

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
March 19, 2024**

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 pm at Conway Town Hall with the following present: Mary Carey Seavey, Carl Thibodeau, John Colbath, Steve Porter, 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

Ms. Seavey noted that they would be removing agenda item 6 and adding agenda item 9ii. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 253-87.001

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

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

Mr. Eastman wanted to recognize and thank Mark Hounsell for his 45 years of service to the Town of Conway.

Zoning Officer Nick DeVito summarized the following letter that had been sent to the Chair:

As the current Zoning Officer in Conway, I write to you not only in my professional capacity but also as a proud citizen deeply invested in our town's welfare. It is with great pleasure that I nominate Mark Hounsell for the Certificate of Appreciation, acknowledging his exceptional contributions and unwavering dedication to our community. Mark's steadfast commitment has significantly shaped the well-being and prosperity of Conway, rendering him an exemplary candidate for this esteemed recognition.

Throughout his tenure, Mark has exhibited remarkable leadership and unwavering dedication across various community initiatives and projects. His active involvement in both state and local governance is a testament to his extensive political career. Whether serving on the school board or as a selectman, Mark's dedication to the welfare of all residents has been consistently inspiring.

One of Mark's most notable attributes is his exceptional ability to engage with the community. Regardless of political affiliations, Mark possesses the unique capacity to empathize with individuals from all walks of life. His inclusive approach transcends partisan boundaries, epitomizing his commitment to enhancing our community's

collective well-being. Mark's adeptness at uniting community members and stakeholders towards common objectives has yielded tangible and lasting results.

Moreover, Mark's dedication extends far beyond his official responsibilities. He generously volunteers his time and expertise to support local causes and address pressing issues facing our town. His selfless service serves as a beacon of inspiration, embodying the true essence of community spirit.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions and exemplary leadership, I wholeheartedly endorse Mark Hounsell for the Certificate of Appreciation. This gesture not only celebrates his remarkable achievements but also serves as a token of gratitude for his invaluable service to our community.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I am confident that honoring Mark's contributions will not only underscore his remarkable efforts but also inspire others to actively contribute to the betterment of our beloved Conway.

Signed,

Nicholas DeVito (author), Jacqueline White, Ailie Byers
Holly Whitelaw, Ryan O'Conner, Eiza Grant
Valerie Kollander, James Hounsell, Ben Colbath

Mr. Hounsell received a standing ovation.

Mr. Hounsell noted that those who are elected or appointed come and go, but what doesn't change is the stability and strength of the staff.

He stated that the Town would not be near the wonderful place it is if it wasn't for the municipal staff.

He presented a certificate of appreciation to the Conway Town Staff.

Chairman Seavey presented Mr. Hounsell with a certificate of appreciation.

ARBOR DAY PROJECT FOR CONWAY VILLAGE

Public Works Director explained that the company, PC Hoag, had approached him to see if the Town was interested in them injecting a product directly into the tree located at the Town's information booth in Conway Village.

This product would provide up to 2 years of resistance for the tree against the invasive emerald ash borer.

They would do this for free in honor of Arbor Day and would only ask to put a small sign near the tree with their company name on it.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to allow PC Hoag to inject a product into the tree at the information booth in Conway Village and to erect a small sign. The motion carried unanimously.

REAPPOINTMENTS FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to reappoint Larry Huemmler and Peter Minnich to the Conservation Commission for a 3 year term. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Application for Current Use Assessment on Map/Lot 234-69
- b. Conservation Restriction Assessment Application on Map/Lot 263-3
- c. Conservation Restriction Assessment Application on Map/Lot 263-2
- d. Assessing Officials Response to Tax Credits/Exemptions or Tax Deferral Application on Map/Lot 263-57
- e. Assessing Officials Response to Tax Credits/Exemptions or Tax Deferral Application on Map/Lot 254-29.019
- f. Assessing Officials Response to Tax Credits/Exemptions or Tax Deferral Application on Map/Lot 265-3
- g. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions on Map/Lot 235-6.004
- h. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credits/exemptions on Map/Lot 261-50.004
- i. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 280-40
- j. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 268-152.001
- k. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 262.83.107
- l. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 262-83.002
- m. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 265-132
- n. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 251-10
- o. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 251-106
- p. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 247-6
- q. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 250-188
- r. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 250-195
- s. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 280-38
- t. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 262-83.218
- u. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 262-1.101
- v. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 254-62
- w. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 202-63
- x. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 203-53.016

- y. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 203-67.1
- z. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 265-79
- aa. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 280-8
- bb. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 215-5
- cc. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 272-52.20
- dd. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 262-36
- ee. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 253-99
- ff. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 266-42
- gg. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 266-34
- hh. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 268-128
- ii. Abatement of Taxes on Map/Lot 253-87.001

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the document listed above in b. through ii. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 3/21/2024
- b. Payroll dated 3/21/2024

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to sign the AP manifest and payroll dated 3/21/2024. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

(none)

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. White Mt. Community Health Center Whitaker Wander 5K (5/18/24)
- b. MWV Adult Day Center Carroll County Veterans Coalition Conference (5/4/24)
- c. White Mt. Milers Half Marathon and 5K (9/22/24)
- d. MWV Arts Association Art Display at the North Conway Community Center (8/3/24 & 8/4/24)

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the special event applications listed above in a. through d. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. Regular and Non-Public Minutes from 3/12/2024

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to adopt the regular and non-public minutes from 3/12/2024 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Eastman reminded everyone that the Rec Center's mobile easter egg hunt would be happening on March 30, 2024.

Mr. Eastman noted that the NH Bond Bank reported that the interest rates on 20 year bonds were 3.4%.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Shepard stated that the Budget Committee would be meeting on March 27, 2024 and the Historic District Commission would also be meeting that night. He encouraged all voters to get out and vote on April 9, 2024.

Mr. Shepard also drew attention to the refurbished bench that had been completed by the State prison.

Mr. Colbath noted that the ZBA would be meeting the next evening.

Mr. Eastman explained that he was pleased with the results of the refurbished benches and wanted to see if the Board wanted to move forward with having the rest completed.

He noted that one bench cost \$88.

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to move forward with having all of the meeting room benches refinished. The motion carried unanimously.

David Weathers explained that the Conservation Commission met the previous week.

He stated that Town Forest Tim Nolin wants to do a salvage cut in Whitaker Wood due to the demise of a lot of the red oak trees.

He noted that it will yield some revenue for the Town.

They are still in the process of deciding what type of cut they will do.

He invited the Board to meet next week and walk the path with them.

He did want to warn the Board and the public that this cut will be unsightly but it needs to be done.

Mr. Colbath asked what is causing the demise of the red oak.

Mr. Weathers explained that it is a combination of the gypsy moths and drought.

The cut will most likely take place in late May, early June.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer asked how we were doing with the overlay.

Mr. Eastman stated that they are tracking the abatements and will report at a later date as the abatements were just starting to be completed.

At 4:32 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under 91-A:3 II (c). The motion carried unanimously.

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

The Board returned to public session at 4:42 pm.

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 4:42 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under 91-A:3 II (E). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A :3 II (E) PENDING LITIGATION

The Board returned to public session at 4:59 pm.

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 4:59 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under 91-A:3 II (G). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A :3 II (G) SECURITY

The Board returned to public session at 5:10 pm.

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 5:10 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary