

Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
May 7, 2019

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 pm in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers, Mary Carey Seavey, Carl Thibodeau, John Colbath, Steven Porter, Town Manager, Thomas Holmes, and Executive Secretary, Krista Day.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Weathers stated that they would be taking the agenda out of order as Mr. DegliAngeli needed to leave.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF SALE OF TRANSVALE LOT 251-7

Mr. Holmes explained they Board had received a request from Mr. Cronin to purchase a piece of property in Transvale. If the Board chose to sell, they would be required to do so through sealed bid or auction. Mr. Holmes stated that in the past, the Board was reluctant to sell property in the flood plain.

There was discussion regarding the Boards views on the issue.

Mr. Cronin stated that he had spent a lot of time cleaning these lots as they are often used for dumping.

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, that the Board sell lot 251-7. The motion failed (2-3-0) with Mr. Colbath and Ms. Seavey in the affirmative.

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FEES

Mr. Holmes explained that there was a proposed Special Event permit application for a farmer's market on Eastern Slope Inn property. He explained that for the farmers market in Conway Village, they had been given administrative approval because they were not taking up parking spaces for the event. However, the farmers market at Eastern Slope Inn needed to take up parking spaces, therefore was not able to get such approval.

Mr. Holmes recommended that the Board waive the per diem fee of \$50 dollars per day for the Eastern Slope Inn farmers market. This would still require the \$200 dollar application fee because it was turned in within the 30-59 day period.

Applicant Sheila Duane stated that this market was to give back to the farmers who support Flatbread to support local agriculture.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to grant the request for a waiver of the per diem special event fees for the Village Market at Eastern Slope. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to sign the special event permit for the Village Market at Eastern Slope Inn from 6/3/19-9/2/19. The motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION FOR TOWN MANAGER TO CERTIFY ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FROM NH DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Holmes explained that the Police Department was requesting that the Board approve an extra \$20,000 from a grant from the New Hampshire Department of Justice.

Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to authorize the Town Manager to accept \$20,000 from the NH Department of Justice. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF PARKING ON CATHEDRAL LEDGE ROAD

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that they had received complaints this winter regarding cars on Cathedral Ledge Road. He noted that he had asked for the resident to attend the meeting tonight or write a letter regarding their concerns, however, they declined.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that during daytime hours there were a lot of cars parked on the road which prohibited the highway department from being able to high-wing and push back the snow.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that the state park road is not maintained during the winter, therefore, cars park on the town road and the private road.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that they have a few options. They could post no parking signs that prohibit parking there seasonally, all the time, or leave it the way it is now. He noted that this last winter was an extraordinary winter in regards to snowfall.

There was discussion regarding asking the state to compensate the town to maintain the state park road.

Ms. Seavey stated that she was disappointed that no one was here from the area speaking on the issue.

After discussion regarding the issues that prohibiting parking would potentially cause, the Board decided to table the issue.

DISCUSSION OF ROAD POSTING FINES

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that according Chapter 152, there is a section regarding seasonal road postings. The current fine for violating those postings is \$50. He explained that he does not feel that this fine is a deterrent.

It was determined that Mr. DegliAngeli would look into what other towns charge for this type of situation before making a decision.

DISCUSSION OF MAIN STREET PROJECT

Mr. DegliAngeli noted that they he and Town Manager Thomas Holmes had met with the trustees the week before after he attended a meeting with DOT. He acknowledged that library trustees Peter Innes and Lucy Philbrick were in attendance today.

Mr. DegliAngeli noted that the projects were initially called the Eastern and Western projects. Because of some confusion, these projects are now being called the Intersection project and the Main Street project.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that the project is now going to have to go through the NEPA process. He noted that there is a provision in the rules that would allow them to separate the two projects which would allow them to keep the Main Street project on schedule while issues of design are figured out regarding the intersection project.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to authorize Mr. DegliAngeli to request the NEPA process be broken into two separate projects: The Main Street Project and the Intersection Project. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that they are currently trying to schedule the next meeting for this with DOT. He explained that before granting the decoupling, officials would have to visit the entire area to ensure that there are no issues.

It was clarified that the Main Street Project would stop before the lights at the intersection of Route 16 and Washington Street.

It was also clarified that the stone wall in front of the Echo Group was installed in the 1970s and therefore would not be considered historic.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

a. Expenditure Report

Mrs. Gilligan explained that the goal at this time of the year is to have 66% remaining. AS of now, the Town has 68% left which is positive as several items have been paid in full for the year.

Mrs. Gilligan noted that the employee benefits line is a bit over budget but this is because workman's comp and unemployment insurance products have been paid in full for the year and Health Insurance is paid through May.

She noted that the Planning and Zoning departments, as well as Government Buildings and Police are right on track.

She noted that there had been a payout for a police dispatcher that left unexpectedly to become an officer in another town that had been unbudgeted.

Mrs. Gilligan explained that the Inspections budget is on track.

She noted that the Highway budget is on track, however they only have 51% left in the overtime budget and 37% left in the salt budget.

Mrs. Gilligan explained that the solid waste budget has 69% remaining. She noted that they had hired two full time employees. One to replace someone that retired and one after the Town meeting approved making the seasonal employment year-round.

Mrs. Gilligan stated that the Parks and Rec budget is at 80%, however, the summer program will begin in June and there are more employee costs during those months.

Mrs. Gilligan stated that she felt the Town was in a very good spot.

Mr. Thibodeau brought up the idea of whether buying salt in bulk and/or at different times of the year would be more cost effective. Mrs. Gilligan stated that she would look into whether there would be a significant cost savings for either of those options.

b. Revenue Report

Mrs. Gilligan stated that they had 70% left to collect while the goal is 66%. However, she explained that if they take out the Rooms and Meals tax that is normally paid in full on December 31, they are right at 66%.

Mrs. Gilligan explained that Hales Location finally paid their elections balance.

Mrs. Gilligan explained that they had already collected 37% for motor vehicle registrations. She noted that there is the potential that they may exceed their budgeted revenue by \$50,000 on this line.

Mrs. Gilligan explained that they would be losing \$29,000 from the Reimbursement for Recreation as Eaton had voted not to participate this year.

Mrs. Gilligan explained that they took a loss in the revenue budget due to Amnesty Day of \$8,895.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to accept the expenditures and revenues as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Holmes thanked Mrs. Gilligan for all her work.

AUTHORIZATION FOR TOWN MANAGER AND TAX COLLECTOR TO NEGOTIATE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TAX LIEN PROPERTIES

Mr. Holmes stated that with the lien date coming up in August, he was requesting the Selectmen's authorization to allow Tax Collector, Louise Inkell and himself to negotiate payment arrangements for tax lien properties.

He did note that those who have not kept to the payment plans agreed upon in the past would be coming before the Board themselves.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to authorize the Town Manager and Tax Collector to negotiate payment arrangements for tax lien properties. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSION FOR EAST SIDE ROAD COVERED BRIDGE

Mr. Holmes explained that they had received a request to create a commission of 3 people to take public input regarding the maintenance and work on the East Side Road Bridge. He explained that this would require attending a prehearing conference in Concord, a public hearing in Conway, and a finding of necessity meeting to decide whether to move forward with the project or not.

There was discussion regarding possible volunteers. Mr. Weathers stated that he would be one of the three. Two other possible names were Rick Young and Charlie Birch.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Gravel Tax Levy Map/Lot 226-1
- b. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions Map/Lot 276-135
- c. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Map/Lot 272-14 and 272-15
- d. Notice of Intent to Excavate Map/Lot 226-1

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the documents listed above in a. through d. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 5/9/19
- b. Payroll dated 5/9/19

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the AP Manifest and Payroll dated 5/9/19. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUTSIDE OF SESSION

(none)

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

(none)

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. Regular Minutes from 4/30/19

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to adopt the minutes from 4/30/19 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes stated that Bellevue, also known as the North Conway Grand Hotel, had made a motion to reconsider their Planning Board appeal.

Mr. Holmes explained that Amnesty Day was a success in regards to how smoothly it went. He did note that they did take a hit on revenue as they took in about \$9,000 worth of pay for items. He noted that this was about 50% more than they took in the year prior.

Mr. Holmes noted that the Rec Center is looking good with the hallways primed and the gym painted. He noted that former Town Manager Earl Sires took a tour and was quite impressed.

Mr. Holmes stated that the Town Engineer has sent his comments to the Bank's Engineers for feedback.

Mr. Thibodeau asked what the status was on the solar project. Mr. Holmes explained that he believed they were in arbitration currently. He also noted that it was the view of the solar representatives that only the project at the transfer station was viable.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Porter stated that the Planning Board would be meeting on Thursday, May 9, 2019.

Mr. Colbath stated that the ZBA was not meeting in May and the Budget Committee would be meeting in June for a quarterly update.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that the ESAA Executive committee met the week prior and they were moving forward with the hanger project.

Ms. Seavey stated that Valley Vision would be meeting on May 14, 2019.

Mr. Weathers stated that the Conservation Commission would be meeting on Wednesday, May 8, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer from The Conway Daily Sun asked for clarification regarding the need for a commission for the East Side Road Bridge Project. Mr. Weathers read the entire email from DOT.

Mr. Steer asked what the status was on the dog signs for Whitaker Woods. It was determined that they were waiting on input from the Conservation Commission.

ADJOURN

At 5:21 pm, the meeting adjourned by the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary