

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
April 26, 2022**

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, 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 explained that they would be removing agenda item #7 and noted that they would be replacing agenda item #9 to be a discussion of the vote and public bathrooms.

They would also be adding the following to agenda item 11:

- nn. Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 273-12
- oo. Application for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 277-18
- pp. Waiver of Municipal Liability on Map/Lot 268-128

Mr. Weathers stated that they would be adding 14a. White Mt. Milers Bucks for Bernie (7/23/22).

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

DISCUSSION OF PINE HILL FRANCHISE

Jason Gagnon from the North Conway Water Precinct appeared before the Board.

He explained that the proposed Continuum project on Pine Hill requires a franchise area for service of sewer and water.

Mr. Gagnon explained that they were seeking a letter of support from the Town agreeing that they support the NCWP in providing sewer and water service to this particular area.

Mr. Colbath stated that he supports the concept.

Ms. Seavey noted that she would like to see the letter of support from the Conway Village Fire District.

DISCUSSION OF BLUEBIRD PROJECT

Eliza Grant stated that they had been approved for the Spruce Moose Grant and have gotten the zoning and planning approvals done.

She explained that she would like to come before the Board in July to request that they sponsor another CDBG project to restore the Bunker Building/North Conway House into 8 long term rental units.

She noted that July would be the start of the new CDBG cycle.

The goal to begin their project is Spring of 2023.

Ms. Grant noted that they are in the process of trying to get the State and National Register of Historic Buildings.

They hope to be completed with the project around 12-18 months after they begin.

Ms. Grant stated that the first two units completed are planning to go to the current tenants who are already in the building.

It was stated that these rentals will all be long term rentals.

Ms. Seavey commended Ms. Grant for her work.

She inquired as to what size units will be in the building.

Ms. Grant noted that on average they will be around 800 square feet with some larger and some smaller.

Mr. Colbath asked if there were a lot of restrictions on the property if they listed the building as historic.

Ms. Grant stated that there is a lot of paperwork, but because they are detail oriented, they believe it is doable.

Ms. Grant noted that they were going to put the porch back on the front of the building.

CONSIDERATION OF UNANTICIPATED REVENUE LESS THAN \$10,000/RSA 31:95-B III

- a. \$500 from VRN Ventures, LLC for the Police K9 Account

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to accept the \$500 from VRN Ventures, LLC for the Police K9 Account. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF OUTDOOR DINING

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to authorize the continuance of outdoor dining through December 31, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Porter stated that he would talk with Mr. Torres about getting this on the Planning Board's radar.

DISCUSSION ON RECOUNT AND BATHROOMS

Mr. Holmes stated that after the recount the previous day, the bathroom article won by a single vote.

Ms. Seavey stated that she thought the recount went really well.

She explained that she would like the Town to now form a committee to start looking into options moving forward.

She stated that she would be happy to sit on that committee moving forward.

Ms. Seavey believed the committee should be made up of the Town Manager, the Town Engineer, Two Selectmen, and Three Voters of Conway.

Mr. Thibodeau noted that in his personal opinion, they should be finding a way to build and maintain the bathrooms without using taxpayer funding.

He offered using ARPA money or installing parking meters in North Conway Village as viable options.

He also stated that parking meters could help to fund the maintenance of other recreation areas in Town.

Mr. Holmes added that they have been discussing parking meters in North Conway for almost two years.

There are still logistical issues to figure out such as snow plowing.

Mr. Holmes stated that we will never be able to decrease taxes by trying to cut budgets.

He added that he planned to apply for a Northern Borders grant and had gotten the letter of intent in just in time.

Mr. Colbath stated that Ms. Inkell and Mr. Meier did a fantastic job with the recount.

Mr. Colbath stated that he would like stakeholders to be involved in the bathroom committee.

Ms. Seavey emphasized that she believed only voters of Conway should be on the committee.

Mr. Porter stated that he agreed with Ms. Seavey and that they should not wait for a recount.

He offered to sit on that committee as well.

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to form a committee to look into building bathrooms in North Conway Village consisting of two selectmen, the Town Manager elect, Town Engineer, and three at large members who are registered voters in the Town of Conway. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Day will put an add in the paper for potential members to apply.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. MOU Between Town of Bartlett and Town of Conway: Cable Channel 1301

- b. MOU Between Town of Fryeburg and Town of Conway: Cable Channel 1301
- c. MOU Between Town of Albany and Town of Conway: Cable Channel 1301
- d. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 249-3
- e. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 250-54
- f. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 258-68.27
- g. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 263-1.81
- h. Municipality Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 249-3
- i. Municipality Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 250-54
- j. Municipality Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 258-68.27
- k. Municipality Land Use Change Tax on Map/Lot 263-1.81
- l. Certification of Yield Tax Assessed on Map/Lot 219-311
- m. Certification of Yield Tax Assessed on Map/Lot 216-73.1
- n. Certification of Yield Tax Assessed on Map/Lot 219-243.1
- o. Certification of Yield Tax Assessed on Map/Lot 219-282
- p. Certification of Yield Tax Assessed on Map/Lot 259-104
- q. Certification of Yield Tax Assessed on Map/Lot 260-52
- r. Warrant Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 219-311
- s. Warrant Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 216-73.1
- t. Warrant Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 219-243.1
- u. Warrant Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 219-282
- v. Warrant Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 259-104
- w. Warrant Yield Tax Levy on Map/Lot 260-52
- x. Warrant Gravel Tax Levy on Map/Lot 238-1
- y. Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 296-21
- z. Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 296-3
- aa. Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 207-7 and 207-12
- bb. Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 207-9
- cc. Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 207-8
- dd. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 232-157
- ee. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 216-73.1
- ff. Notice of Intent to Excavate on Map/Lot 244-16
- gg. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 277-83
- hh. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 254-27
- ii. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 254-29.084
- jj. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 262-83.231
- kk. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 252-31
- ll. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 232-50
- mm. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 263-11
- nn. Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 273-12
- oo. Application for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 277-18
- pp. Waiver of Municipal Liability on Map/Lot 268-128

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

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 4/28/2022

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the AP Manifest dated 4/28/2022. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

(none)

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. White Mt. Milers Bucks for Bernie (7/23/22)

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. Regular and Non-Public Minutes from 4/19/2022

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to adopt the regular and non-public minutes from 4/19/2022 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes explained that the New Hampshire DOT will be holding an information session pertaining to the Route 302 and East Conway Road intersection on May 9, 2022 at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

Mr. Holmes noted that as the Board can see from the number of signature items, the Assessing Department is busier than he has ever seen it.

Mr. Holmes noted that he is still looking into the idea of car chargers for Town Hall.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Ms. Seavey stated that the Economic Council will be meeting the next evening.

Mr. Colbath noted that the ZBA met the previous week and the Budget Committee would be meeting the next evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Jim LeFebvre explained that he was one of the three observers present for the recount and he believed it went as smoothly as it could have.

He suggested that they consider having committee members on the bathroom committee who may have voted no because they might bring a different perspective to the group.

Bill Marvel stated that he did not believe the Town needed to move forward with public bathrooms just because it has been talked about a lot.

He noted that in other towns, public bathrooms tend to be in the Chamber of Commerce buildings.

Mr. Marvel stated that the subject of bathrooms was presented by a private enterprise in hopes to solve a problem that was created by private enterprise.

Mr. Marvel stated that he was frustrated with how close the vote was.

Ms. Seavey stated that it was a shame on the voters who did not come out to vote.

Mr. Marvel agreed and wanted to point out that out of the 16 people who had signed the petition for a recount, 10 of them did not vote in the election.

Linda Burns stated that if people were going to make the effort to go and vote, she urged them to vote on all the articles and not leave things blank.

Quentin Lewis stated that the ballot is extremely long with 35 articles.

Daymond Steer from the Conway Daily Sun questioned whether civic engagement would be a goal for this coming year.

The Board explained to Mr. Steer that information is available through the newspaper and Town Reports and that you can't force people to show up.

Mr. Colbath stated that he had thought the bathroom warrant article would have drawn more people to the election.

Mr. Steer asked what the time frame for the bathroom committee would be.

Mr. Holmes stated that they needed to figure out something before the end of the year or the funds would not be available.

To shorten the warrant in the future, Mr. Holmes stated that they could potentially look into combining some of their capital reserve fund warrant articles, but he would need to do some research.

At 5:01 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (A). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3 II(A) – PERSONNEL

At 5:29 pm, the Board returned to public session.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by 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 5:29 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary