNTS LESS THAN \$5,000 / NH  
RSA 31:95-B, III (B) - (A) \$1350 FROM WHITE MOUNTAIN OIL TO THE TOWN OF  
CONWAY SPECIAL FUEL FUND

**Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we accept the \$1350 from White Mountain Oil to the Town of Conway Special Fuel Fund. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

REVIEW OF ZONING ARTICLES

Planning Director, Tom Irving, joined the meeting. Mr. Irving distributed and reviewed copies of the petitioned zoning articles that will appear on the 2010 warrant. Mr. Irving reviewed the discussions held at the public hearing held by the Planning Board as well as the recommendations on the articles made by the Planning Board.

APPROVE AND SIGN THE WARRANT

Mr. Sires distributed a copy of the proposed Warrant to the Board for review and consideration. Mr. Sires asked if the Board wanted any changes to the Bond Article. Mr. Drinkhall stated he felt there should be an explanation with the article. There was a motion to approve and sign the warrant out of session. There was no second. The Board next reviewed an email from Bill Augton expressing concern regarding the Boards vote on the bond article. The Board discussed making a motion to reconsider their vote on the Bond Article. Mr. DiGregorio advised he would not reconsider his vote because he doesn't agree with the amount and thinks the project is underfunded. Mr. Martin advised he will reconsider his vote to show uniformity. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to reconsider Article 11.** Mr. DiGregorio reiterated that he feels this is underfunded. Mr. Drinkhall stated he thinks this project can be done for \$600,000 and that we definitely need a new garage. Mr. DiGregorio stated the Garage Committee was supposed to come up with a building that fits the needs, not a price and now we are playing a game with the price. Mr. Drinkhall stated he feels their charge was a recommendation and that included an amount to be spent. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed there was a lot of discussion about price. The committee took a vote about price and voted \$650,000. The Board then voted for \$650,000 and then subsequently re-voted. Mr. DegliAngeli next stated that he heard from Mr. Drinkhall that it can be done for \$600,000 and supports the \$600,000. Mr. DegliAngeli asked what the other Board members rationale was for the \$600,000 when the committee supported \$650,000. Mr. Dickinson stated he would have preferred \$550,000 but made a motion for \$600,000 because he believes we can build it for that. Mr. Dickinson stated it would be unfortunate to put extra on it because the bidders would know the limit. Mr. Sires pointed out that he does not believe that the content (dollar figure) of the article can be changed at this point; however it can be changed at town meeting. Mr. Weathers stated his reasoning for the figure came down to the generator. He was in hopes that the bid process would come down to that number. He personally feels the building does need a generator. There was some additional discussion and **Mr. Drinkhall moved the question.** The Board voted and the **motion failed 2-3-0 with Messrs. Drinkhall and Dickinson voting in the affirmative and Messrs. DiGregorio, Weathers and Martin in the negative.** The Board agreed this is vote to not support the article. Mr. Sires stated this brings up another question, does the Board of Selectmen even put the article on the warrant if they don't support same. There was further discussion. **Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, to reconsider.** Mr. Weathers advised he would be changing his vote to get this on the floor of Town Meeting. **The motion carried 4-1-0 with Messrs. Drinkhall, Dickinson, Weathers and Martin in the affirmative and Mr. DiGregorio in the negative.** The Board next proceeded with another

vote. **Mr. Drinkhall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to support Article 11.** There was further discussion. Bob Barriault stated the Board should show support and then the Board of Selectmen could change the number at Town Meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried. **4-1-0 with Messrs. Drinkhall, Dickinson, Weathers and Martin in the affirmative and Mr. DiGregorio in the negative.**

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Garage – Mr. Sires and Mr. DegliAngeli reported on the garage to the Board. Mr. DegliAngeli discussed the condition of the existing garage and the safety issues, etc. Mr. DegliAngeli questioned what happens if the bond fail and they are here to discuss whether or not the Board should spend \$7,000 for a test on the block. Mr. Sires stated that it makes sense to know ahead of time if the building will stand or not for the next couple of years. Mr. Drinkhall stated he feels we should wait for now before spending \$7,000 although he understands why we need the test. Mr. DiGregorio stated he understands we have no backup plan but thinks everyone understands the need for a new garage and we don't want to scare people into voting for the garage. Mr. DiGregorio further added that we have already recognized the electrical issues and structural issue. If the bond doesn't pass in April, we don't have a plan and will need to spend the money; however, he does not want to scare people into voting for it. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to approve \$7,000 to test the structure of the existing garage. The motion failed 0-5-0.**

Precinct Discussion – Mr. Sires reviewed there a discussion previously by the Board regarding Mr. DegliAngeli's involvement with Conway Village Fire precinct and spending more time than with other precincts. Mr. Sires further reviewed there was discussion about charging the precinct for the time as well. Mr. Sires advised Mr. DegliAngeli's here to talk about this with the Board. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that the amount of time with Conway Village and North Conway has been about the same. North Conway may have been more last year with the water and sewer projects. Mr. DegliAngeli next talked about Phase 1 and 1A projects of the Conway District. Paul advised that both districts are now going strong and this is good because we get road rebuilds. Mr. DegliAngeli discussed the interconnect next with the Board and advised that last week there was a water main brake in Conway Village and thank goodness for the interconnect or there would not have been water in Conway Village.

Mr. Drinkhall stated he feels that people in Conway Village benefit but the other districts don't. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that all of Conway benefits. There was discussion by the Board. Mr. Sires reviewed that the town entered into agreements with Conway Village and North Conway regarding interconnects on the premise that it supports all and the Board of Selectmen authorized he and Paul to work with the precincts. This has been done all at the direction of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Sires further added that if the Board would like to change this they can however this is the rationale for the current situation. Mr. DiGregorio stated that by helping to secure funding, etc., it benefits the whole town. Anyone can drive on Pollard Street or other streets in the Town of Conway.

Mr. Dickinson left the meeting at 6:20 pm

Mr. Sires next explained that what you are doing now is part and parcel with what you would be doing with the infrastructure work you would be doing when the road work gets done. Mr. Weathers stated that the work being done is for the good of the whole town. Mr. Drinkhall stated he is not opposed to the work being done, but who is paying for it.

Member of the public, Bob Barriault, stated he is in a non-precinct area and agrees with David Weathers in that we all benefit from this.

Warrant – Mr. Sires advised that the Warrant will be posted next Friday.

CDBG Meeting – Mr. Sires reported he will be at a CDBG meeting on Thursday in Concord.

Candidate Filing Period – Mr. Sires reviewed the candidate filing period opens on February 24, 2010.

Town Meeting – Mr. Sires reviewed that Town Meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2010.

Leave – Mr. Sires reported that beginning March 4 he will be out for a few days on medical leave and will return around March 12.

#### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Budget Committee – Mr. Drinkhall read aloud a statement regarding his feelings on the Budget and the process. A copy of same is attached hereto. Mr. Drinkhall added that town staff does a good job. Mr. Martin thanked Mr. Drinkhall for his work on the Budget Committee this past season.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Bob Barriault commented that he has a problem with the Capital Reserve Infrastructure as a separate article. Mr. Barriault thinks we should fight this being a separate article. Mr. Barriault added that we need to plan for the future and that should be in the budget. You are jeopardizing a lot of savings if this doesn't get passed. This is a mistake and you should go to Concord and make an issue of this matter. Mr. Sires stated that he would be happy to pursue this and would ask that the Board give this their endorsement. Mr. Sires added that it may be that there are legislative changes needed. Mr. Sires further reviewed that this became an issue the day before the public hearing on the budget. Right before the Board of Selectmen meeting we received word of these changes and called DRA who advised on same.

#### ADJOURN

The Chair adjourned the meeting without objection at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell  
Executive Secretary