

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
May 25, 2021**

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 pm in the Meeting Room at the New Town Hall with the following present: C. David Weathers, Mary Carey Seavey, Carl Thibodeau, John Colbath, 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 stated that they were going to be switching agenda item #4 and #8. He also noted that they would be adding 8a. Discussion of Mask Mandate and 8b. Discussion of Transfer Station on 4th of July.

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

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF DRIVEWAY (18 COLBATH STREET)

Public Works Director Andrew Smith explained that the Town standard for driveway permits is no wider than 18 feet with two five-foot flares on each side.

He explained that the McPherson's had paved a total of 27 feet and were looking for Selectmen's approval to keep it as is.

Ms. Seavey asked if the driveway as is would cause any issues to the Town.

Mr. Smith stated that in this particular location he did not believe that it would cause any issues.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to grant approval of the driveway at 18 Colbath Street as constructed. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF HVAC BID

Town Engineer Paul DegliAngeli explained that they had budgeted for \$50,000 for air-conditioning in the Marshall Gymnasium. He noted that this figure was based upon a quote from a HVAC contractor that they had worked with in the last two years.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that they had sent requests for bids to three HVAC contractors as well as advertised. He noted that he only received one bid for \$55,000. He noted that they would also need \$5,000 for the membrane work they would be completing themselves.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that they have room in the Capital Reserve for Maintenance of Leased Buildings budget.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to award the bid for \$55,000 for the air-conditioning and use funds from the Capital Reserve Fund for Maintenance of Leased Buildings and Facilities for the remaining cost. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Colbath inquired about the status of the garage addition.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that they expect to start the work in July and aim to finish before Thanksgiving of this year.

DISCUSSION OF O'BRIEN FIELD UPGRADES

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that he would like to see something get going in terms of upgrades at the O'Brien Field in Center Conway.

He explained that they have contracted with a well company to find out the pertinent details of the well system in order to move forward with irrigation.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that while the rest of the park's use is up for discussion, he would like to begin irrigation on the front part of the park where the ball field is.

Ms. Seavey stated that she, Mr. Eastman, Mr. Marshall, and Mr. Colbath had visited the site. She explained that they would like a pickleball court in the back corner.

There was discussion of green space and potential gardens/landscaping.

Ms. Seavey stated that there are a lot of organizations in the area who may help with the design in terms of plants.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that he would begin concept sketches based off the Board's discussion.

REQUEST TO PLACE FLAGS FROM WEST MAIN STREET TO THE 4 CORNERS

Mr. Holmes stated that like last year, the Conway Village Fire District would like to place flags on 18 poles in Conway Village.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to allow the flags to be placed in Conway Village by the Conway Village Fire District. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF OUTDOOR RETAIL SPACE PERMIT

Mr. Holmes stated that the Board had previously approved continuing the issuing of outdoor dining permits through the end of the year. He explained that they had received a request that they allow outdoor retail permits again.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to allow outdoor retail permits under the same guidelines that existed last year. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ON MASK MANDATE

There was brief discussion regarding whether to keep the mask mandate that was currently in place at Town Hall.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to remove the mask mandate at Town Buildings. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF TRANSFER STATION ON 4TH of JULY

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to close the Transfer Station on Sunday, July 4, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-125 (2018)
- b. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-125 (2019)
- c. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-128
- d. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-129
- e. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-130
- f. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-131
- g. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-132
- h. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-133
- i. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 998-135
- j. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 234-5.034
- k. Pole License Petition #339622 20-1691
- l. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 225-37
- m. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 224-2
- n. Municipality Land Use Change Tax Bill on Map/Lot 225-37
- o. Municipality Land Use Change Tax Bill on Map/Lot 224-2
- p. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 202-188

- q. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 259-78
- r. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 266-140
- s. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 293-6
- t. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 268-104
- u. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 239-4
- v. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 244-2
- w. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed on Map/Lot 295-1
- x. Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 259-78, 266-140, 293-6, 202-188
- y. Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 244-2, 295-1, 239-4, 268-104

Mr. Holmes explained that the abatements a. through i. were part of a property tax appeal case with the phone company.

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

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 5/27/2021

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the AP Manifest dated 5/27/2021. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. AP Manifest dated 5/20/2021
- b. Payroll dated 5/20/2021
- c. Tax Collector's Warrant 2021

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

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. Conway Area Humane Society Walk in the Woods (9/25/2021)
Pending conservation approval

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the special event permit listed above pending Conservation Commission Approval. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

a. Regular and Non-Public Minutes from 5/11/2021

Mr. Weathers stated that on page 14 of the regular minutes, on the fifth line, he would like it to state that “Mr. Weathers recommended they lime, fertilize and seed the area hopefully by September 15, 2021.”

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to adopt the regular and non-public minutes from 5/11/2021 as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes explained that he had received some information regarding the money coming to the Town in June from the Federal Government through the State. He asked the Board to review the document and think of any projects that they could use the money for.

Mr. Holmes noted that the North Conway Community Center had contacted him to see if there would be any interest from the Town to pay to clean the Community Center bathrooms if they opened them up to the public.

Mr. Holmes reviewed the different grant applications that had been made in hopes of funding the public bathroom construction. He thanked Ms. Seavey for her work on this.

Mr. Holmes stated that he had hired an Assistant Building Inspector, Jeremy Gibbs.

Mr. Holmes noted that Kennett was planning their Kennett Caravan through town on June 12, 2021.

Ms. Seavey explained that she had been contacted by a friend whose daughter lives in Jackson, but takes her to Davis Park everyday because she is elderly and does not have a license. They are upset because they will not be able to get a sticker because the daughter lives out of Town.

There was discussion regarding the ability of some people to appeal to the Board if they have special circumstances such as this one.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to grant a parking permit to Kay Frechette so her daughter can transport her to the Town Recreation Facilities. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Thibodeau stated that the transient hangar project at the airport was held up due to delays in material, however, the airport remains busy.

Ms. Seavey stated that the Economic Council meets on Thursday and Valley Vision would be meeting on Friday.

Mr. Colbath stated that the Budget Committee would be meeting on June 16, 2021.

Mr. Colbath stated that the ZBA had met the previous week for 8 hearings as one was withdrawn.

Mr. Weathers explained that the Saco/Swift River Advisory Committee had met regarding a dredge and fill application from what used to be Glen Ellis Campground. He was interested to see what the State would do.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Resident Ray Shakir appeared before the Board to express concerns over the paving project happening on Birch Hill Road.

He explained that several years ago he had talked with Mr. DegliAngeli regarding the need to Birch Hill to be repaved. He was told that they needed to get more funding.

Mr. Shakir stated that he believed the right thing to do would be to take the rock down at least a foot for a gravel base and appropriate drainage. He explained that while the crew doing the work is great, he believes they are doing a botched job because they are not breaking the rock. He noted that he is aware of the expense, however, they are throwing the money out the window.

Mr. Weathers explained that they are leaving it up to the foreman and the Engineer to make the best decisions regarding the work.

Mr. Shakir stated that the Town is incurring great expense because he knows the plows are being destroyed.

Due to building tension in the room, Mr. Weathers declared a recess at 5:08 pm.

At 5:10, the meeting back into session.

Mr. DegliAngeli gave some background on the project. He noted that they have an impact hammer and are chipping away at the rock in places where it needs to be lowered in order to put a gravel cushion.

Public Works Director Andrew Smith noted that they are digging out a lot of material so there will be much better drainage.

Mr. Thibodeau wanted to clarify that the crew was making every effort to ensure that they have a foot of gravel under the pavement. It was stated that yes, they were.

Mr. Shakir stated that if that is what they are doing then he apologizes.

Steven Steiner appeared before the Board.

He thanked the Board for removing the mask mandate.

He said that he believed they should send letters to the person who has the sign at the edge of Town asking visitors to wear a mask. He said that he thought this was anti-tourism.

Ms. Seavey stated that they cannot control what other people do on their property. They are entitled to their opinions.

Daymond Steer from the Conway Daily Sun asked how they felt about the new parking rules going into effect this weekend. Mr. Holmes stated that he was nervous as this was the first year.

At 5:32 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (L). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A :3 II (I) CONSIDERATION OF LEGAL ADVICE

At 6:10 pm, the Board returned to public session.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to seal the minutes from this non-public session as divulgence of the information would render the proposed action ineffective. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

At 5:43 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary