

Minutes of Meeting CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

November 15, 2005

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:05 p.m. in the meeting room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen Larry Martin (Chair), Karen Umberger, David Weathers, Gary Webster, and Mark Hounsell; Town Manager, Earl W. Sires; and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman, Martin, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

The Board reviewed and signed various documents contained in the signature folder.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The Board reviewed and approved the manifest dated 11/17/05.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Umberger noted that the regular minutes of 9/27/05 should be corrected to reflect that she led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and not Mr. Martin and he was not in attendance at that meeting. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, to approve the minutes of 9/27/05 as amended and 9/27/05 non-public as written. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Martin abstaining.**

FIRE AGREEMENT

Conway Village Fire Department Chief, Larry Wade, North Conway Fire Department Chief, Pat Preece, Center Conway Fire Department Fire Chief, David Pandora, Center Conway Fire Department Assistant Chief, Ray Leavitt, Redstone Fire Department Fire Chief, Robert Garland as well as several other members of the Fire and Emergency Service Community were present for discussion.

Mr. Sires reviewed that the Non-Precinct Fire Agreement is up renewal. The Board recently received a letter from the three precincts not in the agreement, Center Conway, Redstone and East Conway, offering options they would like to discuss with the Board. (A copy of the letter is attached hereto).

There was a discussion with the various fire officials and the Board concerning the Fire Agreement. Mr. Leavitt stated he feels that all departments should be part of the Agreement and that more thought should be given to this before signing the new Agreement.

Mr. Hounsell stated that he feels the time is right for this Board to send a letter to the School Board to ask them for a PILOT for fire protection.

Mr. Webster questioned if it would be better if the smaller departments would have a capital equipment fund or something similar and if this is their desire would they need this to get passed at a precinct annual meeting. Also, if any Precinct would want to expand their coverage, they would have to get this approved at a precinct meeting and, if it isn't passed, this could tie up our process going into any meetings next year.

Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we rollover the current non precinct fire agreement for one year. Mr. Hounsell commented that we are fortunate to have many fireman and others who respond in emergencies in this town but this Board is responsible to make sure that non precinct area is covered with fire protection and the prudent thing to do at this point is to rollover the agreement for one year and revisit this matter again next year. Ms. Umberger suggesting a follow up to this motion or amend the motion to add language asking the Town Manager to do something next year to facilitate a process to look at this prior to renewal. **Mr. Hounsell amended the motion, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we rollover the current non precinct fire agreement for one year and that we ask the Town Manager to facilitate a process to look at this prior to renewal of the contract next year.** Ms. Umberger also strongly suggested to the precincts currently not included in the Fire Agreement include something in their warrants this year because the Town can't vote on a change to the Fire Agreement until they have acted on it first. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

DISCUSSION OF CONWAY/NORTH CONWAY INTERCONNECTION PROPOSAL

Mr. Sires reviewed the proposal that came out of the Infrastructure Committee regarding interconnection between Conway and North Conway. Mr. Sires stated this is an important issue that will next be discussed with voters of both precincts. North Conway Water Precinct will be holding a discussion tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. The Precincts will also be holding public hearings in the future. Mr. Sires stated that it also may be helpful that at some point to have the Commissioners of the precincts come in to talk with this Board as well. The Board agreed.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED 2006 OPERATING BUDGET

Mr. Sires reviewed that he met with all department heads and reviewed the budget requests for 2006.

Mr. Sires next reviewed the budget narrative for the proposed 2006 operating budget with the Board.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Emergency Management Planning Meeting – Mr. Sires reported there is an Emergency Management Planning Meeting scheduled tomorrow at Conway Village Fire. They will be talking about smallpox planning, epidemics, etc.

MWVEC – Mr. Sires reported he will be attending the Mount Washington Valley Economic Council Annual Dinner on Thursday, November 19, 2005.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Ad Hoc Committee – Mr. Hounsell reported a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee which was formed to discuss the sharing of information, is scheduled for Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

Roundtable Discussion on Traffic Issues – Mr. Hounsell reviewed that the Board will be hosting the Governor's Roundtable Discussion on traffic issues on Monday, November 21, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Echo building in Conway.

School District/Emergency Services - Mr. Hounsell stated he felt the Board should consider sending a letter to the Conway School District requesting they pay a PILOT of \$25-30,000 for fire protection to the town for non precinct fire. Mr. Weathers questioned if this is just for fire protection or for all emergency services. Mr. Hounsell stated it could be for all emergency services. Mr. Martin suggested this be put on a future agenda for discussion. Mr. Sires suggested that the School Resource Officer position be discussed as well.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported a Conservation Commission meeting was held last week. They reviewed a Dredge and Fill permit and also received an extensive review by the Forester.

Signs on West Side Road – Mr. Hounsell commented that he was surprised to hear that the Audley signs on West Side Road would be left there for the winter season and feels this in unfortunate.

Infrastructure Committee – Ms. Umberger reported an Infrastructure Committee meeting was held recently. An update was provided on the work on Route 16.

School Building Committee - Ms. Umberger reported the School Building Committee will be meeting later this evening at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Schedule – The Board briefly discussed moving the next meeting to Monday of next week after the meeting with the Governor. It was agreed that, if possible, the meeting would take place at Echo at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT/MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no public comments or media questions.

ADJOURN

At 5:35 p.m. **Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary