

## **Minutes of Meeting CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

May 27, 2008

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), C. David Weathers, Mark Hounsell, Howard C. Dickinson, and Bob Drinkhall; 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 AGENDA

Mr. Martin advised Mr. Hounsell would like to add a discussion of Intervale Crossroad to the agenda. Mr. Martin advised this would be added after item 8 and would become Item 8.5. Mr. Martin asked if the Board accepts the agenda as amended and the Board unanimously agreed.

Mr. Hounsell next asked if any of the motions on the table listed at the bottom of the agenda were ready to be taken off at this time. The Board agreed they were not ready to take them off the table.

### SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

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

### CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Board reviewed and signed the manifest dated May 29, 2008.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to approve the minutes of 4/15/08, 4/29/08 & 5/6/08.** Mr. Drinkhall offered the following correction to the minutes of May 6, 2008: Page 5, last paragraph, first sentence, the word "risk" should be added after insurance company. The Board agreed. **Mr. Hounsell amended the motion, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to approve the minutes of 4/15/08 and 4/29/08 as written and 5/6/08 as amended. The motion carried unanimously.**

### CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CONWAY AND THE USVLT

Linda Comeau, David Brooks, Tom Henderson of the Upper Saco Valley Land Trust (USVLT) and Paul Pinkham, Chair of the Conservation Commission, joined the meeting.

Mr. Sires reviewed a copy of a proposed agreement between the Town and the USVLT with the Board (See attached). Ms. Comeau pointed out that the agreement is

one year but is renewable and Mr. Sires confirmed same. Mr. Pinkham commented this is a great asset to the community and the town will benefit in the long haul from this relationship. Mr. Weathers commented that the Conservation Commission was also unanimously in support of this agreement.

The Board reviewed and agreed to make the agreement effective June 1 to May 31, 2009. It was also agreed the MOU should be changed to April 1 of the agreement year. **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Conway and the Upper Saco Valley Land trust with corrections as inserted. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN APPROVAL

Mr. Sires reviewed a Hazard Mitigation planning document prepared by the State of New Hampshire and the Conway Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee for the town to help us address planning requirements. Mr. Sires explained this document puts us in a position for funding. This document needs Board of Selectmen approval. Mr. Sires next reviewed the makeup of the committee who helped with the plan and noted Mr. Weathers' valuable contributions to the plan.

Mr. Hounsell stated he has some concerns as we have an Infrastructure Committee and Capital Improvements Committee etc and questioned the communication between these committees. Mr. Sires advised this document addresses emergency situations and could be submitted to the Capital Improvements Committee to incorporate into their plan.

**Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we approve the Hazard Mitigation Plan that was prepared by the Conway Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and submitted to us on May 27, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### INTERVALE CROSSROAD

Mr. Hounsell distributed information he prepared concerning infrastructure improvements planned by the NCWP and the Town to Intervale Cross Road to the Board and reviewed same. (See attached).

**Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, that the town should take action on the town portion of the project by declaring that A.J. Coleman is the apparent low bidder on Alternate A and communicate to the NCWP Commissioners of this declaration prior to the next meeting of the Precinct commissioners. Furthermore, the town manager is directed to inform the NCWP that the town will only consider paying the amount of the "responsive, responsible low bidder" on Alternate A.** Public works Director, Paul DegliAngeli advised that he has a meeting with the NCWP scheduled tomorrow for this very purpose. Mr. DegliAngeli stated he can't say if this is an option for us at this time but he is meeting with David Bernier and engineers tomorrow to go over the issues. Mr. Hounsell stated if the NCWP awards the contract to another it will cost the town \$156,000. There was lengthy discussion regarding the project, costs, awarding the contract and bundling of the tasks or separating them. **The motion carried 5-0-0**

### DISCUSSION REGARDING SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION

Mr. Martin advised there are people in the audience who want to talk about the application process. Mr. Martin advised we will take input and suggestions under advisement.

Dot Seybold stated she has read through the rules and feels they are fairly reasonable with the exception of some of the fees and they way things are written and applied. Ms. Seybold advised she is concerned only with events on private property. Ms. Seybold suggested two separate applications would be better, one for private and one for public. Ms. Seybold stated she also has an issue with the advertising for special events. Ms. Seybold stated she feels advertising is the wrong term to use and feels the right term is signage. Ms. Seybold stated she also feels that some of this is also difficult to understand and doesn't feel that all is covered and recommends looking at the language. Ms. Seybold next discussed fees and stated she doesn't feel they are unreasonable. Ms. Seybold advised that she did look at the fees of other municipalities and Conway's are reasonable. Ms. Seybold further added she felt there is some confusion with non profit events that have for profit involved and the fees for these events. Ms. Seybold next stated another issue she has is with how cumbersome she feels it is for a business to get an event permit on private property. Ms. Seybold advised that she could provide input and suggestions for the application process.

There was next a general discussion regarding the number of events held each year in the Town of Conway, both on public and on private property. The Board asked Ms. Seybold to bullet some points that she felt were important to clarify on the application and Ms. Seybold agreed to do same. Mr. Sires also reviewed the definition of a special event with the Board and Ms. Seybold as defined in the Special Event Guidelines.

### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Cable Consultant Services – Mr. Sires reported an ad will be placed in the newspaper for cable consultant services

Methadone Clinic – Mr. Sires distributed a letter prepared to send to Mr. Potter of Merrimack Services regarding the proposed methadone clinic.

Easement on Conway Public Library Property – Mr. Sires reported the Library Board has not reviewed the easement yet but will be looking at it and will get back to the Town on this matter.

Snowmobile Damage at Crossings – Mr. Hounsell questioned if the Town has heard back from the state yet on this matter. Mr. Sires reported the Town has contacted the State and are waiting for a response back.

### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Red Jacket – Mr. Drinkhall questioned if the Town has heard anything about the court costs, fee structure, etc with regard to the Red Jacket. Mr. Sires reported that the matter of costs is still in court and, the costs are increasing due to it still being in court. Mr. Sires further advised that Town Planner, Mr. Irving, and Building Inspector, Mr. Pandora, are meeting regarding the permit costs.

North-South Road Roundabout – Mr. Drinkhall requested an update on the damage to the roundabout. Mr. Sires reported the Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, is meeting with the contractor in this regard.

Financial Future – Mr. Drinkhall commented he does not foresee the financial future being terribly bright, i.e. heating oil prices rising, etc. Mr. Drinkhall asked about being proactive with heating oil, welfare, transportation costs, etc. Mr. Sires stated that within the next couple of weeks he would like to come to the Board to talk about the General Assistance budget. With regard to the overall budget, Mr. Sires stated we do have a budget we can manage this year. Mr. Sires reviewed that we don't do any capital purchasing until the end of the year. Mr. Sires suggested talking about next year's budget and also the need to make adjustments in the welfare budget. Mr. Hounsell reviewed that he had mentioned earlier in the year looking at next year's budget and suggested putting a cap on same which he feels is proactive.

Bypass – Mr. Dickinson questioned if the Town has made any progress in determining from the State how much money they have paid out for takings of property for the bypass for eminent domain and, also, if they have it broken down into the three phases. Mr. Dickinson stated he feels this information is fairly significant and would be interesting.

Methadone Clinic – Mr. Dickinson commented that in last Friday's Conway Daily Sun there was an article that stated the Methadone Clinic was not ruled out for Conway. Mr. Dickinson stated he has left a package of newspaper stories, etc. for the Board's review. Mr. Dickinson further advised that he ran into Sheriff Hilliard while he was in Concord, New Hampshire, and he said whatever you do don't let them come to town. Mr. Dickinson next reviewed a proposed letter he prepared with the Board and also made some corrections to same and asked for the Board's consideration on the letter. Mr. Dickinson stated he feels this companions the letter sent today signed by the chair as this proposed letter is directed to the legislative process which got us into this pickle. Mr. Dickinson further added he hopes we can move forward on this because the legislature is still in session. Mr. Dickinson asked to move the letter forward for all signatures. **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Hounsell, that we move forward with the letter and have it drafted for all signatures.** Mr. Hounsell stated that Mr. Dickinson's point is correct and the rules in New Hampshire make is the easiest state to set up a methadone clinic and that we need to amend the law and put in some safeguards. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Viewer Noise Complaint – Mr. Hounsell advised that he received a complaint from a television viewer of the meeting regarding noise during the meeting. The viewer asked for a decrease of the rattling of papers during the meeting.

Crosswalks – Mr. Hounsell thanked the town crew for taking care of the crosswalks. Mr. Hounsell commented this makes it a lot safer with the crosswalks.

Road Striping – Mr. Weathers asked about the Town's plan for road striping. Mr. Sires advised road striping will be done on an "as can" basis.

Meeting Schedule – Mr. Martin reviewed there will be no meeting next week, June 3, 2008. The next Board meeting will be June 10, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / MEDIA QUESTIONS

Valley Vision Videographer, Gus, advised they are trying to get better microphones and he is trying to control paper sounds as well while taping.

ADJOURN

At 5:31 p.m., **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell  
Executive Secretary