

Minutes of Meeting CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

November 30, 2006

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 3:12 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen Larry Martin (Chair), Karen Umberger, Gary Webster, and Mark Hounsell; Town Manager, Earl W. Sires; and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell

Selectman, David Weathers, was not in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

The Board reviewed and signed one Special Event permit in the document folder.

ATTORNEY MALIA OPINION RE: POLICE AND LIBRARY BUDGETS

Town Attorney, Peter Malia, was present for discussion. Finance Director, Lucy Philbrick was also present.

Attorney Malia discussed his written opinion regarding separating the police and library budgets into their own articles on the warrant with the Board. Attorney Malia stated the police and library budgets could be placed into their own articles, however they must follow the same process as other departments in developing a budget as they are part of the Town's operating Budget.

Mr. Sires advised that Don Borrer of the NH Division of Revenue Administration (DRA) has recommended not putting the articles on the warrant this way and has advised that the DRA may disallow them.

There was next a discussion as to if there were three articles would there be a default budget for each. Mr. Sires clarified that there would not be a default budget for each; there is only a default budget as a whole.

There was next discussion of a scenario where if there were three articles placed on the warrant and only one of the three fails. After discussion of this scenario, there was no clear answer as to what would occur.

There was next a brief discussion as to whether the Board could recommend a different number than the Police Department for the budget. Attorney Malia advised the Board could recommend a different number.

After further discussion, the Board agreed they would like more time to think about this matter. Mr. Sires should have further discussion with Don Borrer of the DRA regarding default budget for three articles, three articles, split votes on three articles, etc.

Lastly, there was a brief discussion regarding the agreement in place between the Police Department and the Board of Selectmen and also the fact there is no similar agreement between the Library Trustees and the Board of Selectmen. Attorney Malia suggested adding to the agreement with the police such things as going to the Budget Committee when things in the budget change.

BUDGET REVIEW

Mr. Sires reviewed the Joint Town School Committee had met as he had reported at Tuesday's meeting. There is no formal recommendation from the Committee as this is still being developed. Mr. Sires next advised the town would be staying with the current plan and moving forward over the next year toward a plan with a deductible and a plan to compensate employees for same.

Ms. Philbrick reviewed a letter in the Board's budget books from the NH Retirement System wherein contributions for employees will rise in 2007.

Mr. Sires next advised that on Tuesday the Board will be reviewing projected revenues, additional recreation information, department revenue projections, warrant articles and capital reserve funds items.

Mr. Sires next reviewed that the Chair was to appoint two Board members regarding the non precinct fire agreement meeting. Ms. Umberger and Mr. Hounsell volunteered. Ms. Umberger suggested a short meeting be scheduled. Mr. Sires distributed a copy of an email from Bob Barriault on this matter for the Board's review.

ADJOURN

Mr. Webster moved, seconded by Ms. Umberger, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 4-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary