

Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
July 21, 2020

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:03 pm in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: 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 Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Weathers noted that they would be moving 12a. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 295-1 to 11a.

Mr. Weathers noted that they would be utilizing the Zoom Platform for this Meeting on a Call in Basis.

Phone Number: 1 646 558 8656 The correct meeting ID: 817 4861 8291

He also noted that they would be streaming the meeting live on our Facebook Page "Town of Conway, NH"

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

QUARTERLY REVIEW OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

Finance Director Kathleen Golding appeared before the Board to present both the revenue and expenditures.

Ms. Golding reviewed that they had met earlier in the year to lower the projected revenues for the year due to the pandemic. They are right where they should be at collecting 50% for the year in revenue. She noted that a few areas have actually produced higher than expected revenues. These included welfare reimbursements and income from non-recyclables.

Ms. Golding noted that they may look at adjusting the revenue amounts again at the end of August.

Mr. Holmes also noted that car registrations were actually up from where they had estimated which was most likely due to people taking advantage of the car deals that had been offered during the pandemic.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to accept the revenue report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

In regards to expenditures, Ms. Golding explained that they are just under 50% spent for the year.

Ms. Golding reviewed the status of their reimbursements of the GOFERR funding that they had been awarded for up to \$240,897 for reimbursements for COVID-19 related expenses.

She noted that they had received a reimbursement for their first request in the amount of \$16,976 She added that they had submitted their request for a second reimbursement for \$49,528 last week.

Ms. Golding explained that the Police Department had received the first responder stipend for full and part time officers for a total of 8 weeks and 2 days. As the Town was responsible for that payroll, this was a reimbursable GOFERR expense.

To date, the Town's total COVID-19 related expenses totaled \$72,108.

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

DISCUSSION OF EAST CONWAY ROAD INTERSECTION

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that at their next meeting they would be joined virtually by a consultant for NHDOT regarding the intersection of East Conway Road and Route 302.

He explained that he wanted to see if the Board had a strong preference between a stop light or a roundabout as sometimes DOT will take that preference into consideration.

Mr. Thibodeau asked if anything had been modeled yet. Mr. DegliAngeli did not believe that anything other than a traffic study had been completed as of this time. Mr. Thibodeau stated that he would have a hard time forming an opinion without having the facts as he would like to see whatever would move the most amount of traffic in the most efficient way.

Ms. Seavey voiced her strong opinion in favor of a roundabout.

Mr. Colbath wanted whatever option would be the safest based upon statistics.

Mr. Porter inquired about whether work would be done to change the pitch of the road. Mr. DegliAngeli gave a summary of why the pitch of that road was the way it was and explained that depending on the option that NHDOT chooses, the road design/pitch could change.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, that they urge NHDOT to investigate both avenues for the intersection of East Conway Road and Route 302. The motion carried (4-1-0) with Ms. Seavey in the negative.

DISCUSSION OF 10 YEAR PLAN

Mr. DegliAngeli noted that they would be beginning work on the tree on Meeting House Road this week.

He also added that they would be expecting to get the green light to advertise for the Main Street Project later this week.

Mr. Colbath added that he had received a lot of positive feed back regarding the Board's decision to save the tree.

Mr. DegliAngeli suggested to the Board that they decline participating in any 10-year plan projects as they currently have a backlog of projects. He suggested that they get through the current LPA projects they are partaking in first before they embark on any more. These current projects include the Western Main Street Project, The Eastern Main Street Project, and the By-Path Project.

It was stated that the bid opening was planned for August 15, 2020 for the Western Main Street Project.

Mr. Thibodeau inquired as to whether Mr. DegliAngeli was seeing construction type bids coming in higher due to the pandemic. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that they were seeing no change as construction seemed to be the strongest part of the economy as it never really stopped during the shutdown.

There was discussion regarding the potential start times for the Western project due to weather and contractor factors.

DISCUSSION OF FADDEN RIGHT OF WAY

Mr. Holmes explained that at a previous meeting the Board had voted to grant the change in the right of way contingent on approval from the CCC. He explained that the CCC had granted approval contingent upon a few minor conditions. The Fadden's were looking for Board permission to get started on the project by posting a Bond to guarantee that they would meet those conditions.

Mr. Weathers explained that these conditions included clearing and stumping the 50 foot right of way inside the curb and a new surveyor pin. He did not see any problem with granting them permission to start if they posted a bond.

CCC conditions, area that the 50 ft right of way area be cleared and stumped and be inside of the curb. Put in a new pin.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to allow this project to proceed if a bond is posted. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF NHMA LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Mr. Colbath explained that proposals for floor policies are due August 21, 2020. If the Board wishes to propose something or write a letter of support for an issue, they need to discuss that soon. He also noted that if the Short-Term Rental Committee has recommendations, that would need to be brought before them in order to meet that deadline.

Mr. Colbath noted that he plans to attend the conference on October 2, 2020.

Mr. Holmes stated that Mr. DegliAngeli has mentioned multiple times that he would support a local rooms and meals tax. He also noted that he may recommend that the Board write a letter opposing the bill that is co-sponsored by Senator Jeb Bradley that would take power away from towns in terms of regulating short-term rentals.

REVIEW OF UPDATED BOARD OF SELECTMEN SCHEDULE

Mr. Weathers noted that the Selectmen's Meeting Schedule has had a few minor changes, but did state that it would probably change again.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to re-adopt the revised Board of Selectmen meeting schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 295-1

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to sign the document listed above. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 7/23/2020

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the AP Manifest dated 7/23/2020. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. AP Manifest dated 7/9/2020
- b. Payroll dated 7/9/2020
- c. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions Map/Lot 251-112
- d. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 203-51

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

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. The Maize at Sherman Farm on Weekends from 9/19/2020-10/25/2020

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the special event permit listed above as presented. The motion carried unanimously

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. Regular and Non-Public Minutes from 7/7/2020

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to adopt the regular and non-public minutes from 7/7/2020 as written. The motion carried unanimously

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes noted that he had received correspondence from the Carroll County regarding a meeting for supplemental appropriation.

Mr. Holmes stated that there is a 90% chance that their next meeting will be held In the Marshall Gymnasium on August 4, 2020. However, the Board decided to move the meeting to 5:30 pm in order to accommodate the Summer Recreation Program.

Mr. Holmes explained that they had budgeted for radar speed signs for the Conway Lake Beach area. However, because of the pandemic, they are just now looking at ordering them and there is a 6-week delay and an increase in price. He wanted to know if the Board was still interested in moving forward with that purchase this year. The consensus of the Board was that they would wait until next year.

Mr. Holmes explained that the Census representatives had contacted the Town as the compliance rate for Conway is down. They are asking to set up a table in Town and he had suggested the Transfer Station.

Mr. Holmes explained that Town has continued to have numerous issues with overcrowding. The porta-potties continue to become dirty and overloaded; parking remains an issue in many areas of town, and the Conway Lake Beach is currently closed due to high levels of bacteria in the water.

There was discussion regarding the need for visitors to be more courteous and respectful when visiting the area.

Mr. Holmes noted that wait times at Diana's Bath were upwards of two hours during the previous weekend and over on Meeting House Road, over 100 cars had been parked up and down.

There was discussion regarding the need to discuss options and potential parking fees in some of these areas for next year.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Porter noted that the Planning Board would be meeting on Thursday, July 23, 2020.

Mr. Colbath stated that the ZBA had met the previous Wednesday and that the Budget Committee would be meeting in August.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that the ESAA had met on July, 2020. Mr. Colbath mentioned that at the Fryeburg Town Meeting, they had approved the Solar Project but had denied the 99-year lease. Mr. Thibodeau said that there may so be some issues they need to work out because of these results.

Ms. Seavey stated that Valley Vision is concerned about being able to move out of their current location. She is going to reach out to Spectrum to see if she can make any more headway with getting the drop here at Town Hall.

In regards to the Broadband Committee, there had been an underwhelming number of responses to the survey. It was determined that they would make sure it got onto the Town website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer from the Conway Daily Sun asked if they would allow for public input at the meeting with NHDOT regarding the East Conway Road intersection. The Board thought that it would make a good Tele-talk question.

There seemed to be some confusion regarding the airport and the significance of the solar project and the 99-year lease. Mr. Steer said he would look into that further.

Mr. Weathers stated that the Board would be going into non-public session and then returning to public session to take a series of votes.

At 5:37 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under RSA 91:A:3 II (D) to discussion the consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of property. The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91:A:3 II (D)- CONSIDERATION OF THE ACQUISITION,
SALE, OR LEASE OF PROPERTY

At 5:57 pm, the Board returned to public session.

Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to seal the minutes from this non-public session. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign and enter into a lease agreement with the Bank of New Hampshire for the two-story brick building located at 23 Main Street in Conway, New Hampshire. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to accept the first right of refusal for the 6-unit condominium building located at 25 Hawk Road in North Conway, New Hampshire. The motion failed (0-5-0).

Mr. Colbath wanted to mention to the Board to take a look at the New Hampshire Public Radio's website for their comparison of Police Department Budgets as he is sure that will be a hot topic this coming year.

ADJOURN

At 6:00 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary