

**Minutes of Meeting  
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

December 13, 2005

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:02 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.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The Board reviewed and approved the manifest dated 12/15/05.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, to approve the minutes of 11/1/05 regular and non public meetings, as written. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

**Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Ms. Umberger, to approve the minutes of 11/15/05, as written. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

REVIEW OF DRAFT POLICY: COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE CONWAY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE TOWN OF CONWAY

Ms. Umberger reviewed a committee was formed consisting of school board members, selectmen, and other town officials due to incidents that occurred last year in the school, i.e. bomb threats. Out of this committee, a policy has now been drafted for communication between the town and school. Ms. Umberger advised that the School has approved of the policy. Mr. Hounsell advised that the school's attorney, John Teague, has also reviewed the policy, and that the school district will also have two readings of the policy. Ms. Umberger next reviewed that public comments will be received by the Board of Selectmen on this proposed policy at a meeting sometime after the first of the year.

PRESENTATION OF HEATING OIL FUNDS FROM ROTARY/KIWANIS

Bill Jones of the Rotary Club of North Conway and Alan Gould of the Kiwanis Club joined the meeting. Mr. Jones presented a check for \$3,200 and Mr. Gould presented a check for \$500 to the Town of Conway to be used for fuel assistance. The Board thanked Mr. Jones and Mr. Gould for the donations from the Rotary Club and the Kiwanis Club.

WARRANT ARTICLES

Police Vehicle – Chief Wagner and Police Commissioners, Porter, Whetton and Doherty, joined the meeting. The Police Commissioners advised they are here to

express concerns over the development at the meeting last week wherein the Board of Selectmen want to put one police vehicle into a warrant article as police depend heavily on vehicles and they are concerned should this article not pass. The Commissioners advised they are here to ask the Board for reconsideration. The Commissioners advised that they called around to other towns, sheriff departments, etc., and most purchase vehicles outright out of their operating budgets. Ms. Umberger suggesting starting a capital reserve fund for police vehicles. There was discussion with the Board. The Board agreed they support two vehicles but it was the method of how to fund the purchase of the vehicles that they would like explored. The Commissioners and the Chief agreed to work with Mr. Sires to develop alternatives.

Generator for Public Works – Mr. Sires advised the warrant article for the generator for the public works department is being withdrawn and a smaller plan is being proposed instead.

Public Works Union Agreement – Mr. Sires advised this warrant article will have no financial implications.

Police Union Agreement – Mr. Sires advised there is no figure for this warrant article as yet.

PEG Expendable Trust - Mr. Sires advised this is estimated to be \$95,000 and the Town will know in approximately one month or so how much we will be receiving. The Board will make a decision on the amount when we are in receipt of the money.

Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund – Mr. Sires advised this article is for \$125,000 and is siding for the Police Department and Town Hall.

Improvements to Schouler Park – Mr. Sires reviewed that suggestions were made by Parks Commission for improvements to Schouler Park and \$40,000 is an the estimate at this point.

Conway Recreation Playground – Assistant Recreation Director, Mike Lane, joined the meeting for this discussion. Mr. Sires and Mr. Lane reviewed information gathered regarding playground equipment with the Board. This warrant article is for \$15,000.

Dispatch Recording Equipment - Mr. Sires reviewed a warrant article for dispatch recording equipment in the amount of \$25,000. Mr. Webster stated he would like to see a grant applied for for this equipment. Mr. Sires advised that Chief Wagner looked into this and there is not a lot available for this equipment.

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Conway Assessing Practices – Mr. Sires distributed a copy of a memo from Tax Assessor, Tom Holmes, containing a final report of Department of Revenue's review of Conway Assessing Practices for the Board's review.

Budget Committee – Mr. Sires reported the Budget Committee will be meeting tomorrow night, December 14, 2005 and Monday, December 19, 2005.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Ambulance Contract – Mr. Hounsell stated he feels that for the final year of the existing ambulance contract we should start at square one, open it up, and put out a request for proposals. Mr. Hounsell stated he felt that by doing this it would eliminate the problem of not having a contract in place in January of 2007. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, that we publish in the local newspaper a Request for Proposal (RFP) for ambulance service for a three (3) year period of January 2007 through January 2009 and to have those proposals received by 5:00 p.m. January 16, 2006 at the Town office.** There was brief discussion. Mr. Webster suggested that we need to refine what we are looking for at this point. There was discussion. **Mr. Webster withdrew his second and Mr. Hounsell withdrew his motion.**

**Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Ms. Umberger, that the Conway Board of Selectmen go out to bid for multi year ambulance services to begin January 2007 and to put the RFP together for that project.** There was brief discussion. It was also suggested and agreed to use the current contract scope as a basis and the current minimum standards (BLS) and to notify people they are free to propose alternatives. It was also agreed this would be advertised in the local newspaper, Portland newspaper, and Manchester newspaper. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Mountain Garden Club – Mr. Martin thanked the Mountain Garden Club for wreaths they provided for the front doors of Town Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT/MEDIA QUESTIONS

Laura Slitt advised that she would like to speak on the issue of air quality and global warming. Ms. Slitt advised that she called the State of New Hampshire to see if there is and motor vehicle idling policy and was advised that it is illegal to leave a vehicle idling in the State of New Hampshire. Ms. Slitt wanted to make it know that this is an air quality issue and a health issue for everyone. Ms. Slitt distributed literature received from the State to the Board for review.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3,II(c)/Tax Matter

**Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3,II(c) to discuss a tax matter. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

The Board returned to regular session at the conclusion of the non-public session. The minutes of the non-public session were not sealed.

ADJOURN

At 6:10 p.m., **Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Ms. Umberger to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell  
Executive Secretary