

Minutes of Meeting CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

December 7, 2006

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 3:10 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen Larry Martin (Chair), David Weathers, Karen Umberger, 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.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Police – Police Chief, Ed Wagner, Police Lt. Joe Faia, and Police Commissioners, Paul Whetton and David Doherty were present for discussion.

Chief Wagner advised that the additional officer was taken out of the proposed 2007 and the regular officer line has been changed to \$975,932. Chief Wagner next reviewed new budget numbers for benefits as they will change as well since the new officer has been taken out and this affects all benefits lines. Chief Wagner advised the new budget total for the police is \$2,254,028.

Mr. Weathers questioned how the police plan on addressing coverage at both the Junior and Senior High Schools. Chief Wagner advised they do not have enough personnel to cover both and that he and Mr. Sires discussed same and may discuss this with the school and would also ask them for help with this. Mr. Sires added that there hasn't yet been an official request from the school for an officer. Chief Wagner added that by removing the officer it is not the feeling of the Chief or the Commissioners that they don't need the officer.

Ms. Umberger questioned if the Police will have any warrant articles. Chief Wagner advised they anticipate warrant articles for \$10,000 for a recording device and the police cruiser capital reserve fund for \$38,000.

Ms. Umberger next requested a copy of the police union contract.

Mr. Sires next brought up discussion regarding previous discussion for three warrant articles for the budget. Mr. Sires advised this has gone through legal review and also was reviewed by Don Borrer of the DRA. Mr. Sires advised that the DRA did not know the answer about if a split vote occurred and what would end up happening with the default budget etc. Mr. Sires advised that he would not recommend the Board proceeding with three separate articles but would recommend taking a look at the agreement between the Town and the Police. After discussion, the general consensus of the Board was to look at the agreement at this point and stay with one budget article.

Ms. Umberger questioned the uniform maintenance line of the police budget. There was brief discussion. Chief Wagner advised that he would review the figure and advise on same.

Union Negotiations – At 4:38 p.m. the Board took a brief recess from their regular meeting for union negotiation discussions. (NH RSA 91-A:2,1(b)) The Board reconvened their regular meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Finance Director, Lucy Philbrick, joined the meeting.

Union – **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, to agree to the agreement between the Town of Conway and Local 859 AFL-CIO with the amendments discussed. The motion carried unanimously.**

Recreation – Recreation Director, John Eastman, joined the meeting. Mr. Sires briefly reviewed discussions regarding the Recreation budget to date.

Mr. Eastman reviewed a request for the recreation administrative support person to move to nineteen hours per week.

Mr. Sires reviewed that a recommendation was made to look at a fee based approach for summer programs however the Board was not in favor of this approach. Mr. Sires next reviewed revolving fund numbers with the Board regarding fee based programs.

There was next a discussion regarding the hours per week requested for the position, benefits, how the increase in hours would benefit the recreation department, etc.

Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that the Board of Selectmen make the initial recommendation for the Recreation Department of \$314,757 with no comment at this time regarding the possibility of fees. There was a brief discussion. Mr. Hounsell withdrew his second and Mr. Webster withdrew the motion.

There was next brief discussion regarding the part time administrative position at the Recreation Department. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we keep the position at twenty four (24) hours for budget purposes. The motion carried 3-2-0 with Messrs. Webster, Hounsell and Weathers in support and Ms. Umberger and Mr. Martin opposed.**

Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we submit \$314,757 to the Budget Committee at this time. The motion carried 3-2-0 with Messrs. Webster, Hounsell and Weathers in support and Ms. Umberger and Mr. Martin opposed.

Warrant Articles - Mr. Sires submitted a draft copy of warrant articles to date to the Board for review. There was no discussion at this time.

Mr. Weathers left the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Insurance – Ms. Philbrick questioned if the Board is going to offer the health insurance plan with the \$500 deductible plan and offer 80% of the cost of the plan. Ms. Philbrick reviewed plans that are available and also questioned if the Board would be offering the two additional plans that are available. There was a brief discussion by the

Board. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Hounsell that we offer the five plans at 80% of the Matthew Thornton B5/10/20/30. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

TASKER FIELD

Mr. Sires advised he was contacted by Ed Ashnault of the American Legion in Conway regarding the lease of the ballfield on Tasker Hill. The lease with the town was for ten years and is up for renewal in 2008. The American Legion is asking the lease now be a year to year lease as they are not sure where they are not sure of the plans for the future. They have also asked that the Town include in the new lease language that includes snow removal on the parking lot. Mr. Sires reviewed that he spoke with Recreation Director, John Eastman, regarding the field who advised that Cal Ripken games and other activities are scheduled at the field but that it is not always used directly by the Town's programs. Mr. Sires further advised that he spoke with Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, and although we are not looking for additional plowing, this could be added. The Board briefly discussed this and requested that Mr. Sires present draft lease at the next meeting along with a map of the area to be plowed.

LETTER OF SUPPORT OF THE NORTHERN CARROLL COUNTY
NEW HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

The Board reviewed a draft letter to National Association of County and City Health Officials for support of the Northern Carroll County New Hampshire Medical Reserve Corps unit's application for NACCHO-MRC Capacity-Building funding concerning regional pandemic planning. **Ms. Umberger moved, seconded by Mr. Hounsell, to authorize the Chair to sign the letter. The motion carried 3-1-0 with Mr. Hounsell voting in the negative.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS / MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no public comments or media questions.

ADJOURN

At 5:56 p.m., **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary