

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
July 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.

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 adding an agenda item 10a. Boat Ramp Funding.

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

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

- a. \$3,000 from The State of New Hampshire for Grant Reimbursement for Two Lap-Tops for Cruisers

Chief Mattei explained that this was a reimbursement for the 50/50 grant with the State for the Lap-Tops for cruisers that are used for traffic enforcement.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to accept the \$3,000 from The State of New Hampshire for Grant Reimbursement for Two Lap-Tops for Cruisers. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF DONATION OF LION'S CLUB BENCH

Mr. Eastman explained that he had spoken with Linda Rafferty from the Lion's Club as they would like to donate a bench for Schouler Park.

Mr. Eastman referred the Board to their packet to see the suggested placement.

Ms. Seavey noted that she was not in favor as the bench did not match the ones that are already in the park.

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to accept the donation of the Lion's Club bench for Schouler Park. The motion carried (4-1-0) with Ms. Seavey in the negative.

DISCUSSION WITH CFVD COMMISSIONERS

Conway Village Fire District Commissioners Steve Bamsay, Mike Digregorio and Tom Buco appeared before the Board.

Mr. Bamsay explained that they have been looking into the dissolution or separation of the Conway Village Fire and Rescue.

He noted they had held one information meeting in which residents of the CVFD were able to ask questions and that they were planning another for August 18, 2022.

Mr. Bamsay stated that many residents want to know what the position of the Selectmen on the District giving up Fire and Rescue Service or even the total dissolution of the district.

Mr. Weathers noted that they had not had a formal discussion.

Mr. Bamsay stated that he personally feels that if they were to dissolve, he would like to have a complete dissolution to allow for Town Wide Fire and Rescue and also a municipal water system that would aid in development.

Mr. Digregorio stated that he believes the Board of Selectmen and the Commissioners should meet before the public hearing on August 18, 2022 to talk about the possibilities.

Mr. Buco noted that he does not support full dissolution at this point.

Mr. Colbath stated that they don't have the information to make a decision.

Mr. Weathers noted that from the people he has talked to, those within the precinct want to maintain their own ambulance service.

It was clarified that the Selectmen set the tone for the level of service provided based on their contracts.

Mr. Colbath stated that there are not enough credentialed people to fill the Fire and Rescue position now.

Mr. Thibodeau and Mr. Porter believed that the public meeting with the CVFD Commissioners should happen after their August 18, 2022 public meeting so they are able to know what questions and concerns need answering.

The Board asked Ms. Snow to get the list of questions and concerns that have been brought up at previous meetings to the Selectmen.

Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, that the Board of Selectmen joint meeting before August 18, 2022. The motion failed (1-4-0) with Ms. Seavey the only voting in the affirmative.

The public hearing for the CVFD was noted to be on August 18, 2022 at 5:00 pm at the Fire Station. 5:00 pm on the 18th

DISCUSSION OF WAY STATION GRANT SPONSORSHIP FOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Pastor Nathan from the Way Station appeared before the Board with a few members of the organization.

He gave an overview of the Way Station, a day resource center, and the services they currently provide.

Pastor Nathan explained that they are requesting the Town consider applying for CDBG planning grant on behalf of the Way Station in order to update the currently building in order to provide better services, but to also investigate putting some transitional housing space in the building as well.

By having space for individuals to stay, they would be able to work with them and connect them to resources and case managers to help get them stabilized in the community.

Pastor Nathan noted that they are currently serving about 30 people a week at the Way Station.

Mr. Weathers asked if they serve only Conway Residents.

It was clarified that they serve the greater Mount Washington Valley, but a large portion are in fact Conway Residents.

It was stated that the maximum request on a planning grant is \$25,000.

Mr. Colbath asked if they had considered approaching the County.

Pastor Nathan noted that they would be open to that as well.

Pastor Nathan explained that they still have some work to do on gathering information and deadlines for the grant but they wanted the Board to be informed.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to table this discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF MWV SUPPORTS RECOVERY REQUEST

Janice Spinney from MWV Supports Recovery appeared before the Board.

She explained that they are continuing to move forward with a plan to create a transitional housing space in the building next to their Sober House.

She noted that this portion of the building will be vacant in about 8 weeks.

They are currently trying to get the building listed as historic in order to obtain LCHIP funding.

They are busy writing grants and are applying for ARPA funds.

Ms. Spinney noted that the transitional housing would be under the MWV Supports Recover umbrella, but would be run by a different agency.

Mr. Holmes advised that they ask for a letter of support from the Town when they decide on what grant they choose to apply for.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Planning Director Jamel Torres explained that they had released the request for qualifications regarding the Master Plan Update Consultant on July 15, 2022.

Those requests are due on September 9, 2022.

They hope to interview and hire a consultant by the end of October.

Mr. Torres added that the Invest NH funding for zoning updates is slated to be available on Friday.

He plans to attend the webinar on Wednesday to get more clarification regarding what they can use the money for.

Mr. Thibodeau noted that he would like to obtain the funds from Invest NH so that they don't have to use the ARPA funds.

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS/REQUESTS FOR ROAD ACCEPTANCE

Mr. Smith explained that they had already received a couple petitions for road acceptance for the 2023 warrant.

While both roads are currently built to Town standards, these additions would require another driver and truck to maintain.

It was noted that if they receive more petitions, they may need to look at the potential impact on equipment and manpower.

There was a brief discussion of the betterment statute which would have residents of a road that is not built to Town standards pay to have them improved.

Mr. DegliAngeli noted that Rob Barsamian is planning to petition for the Town to take over the remainder of Common Court.

Mr. Colbath asked if have a Town road increases the value of houses on that road.

It was stated that it can, but it does not always.

BOAT RAMP FUNDING

Mr. Thibodeau explained that he had been given word from Senator Bradley that the Town can expect a 50% match to rebuild the boat ramp.

He noted that those funds should start to be seen in September.

However, they Board needs to vote on the expenditure of ARPA funds for the Town's portion of the project to be able to move forward with design and engineering.

Give authorization to move forward with design and engineering knowing the other 50% is coming.

Mr. Eastman noted that the second half of the ARPA funds should be arriving in the next two weeks.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to authorize the expenditure of up to \$40,000 of ARPA funds for the reconstruction of the boat ramp. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

Mr. Eastman explained that they had met with the representatives from Charge Point regarding the different options for electric car charging stations.

There are different levels of the program, but for the ability to have two car chargers here at Town Hall, the total cost to own the charges and install the correct electrical would be \$17,000.

They do offer an internal financing option but that would also require the electrical costs too.

Mr. Eastman noted that the payback on the \$17,000 option would be three to five years.

The cost to charge on these chargers would be about \$1.00 to \$3.00 an hour.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that he does not see the Town getting involved in the electric car charger business in the near term.

Mr. Colbath agreed that he would love to see it happen, but there are too many unknowns at the moment.

Mr. Thibodeau explained to the Board that he had talked with Senator Bradley regarding the fact that as the RSA is currently written, revenue from parking meters can only be used on specific infrastructure costs.

He noted that Senator Bradley has agreed to put in legislation to expand the RSA to include things like recreation sites, public bathrooms and more.

APPOINTMENT OF CONWAY FIRE WARDEN

Mr. Eastman explained that he had received a letter of interest from current Assistant Fire Chief in North Conway, Chad McCarthy, for consideration in being appointed for the Deputy Fire Warden position.

Chief Solomon and Chief Merrill had both stated to Mr. Eastman that Mr. McCarthy would be a good selection for the position.

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to recommend the appointment of Chard McCarthy as Deputy Fire Department and to authorize Chairman Weathers to sign on behalf of the Board. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS\

- a. Municipality Land Use Change Tax Bill Map/Lot 259-103
- b. Municipality Land Use Change Tax Bill Map/Lot 201-22.1
- c. Municipality Land Use Change Tax Bill Map/Lot 210-16.1
- d. Municipality Land Use Change Tax Bill Map/Lot 263-1.81
- e. Municipality Land Use Change Tax Bill Map/Lot 263-64
- f. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 259-103
- g. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 201-22.1
- h. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 210-16.1
- i. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 263-1.81
- j. Warrant for Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 263-64
- k. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 245-26
- l. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 219-251.101
- m. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 214-31.3
- n. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 254-26

- o. Selectmen's Deed on Map/Lot 252-45

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the documents above from a through o. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 7/28/2022
- b. Payroll dated 7/28/2022

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the AP Manifest and Payroll dated 7/28/2022. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. AP Manifest dated 7/21/22

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to ratify the AP Manifest dated 7/21/2022. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. MWV Adaptive Sports (9/17/22 with rain date of 9/18/22)

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. Regular and Non-Public Minutes from 7/12/2022

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to adopt the minutes listed above as written. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Eastman reported that we had hired a bathroom attendant to cover Wednesday through Sunday for 40 hours, however, they may have found another applicant who would be able to cover Monday and Tuesday.

They are averaging around 26 people using the facilities each day.

Mr. Eastman thanked Mr. Holmes for his service to the Town and all that he has done for him. He is eternally grateful for his wisdom.

Mr. Holmes noted that he did not anticipate making a new friend in Mr. Eastman during this process but it had been a real pleasure.

He thanked the Board as well.

Mr. Holmes noted that Mr. Mark had brought in his donations for the Police Department and the Town Clerk's office that had been previously voted on as unanticipated revenue.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Thibodeau explained that the Canadian Helicopters would be at the airport again in September.

He noted that the Board Members would be receiving an invitation to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new transient hangar.

Mr. Colbath stated that the Budget Committee would be meeting in August and that subcommittees were meeting regarding questions to the Town, School, and a group to rework the non-profit request applications for the upcoming budget season.

He added that the ZBA had met the previous week.

Mr. Porter noted that the Planning Board would be meeting on Thursday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer from the Conway Daily Sun asked how the Board was going to handle the predicted rise in electric costs.

Mr. Colbath noted that they will have to make adjustments in the budget.

At 6:26 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (I). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC RSA 91-A:3 II (I) EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS

At 7:08 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.

At 7:08 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 RSA 91-A:3 II (A) Personnel

At 7:35 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.

At 7:35 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (C). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC RSA 91-A:3 II (C) TAX MATTER

At 7:50 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 7:50 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary