

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 12, 2023**

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 pm at Town Hall with the following present: Mary Carey Seavey, Carl Thibodeau, John Colbath, Steve Porter and Ryan Shepard, Town Manager John Eastman and Executive Assistant Krista Day.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Seavey led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 6a. Discussion and Signing of Non-Precinct Fire Agreements
- 9a. Discussion of Town Plow
- 11a. Notification of Demo Permit Application for 1750 White Mt. Highway

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

DISCUSSION OF NORTHERN BORDERS GRANT FOR LIBRARY

Library Director David Smolen appeared before the Board.

Mr. Smolen explained that they had received a \$340,000 reimbursement grant from Northern Borders for the purpose of redesigning the Library Park and Grounds so the Library can more effectively carry out their mission.

He explained that they had raised \$10,000 from donations and grants in order to hire a landscape architect.

Mr. Smolen referred the Board to the television where there were depictions of the proposed park and grounds upgrades.

Ms. Seavey noted that she liked the design but would rather not see a fence around the park.

Mr. Porter agreed that the fencing makes it feel shut off.

Mr. Smolen thanked the members for their input and stated that the design is fluid.

Mr. Thibodeau clarified with Mr. Smolen that the Library's match of \$340,000 would not be raised through taxes.

Mr. Smolen agreed with that.

Mr. Thibodeau added that he would also rather see some shrubbery instead of a fence.

Treasurer for the Friends of the Conway Public Library, Ginny Naseuf noted that they had done an extensive survey to see what people's preferences were.

One of the primary concerns was the safety of the patrons in the park as well as sound concerns particularly for Children's programs.

Mr. Smolen noted that they would most likely be asking to encumber the funds into 2025.

PUBLIC HEARING ON METAL DETECTING

Ms. Seavey opened the public hearing at 4:22 pm.

Mr. Eastman explained that they were having a third public hearing

Johnny, back for third time because we made amendments

Page 2 of your packet.

Johnny read the proposed ordinance as follows:

91-1. The practice of metal detection with the disturbance of the ground is prohibited in the following locations:

- Schouler Park
- Whitaker Homesite Ball Fields
- Johnny R. Eastman Park/Dick O'Brien Field

Mr. Steer asked what the enforcement for this ordinance would be.

Mr. Eastman stated that they police could be called and/or the individuals could be asked to leave.

Resident Blaine Nelson asked what exactly they meant by Schouler Park.

Mr. Eastman stated that it would be in front of the train station.

Ms. Seavey closed the public hearing at 4:26 pm.

VOTE ON PROPOSED METAL DETECTING ORDINANCE

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to adopt Chapter 91-1 as follows:

91-1. The practice of metal detection with the disturbance of the ground is prohibited in the following locations:

- Schouler Park

- **Whitaker Homesite Ball Fields**
- **Johnny R. Eastman Park/Dick O'Brien Field**

Disturbance shall be defined as scuffing, digging, poking with feet, hands or any instrument.

Mr. Colbath stated that because there would be no enforcement or penalty it would be no different than not having an ordinance.

Mr. Eastman noted that if there is an ordinance in place, individuals could be asked to leave and/or be trespassed.

The motion carried 4-1-0 with Mr. Colbath in the negative.

DISCUSSION AND SIGNING OF NON-PRECINCT FIRE AGREEMENT

Chief Solomon explained that he had the Non-Precinct Fire Agreements for 2024 for the Board's signature.

As the Town would be taking over Conway Fire as of 2025, he noted that this should be the last year of the agreement.

Mr. Eastman explained that he had met with Mr. DegliAngeli, Ms. Golding, Chief Solomon and Chief McCarthy to review the agreement.

Chief Solomon noted that they cannot make changes to the contract without going to the voters so the figures were the figures.

The total contract for 2024 would be \$500,293.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to sign the non-precinct fire agreements with Conway Fire and North Conway Fire for 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY FOR GOFERR GRANT FOR BOAT RAMP
RECONSTRUCTION

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to authorize Andrew Smith to enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of the Town of Conway with the State of New Hampshire and any of its agencies or departments and further is authorized to execute any documents which may in his judgement be desirable or necessary to effect the purpose of this vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION FOR CHAIR TO SIGN CD57-P REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX
DECLARATION OF CONSIDERATION AND PA-34 INVENTORY OF PROPERTY
TRANSFER

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to authorize the Chair to sign the CD57-P Real Estate Transfer Tax Declaration of Consideration and PA-34 Inventory of Property Transfer. The motion carried unanimously.

WEST SIDE ROAD HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM PHASE 1 PROJECT LETTER

Mr. Weathers expressed his concern with the project and is interested in seeing what the engineering will show.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to authorize the Chair to sign the West Side Road Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Phase 1 Project Letter. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF TOWN PLOW

Mr. Smith explained that they are in need to a new plow.

He noted that he would like to potentially put out a bid for the plow in January and include language in the bid that the purchase would be dependent on the April vote.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that if they don't get the bid out sooner than later, they may not see the plow for a long time.

Mr. Thibodeau noted that they may need to look at increasing the Capital Reserve Fund request with all of the increase in costs for equipment.

Mr. Smith also added that they could look at leasing the equipment as well.

DISCUSSION OF CONCERNS OF MILL STREET

Richard Jacques from 16 Brownfield Road appeared before the Board to express concerns over traffic and speed on Mill Street, particularly near Conway Lake Beach.

He was requesting that the Board approve the purchase and installation of two permanent Radar Signs to help slow people down.

He also stated that perhaps speed bumps would be beneficial as well.

It was Mr. Weathers belief that you cannot put speed bumps on a class 3 or 4 road. David: something in state regulations on class 3 or class 4 road with a speed bump

Linda Burns explained that she does parking enforcement in this area and agrees with Mr. Jacques.

The Board will look into the radar signs.

CLARIFICATION OF VOTE TO SUSPEND ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMITS IN CRANMORE SHORES

Mr. Eastman explained that there needed to be clarification regarding the Board's decision to stop the issuance of building permits in Cranmore Shores so that those who needed to complete projects such as siding and roofs could complete those projects.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to rescind their motion to cease the issuing of building permits for Cranmore shores. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to cease the issuance of building permits in Cranmore Shores for any new construction or construction that increases the building footprint. The motion carried unanimously.

NOTIFICATION OF DEMO PERMIT APPLICATION FOR 60 MELLEN CIRCLE

The Board was notified of the demo permit application that had been submitted for 60 Mellen Circle.

NOTIFICATION OF DEMO PERMIT APPLICATION FOR 1750 WHITE MT HIGHWAY

The Board was notified of the demo permit application that had been submitted for 1750 White Mountain Highway.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 215-42.001
- b. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 266-58
- c. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 264-1
- d. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 263-3
- e. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 293-5
- f. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 262-83.119
- g. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 266-45
- h. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 202-64.038
- i. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 275-64
- j. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 280-24
- k. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 260-86
- l. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 276-20
- m. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 254-29.131
- n. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 280-38
- o. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 254-29.185
- p. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 268-95
- q. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 231-40

- r. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 268-152.002
- s. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 283-22.2
- t. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 258-46

Mr. Porter and Mr. Thibodeau left the room.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to sign the documents listed above in a. through t. The motion carried (3-0-0).

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 9/14/2023

Mr. Porter returned.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to sign the AP Manifest dated 9/14/2023. The motion carried (4-0-0).

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. AP Manifest dated 9/7/2023
- b. Payroll dated 9/7/2023

Mr. Thibodeau returned.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to ratify the documents signed out of session as listed above in a. and b. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

(none)

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. Regular Minutes from 8/29/23

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to adopt the regular minutes from 8/29/23 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Eastman wanted to remind the Board and the public that the 100th Year Celebration for Kennett High School was going to be held beginning on September 22, 2023.

He noted that on September 22, 2023 there would be a parade through Conway Village beginning at 6:00 pm and that there would be no parking allowed on the street for that day.

Mr. Eastman noted that they would also be having fireworks and entertainment on September 22, 2023 as well as the high school homecoming games on September 23rd.

It was noted that the LED conversion for Town Hall was almost complete.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Shepard noted that the Budget Committee would be meeting on September 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Shepard noted that he had a great experience at his first Mudbowl.

Mr. Thibodeau noted that the airport had a record month in August in terms of traffic and fuel sales.

He added that there was a gentleman who was now giving scenic rides.

Mr. Colbath noted that the ZBA would be meeting on September 20, 2023 and the Economic Council would be meeting in two weeks.

Mr. Colbath stated that he had attended the Ribbon Cutting for the Rec Path and noted that Steve Swenson was in attendance.

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

Ms. Seavey noted that Mary and Wayne Balduc had the first rental inspection and had nothing but great things to say.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer from the Conway Daily Sun asked how the Board felt about going to a 7 member Town Council.

Mr. Colbath stated that he had no opinion at this point as the Commission was still working.

Mr. Steer said that more members may be advantageous for committee coverage.

Mr. Colbath stated that the committee structure may change.

Mr. Porter stated that whether they have 5 or 7, he is committed to the community and still believes that voter apathy is still the biggest problem.

Mr. Smith noted that the Boat ramp reconstruction would hopefully start in October.

He stated that people should get their boats out by the Monday of Columbus Day.

ADJOURN

At 5:46 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary