

**Minutes of Meeting  
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

February 4, 2014

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:10 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers (Chair), Michael DiGregorio (Vice Chair), Mary Carey Seavey, Stacy Sand, and Carl Thibodeau, Town Manager, Earl Sires, and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

Selectman DiGregorio chaired this meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. DiGregorio led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. DiGregorio advised Chuck Henderson from Senator Shaheen's office will be added to the agenda and, also, under Consideration of Bills, we will be adding the 2/6/14 payroll. **Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to accept the agenda with the additions. The motion carried unanimous**

CHUCK HENDERSON/SENATOR SHAHEEN'S OFFICE

Chuck Henderson, Special Assistant for the North Country for Senator Jeanne Shaheen's office appeared before the Board. Mr. Henderson advised the Board that he is available to towns for federal issues. Mr. Henderson further stated that if the Town has any problems to let him know and he will look into issues. Mr. Henderson next spoke about the late Executive Councilor, Ray Burton, and how Ray worked together with everyone and always showed up at meetings.

Mr. Sires stated thank you to Mr. Henderson and Senator Shaheen's office for their help with Transvale matters.

DISCUSSION REGARDING PAWN SHOP ORDINANCE

Mr. DiGregorio stated that there is information regarding a pawn shop ordinance in the Selectmen's agenda packets. Mr. DiGregorio stated that last year there were quite a few break ins in town. His house was robbed and so were many in his neighborhood. One problem the Police Department has is with jewelry and where does it go and how does a criminal get rid of it. Mr. DiGregorio next stated that he would like to ask the Board to review the information on the ordinance and then ask the police to come in to a meeting in the future to talk about how the ordinance would help them in the future. Mr. DiGregorio explained that if an ordinance were in place, a pawn shop would have to get the name, photo identification, and an affidavit from the person selling the item. There was brief discussion. The Board agreed to review the ordinance and invite the police department in to discuss same at a future meeting.

NORCROSS PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. DegliAngeli reported that the Norcross Circle project was advertised and the project cost to the Town will be \$275,000. The total budget for the project is now \$450,000. We have

\$175,000 coming from the NHDOT as the balance of the streetscape funds and this would leave a balance for the Town of Conway of \$275,000 and this is \$100,000 more than was previously discussed. Mr. DegliAngeli asked if the Board would still like to pursue this project and, if so, we would need the Board of Selectmen's authorization to spend the funds. Mr. DegliAngeli next stated that we could also modify the project to lessen the overage and he believes that we can get approximately \$50,000 out of the project by not changing the sidewalks to brick. The existing sidewalk from the Met to the old post office is concrete and is in good shape and we could just leave that as is. The other change could be to the apron of the roundabout and the crosswalks imprint material. We could switch to a stamped concrete or pavement and save another \$25,000. Mr. DiGregorio stated that he thought that we were going to do the project in house. Mr. DegliAngeli stated he would like to but we have to bid this out due to the federal funds. Mr. DiGregorio asked if we have spent money for this project so far for administrative costs, etc. Mr. DegliAngeli stated not from the town coffers. We have about \$172,000 of the federal funds left and we had used some for the engineering expenses.

There was next discussion of whether the project could be done in two years instead, materials, federal funds, other funding, etc. Mr. Sires stated he feels we need to look into this further as the project has morphed. We could spend a little more time researching this matter and, also, see if there is any other money out there for this project. The Board agreed that more information is needed.

#### ROADS IN SOUTH CONWAY

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that we have a great deal of gravel roads in South Conway and not all are maintained year round. Some of these roads are designated as summer roads to cottages. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that for over 20 years we have not maintained roads to summer cottages and, also, some of the other roads have been contracted out. Mr. DegliAngeli next reviewed the maintenance on the roads. Mr. DegliAngeli next reviewed that when Brian Abrams was doing the plowing on Greeley he also did other areas and people became used to it and now want the same service. Mr. Sires advised that staff wanted to let the Board know of this issue. Further, intermittently but increasingly, we are hearing more from people on this issue. People are moving out there and we need to either hold the line on the policy or revisit it.

There was next discussion regarding maintenance, the width of the roads, the history of Mr. Abrams plowing the road etc. The Board requested that a map of the roads that has the currently contracted roads highlighted. It was agreed that this matter would be brought back to a future meeting for further discussion.

#### RECYCLING

Mr. DegliAngeli distributed graphs showing Trash and Recyclables and Recycling Comparisons to the Board and reviewed same. Mr. DegliAngeli further advised that since the new Foreman and Recycling Officer have started trash has dropped in 2013 and, also, we recycled more in 2013 than in 2012. There was a brief discussion on recycling, tipping fees, etc.

#### REVIEW OF BUDGET

Draft Warrant – Mr. Sires briefly reviewed a draft copy of the warrant with the Board. With regard to the warrant article for the Capital Reserve Fund for Landfill Closure, Mr. Sires reviewed that for some time we contributed a dollar to the fund each year to keep it open. We have looked into this and we don't have to do this to keep it open. We will be deleting the article

from the 2014 warrant unless the Board wants otherwise. Mr. Sires further added that it is unnecessary and recommends that it not be included. Mr. Sires next reviewed that with regard to the warrant article for police for the Carlson CR5 Robotic Total Station Package, it is suggested that we change the language of this article to be say crime scene evidence and accident reconstruction mapping equipment for the police instead.

Mr. Sires next reviewed that at the meeting next week, the Selectmen need to vote on warrant articles.

#### ESTABLISH EMPLOYEE BENEFITS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Sires reviewed that previously there was discussion regarding an employee benefits review committee. Mr. DiGregorio reviewed that this was discussed previously and that he and Mr. Sires are supposed to write up a proposal of the structure of the committee, etc. Ms. Sand suggested that the memo also include that the committee will look at specific things such as, for example, a place for hip surgery for cost savings.

#### SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Tax Map/Lot 231-17
- b. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Tax Map/Lot 232-89

**Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Tax Map/Lot 231-17 and the Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Tax Map/Lot 232-89.** Ms. Seavey questioned if these are ongoing or if they are submitted every year. Mr. Sires advised they are ongoing. **The motion carried unanimously.**

#### CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. 2/6/14 Manifest
- b. 2/6/14 Payroll

**Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to approve the manifest dated 2/6/14 and the payroll dated 2/6/14. The motion carried unanimously.**

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#### RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

There were no documents signed out of session to ratify.

#### REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

There were no special event applications for consideration.

#### CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 1/28/14 meeting will be considered at the next meeting

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Time Warner Cable – Mr. Sires reported that some people have voiced concerns over Time Warner Cable switching from analog to digital. Some people will now need a converter for this and the easiest thing to do is to go to the Time Warner office in Redstone and pick up a box

for free. In the alternative, you can have one installed for \$39.95. Also, in 2015 they will be starting to charge for this from \$.99 to \$1.50 per month.

Petitioned Articles – Mr. Sires reported that petitions for warrant articles are due no later than Tuesday, February 11, 2014.

Hobbs Street Property – Mr. Sires reported the Hobbs Street property is scheduled to close on February 26, 2014.

Saco River Advisory Council – Mr. Sires reported there is a meeting later on this evening with a group of people who are trying to get the Saco River Advisory Council started. The local chapter of Trout Unlimited is trying to get this started.

Saco River Access Committee – Mr. Sires reported that we will be scheduling a meeting of the Saco River Access Committee for the end of February.

Olympic Athletes Banner – Mr. Sires reported that we received a proof of the banner for the recognition of the Town of Conway's Olympic Athletes, Sean Doherty and Leann Smith. The banner will go up on Thursday or Friday of this week at the Chamber sign in Conway Village and on the event sign in North Conway.

#### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Budget Committee – Ms. Sand stated that with regard to the Budget Committee, in terms of the town they seem to be dwelling on the public works contract and how it is worded in the warrant. There are only \$900 in changes in terms of the contract and dollar wise the raise for the salaries shows up in the salary line but not in the warrant article as it is not a contract change. There was also discussion at the last Budget Committee meeting of the Recreation Director's salary. Ms. Sand stated that the Recreation Director has 22 years of experience and continues to educate himself and provide good service to the town. Ms. Sand next advised that there was also discussion at the last Budget Committee meeting regarding the school budget and, also, the Default Budget.

Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee – Mr. Weathers reviewed that a meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee is scheduled for tomorrow night to review non profit budgets. The meeting will be held at Kennett Middle School.

Valley Vision – Mr. DiGregorio reported that a Valley Vision Board of Directors meeting was scheduled for tomorrow night but the meeting has now been moved to Thursday night.

Budget Committee – Mr. DiGregorio stated that one of the Budget Committee members accused the town of moving money around illegally in line items of the budget. Mr. DiGregorio stated that he used the term "illegally" and beyond being insulting, this is wrong. The RSA allows the governing body to move money as needed. Also the audit stated it is good practice. Mr. DiGregorio next stated that this information was given to the Budget Committee member but that this person insists the law is incorrect and still feels we are wrong in what we are doing. Mr. DiGregorio next stated that he believes that this person is wrong in their belief of what the governing body is –it is the Board of Selectmen. Mr. DiGregorio next added that he hopes that this person would issue a public apology. Mr. DiGregorio stated he may bring this up at the meeting tomorrow night. Ms. Sand stated that she doesn't think that it is appropriate to bring up at tomorrow night's meeting as this is supposed to be a meeting to review non profits.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked whether a pawn shop ordinance would have to go to a town vote. Mr. Sires stated that it could be a Board of Selectmen Ordinance.

Mr. Steer next asked for clarification on the Norcross Circle Discussion earlier in the meeting. Mr. Sires reviewed that the low bid for the project is \$100,000 more than we have in town funds. The Board of Selectmen have asked us to go back and see if we can reduce costs and also look at other funding sources.

ADJOURN

At 5:47 p.m. the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hallowell  
Executive Secretary