

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
July 25, 2017

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers, Mary Carey Seavey, Carl Thibodeau, and Steven Porter; Town Manager, Earl Sires, and Tax Assessor, Tom Holmes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Weathers noted that two Notices to Cut Wood or Timber have been added under Signing of Documents. **Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN CONWAY VILLAGE WATER PRECINCT AND THE TOWN OF  
CONWAY REGARDING THE MAIN STREET PROJECT

Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, joined the meeting. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed a proposed Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and Conway Village Fire District regarding the Main Street Improvement project. **Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey to sign the agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. DegliAngeli next discussed a Revised Local Project Agreement between the Town and the NH Department of Transportation in draft form for the Route 16 project.

Mr. DegliAngeli next reviewed the project is 90/10 funding for the western project and 100% state funding for the eastern project. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed that the eastern project is in the 10-year plan (State Project #40638).

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that he attended a TAC meeting of the North Country Council where they were reviewing the State of NH draft 10-year plan for the next two-year cycle. They wanted a vote to accept this plan and a vote was taken to accept the plan with comment --that comment being recommending moving project 40638 from its 2025 schedule to 2019. The next GACIT meeting is in August. Mr. DegliAngeli next advised that someone may also want to reach out to the Governor as well as we would like to get this into the draft 2019 plan.

Mr. DegliAngeli next stated that the draft Local Project Agreement with the State of NH talks about the 90/10 split and makes reference to where we are trying to move the schedule for project 40638 (eastern project) up to 2019 and, if so, we will do the two projects concurrently. Mr. Thibodeau asked if there was any way to start it sooner. There was brief discussion on the timing of the project with the Board. Mr. DegliAngeli next questioned if the Board would like to make the draft agreement between the town and state final at this point. Once we have the signed agreement we will forward it to the NHDOT Commissioner to sign and they also have to take this to Governor and Council. Our next task then is that we have to get the traffic improvements, signals and lane widening, moved from 2025 to 2019. Mr. Sires suggested we wait and have this Agreement as an agenda item. Mr. DegliAngeli stated we could have the document modified and ready for signature at the next meeting on August 8. The Board agreed to review the agreement between state and town and consider this at the next meeting.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

Receipts were available for the Boards review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Map/Lot 257-11 & 12
- b. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Map/Lot 260-54
- c. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 250-168
- d. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 263-115
- e. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Map/Lot 246-23
- f. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Map/Lot 214-71

**Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to sign the Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Map Lot 257-11 & 12; Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Map/Lot 260-54; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions for Map/Lot 250-168; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions for Map/Lot 263-115; Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Map/Lot 246-23; and, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Map/Lot 214-71. The motion carried unanimously.**

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest 7/27/17

**Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest dated 7/27/17. Motion carried unanimously.**

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest 7/20/17
- b. Payroll 7/20/17

**Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to ratify the Accounts Payable Manifest dated 7/20/17 and Payroll dated 7/20/17. The motion carried unanimously.**

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. NH Intertribal Native American Council/Lou Black Eagle Saco River Memorial Pow Wow 8/5/17 to 8/6/17 (Pending Insurance)
- b. Ragnar RTB LLC/19<sup>th</sup> Annual Reach the Beach running event – 9/15/17 (Pending Insurance)

**Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to approve the Special Event Applications for the NH Intertribal Native American Council/Lou Black Eagle Saco River Memorial Pow Wow from 8/5/17 to 8/6/17 pending receipt of insurance. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Thibodeau next questioned if the Reach the Beach event will follow the same route as last year. Mr. Sires responded in the affirmative. **Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the Special Event Applications for Ragnar RTB LLC/19<sup>th</sup> Annual Reach the Beach running event on 9/15/17 pending receipt of insurance. The motion carried unanimously.**

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Consideration of the minutes of 7/11/17 was carried to the next meeting.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Weathers commented that this will be Earl's last Town Manager report. After 17 years with the Town Mr. Sires is officially done this Friday.

Saco River Watershed – Mr. Sires reported that he and Mr. Holmes spoke with some graduate students today who are concerned with the Saco River Watershed, recreational uses and water quality.

Historic Curtain – Mr. Sires reported that the Historic Curtain that was found in the attic at Town Hall has been moved to the Conway Historical Society.

250<sup>th</sup> Time Capsule – Mr. Sires reported that the 250<sup>th</sup> Time Capsule has been buried. It is buried behind the big rock at the Police Station for anyone looking for it in 50 years.

Eversource – Mr. Sires reported a meeting is schedule for this Thursday with Eversource to discuss the re-lamping project.

Cable Franchise Agreement – Mr. Sires reported that he received a note today from Mike Edgecomb who used to work for Time Warner Cable and is now working with a consulting company that works with town's renegotiating their cable franchise agreements. The Town of Conway will have to start work negotiating a new cable contract with the current provider, Spectrum, in the next year.

Town Manager's last Board of Selectmen Meeting – Mr. Sires commented that this is his last Board of Selectmen meeting and it has been an honor to be the Town Manager for the Town of Conway for 17 years. Mr. Sires added that he has enjoyed working with the Town and with the Boards of Selectmen over his time here. He was fortunate to have Boards who charted a path for staff and also to have a great town staff that Tom Holmes will be able to work with when he takes over as Town Manager. Mr. Sires next stated he is sure Tom Holmes will do well and he wishes him well. Mr. Sires next commented to Mark Hounsell, who was seated in the audience, thank you taking him around and showing him some of the landmarks and talking about the community and what makes it unique.

Mr. Weathers commented that he has been a Selectmen and worked with Earl for all but six months of the past 17 years that Mr. Sires has been Town Manager. It has been a pleasure to work with him and one of the reasons he ran for Selectmen the first time was because Earl was here. He did not know him that well but liked what he saw. Mr. Weathers next stated that he has enjoyed the 17 years of working with Earl and thinks he got along well with him and that the Board's got along well with him. We have been very fortunate with the type of person he is and how he got different factions of this town to work together -and that wasn't easy a lot of the times. Mr. Sires has a way of getting people to settle down, make progress and come away with positive results and he wants to thank Mr. Sires very much.

Mark Hounsell stated that he had reviewed the minutes of the first meeting that Earl attended in July of 2000. Mr. Hounsell stated that he was on that Board along with Gary Webster, Jac Cuddy, Theresa Kennett and Dick O'Brien and Earl had to start right off dealing with that group. In looking at those minutes and considering that all that Earl has done for this town in this century, these last 17 years have been quite noteworthy, including events of the town, nation and world. During this time Earl has steadied the ship of Conway and in doing so

we have seen vast improvements. We have seen it in infrastructure, in water, in sewer, library and schools. This all comes from leadership and we wouldn't have been able to get all of this done without his way of doing things. Mr. Hounsell next state that he is not going to miss Earl because we know he will be around but we will miss his leadership. Mr. Hounsell next stated that we will have Tom Holmes now and he is as equally engaged in the wellbeing of this town as Earl Sires and so know that Tom has had a mentor and Conway is going to be fine.

Tom Holmes commented that Mark said everything that he was going to say. Also, people have come up to him to say you have big shoes to fill and this can cause a person some trepidation. However, I count Earl as a supervisor, an advisor, a colleague and a friend and I think he has done me well. Earl is a special individual and I thing everyone realizes this especially after the number of years he has served this town. He is glad he will be hanging around town as I will need him.

### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Planning Board – Mr. Porter stated that the Planning Board does not have a meeting and he has nothing to report.

ESAA – Mr. Thibodeau reported the ESAA annual meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2017 at 6:00 pm. Mr. Thibodeau next reported that the State of New Hampshire and the State of Maine are both providing \$75,000 toward the new commercial hangar and it is deeply appreciated.

Budget Committee – Ms. Seavey reported that she attended the Budget Committee meeting held last week. The School gave a presentation which was the same as the presentation made at Eggs and Issues and it was very informative.

MWVEC – Ms. Seavey reported the MWVEC has not met recently.

Earl Sires – Ms. Seavey stated thank you to Earl Sires for all he has done.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers advised the Conservation Commission did not meet in July. Mr. Weathers next reported that the Conservation Commission has made progress on the Marshall Conservation property on West Side Road and the parking area has been expanded and there is ongoing work on the trail system. Mr. Weathers next stated that the Conservation Commission will be meeting the second week of August.

Recreation Center Study Committee – Ms. Seavey stated that the Recreation Center Study Committee met last night. There were nice presentations made by Paul DegliAngeli and John Eastman. The committee will be meeting again on August 15, 2017.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Mr. Hounsell stated that he listed to discussion earlier in the meeting regarding the Main Street project and he feels that he can comfortably say this project will now get done. This is good work done by all of you and good luck. Further, if the Board needs the support of the Carroll County Commissioners, please let him know.

Doug Withycombe, advised he is the owner of property located at 646 Pequawket. Mr. Withycombe stated that there was new storm drain put in last year and water is now draining on his property. He is getting water in the basement and this has never been an issue before. He is also concerned with the amount of water that is running down into the pond. He is here today to bring this to the Board's attention and to see if there is some type of remedy. Mr.

Weathers stated that he would like to review the site. It was next agreed that David Weathers and Paul DegliAngeli would go to the site tomorrow morning to review this matter.

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked about a recent photo taken of Selectmen and Earl Sires. Mr. Sires advised it is a work in progress and we are awaiting the photos of a couple other Selectmen.

Mr. Steer next stated that Conway Village is getting money for the interconnect. There were no comments from the Board.

Mr. Steer next stated congratulations to Earl Sires on his retirement and stated that it is well deserved.

Mr. Steer next questioned if there is any update on the Board of Selectmen position on the rec path. Mr. Weathers advised there hasn't been any further discussion by this Board. Mr. Sires commented that he did receive a copy of a letter that the group plans to forward to the NHDOT and he will send a copy to the Board for review.

NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 91-A:3,II(c) – TAX MATTERS

At 4:45 pm **Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to go into non public session under NH RSA 91-A:3,II(c) to discuss tax matters.** Included in the non public session was Tax Assessor, Tom Holmes, Town Manager, Earl Sires, and Anne Guttadauro, Property Manager for Lamplighter Mobile Home Park. **Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

The Board returned to public session at 5:01 pm.

NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 91-A:3,II(e) – LITIGATION MATTER

At 5:02 pm **Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non public session under NH RSA 91-A:3,II(e) to discuss a litigation matter.** Included in non public session was Town Manager Earl Sires and Assessor, Tom Holmes.

The Board returned to public session at 5:08 pm.

ADJOURN

At 5:09 pm the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Holmes