

**Minutes of Meeting  
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

December 16, 2008

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 pm 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 Weathers 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.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Board reviewed and signed the manifest dated December 18, 2008.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board agreed to carry consideration of minutes to the next meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION

There were no special event applications for the Board to consider.

BUDGET DISUCSSION

Rec/Teen Center - Melissa Stacey distributed information and statistics to the Board regarding the Recreation and Teen Center and reviewed same. Ms. Stacy spoke in favor of the Teen Center. Ms. Stacy further discussed the Recreation Revolving Fund with the Board. Ms. Stacy requested the Board reconsider their vote on the Teen Center.

**Mr. Martin moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to rescind the vote on the Teen Center.** Mr. Hounsell pointed out this vote would require 2/3 vote to pass and the chair agreed. Mr. Martin next stated that he feels Ms. Stacey presented a good case and felt this matter should be on the floor for discussion. Mr. Weathers advised his intention was to reduce and not to remove the Teen Center program and also pointed out that this can be adjusted on the floor at the Deliberative Portion of Town Meeting. There were no further Board or public comments and the question was moved. **The motion failed 2-3-0 with Messrs. Weathers and Martin voting in the affirmative and Messrs. Drinkhall, Dickinson and Hounsell voting in the negative.**

Warrant Articles - Mr. Sires distributed a draft copy of warrant articles to the board for review.

Highway Garage - Mr. Drinkhall stated he has comments on the proposed garage. Mr. Drinkhall distributed a sheet with comparisons to Fryeburg and Brownfield and numbers for constructions of garages. Mr. Drinkhall stated he feels we can do the new garage in Conway for less than is proposed.

Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed the figures for the garages. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed that one difference is theirs is wood and ours would be steel. The building we are proposing, the code requires steel. Mr. DegliAngeli also questioned when the other garages were constructed. Mr. DegliAngeli next advised that he will be making the trip with Mr. Drinkhall to look at the other structures. Mr. DegliAngeli further advised that you have to look at other comparisons as well such as electrical, etc. Mr. DegliAngeli also pointed out that the Board can chose not to build to town code if they so choose.

There was next a discussion regarding Capital Reserve Fund vs a Bond. Mr. Martin pointed out that if the Town bonds this, payments wouldn't start until next year.

After further discussion, the Board agreed they would like to gather additional information regarding the buildings, etc and also explore further the idea of bonding, etc. Mr. Hounsell advised he would support a bond so long as the Town uses the construction management plan method.

Mr. Sires advised that with regard to the further research on garages, Mr. Drinkhall is taking the lead and Mr. DegliAngeli will be working with him and will be reporting back. The Board agreed and okayed this plan. Mr. Sires next advised that if the Board is considering bonding, there is a process and we have to be careful of the timing of the process.

**Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that the Board of Selectmen place a bond article on the town warrant not to exceed \$1,200,000 and also that the manner by which the work is performed be by construction management plan. There was brief discussion. Mr. Hounsell amended the motion, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that the Board of Selectmen place a bond article on the town warrant not to exceed \$1,000,000 and also that the manner by which the work is performed be by construction management plan. The motion carried 3-2-0 with Messrs. Hounsell, Weathers and Martin in the affirmative and Messrs. Drinkhall and Dickinson in the negative. After the vote, Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to reconsider. The motion to reconsider carried 5-0-0. Thereafter, Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to table the motion. The motion to table carried 5-0-0.**

PEG Expendable Trust - **Mr. Hounsell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, the selectmen inform the appropriate entities that in accordance with the terms of the Cable Franchise Agreement the town currently has with Time Warner that the percentage charged to Time Warner will be increased from 3% to 5%. Further, that the Selectmen shall place before the voters meeting at the 2009 deliberative meeting a special article which shall state; "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) from franchise fees to add to the PEG EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND, to support the operation and**

**equipment needs of the Public, Education, and Government station and that all future franchise fee revenues and balances currently in the PEG EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND be available to the town for use in the 2009 Operating Budget in order to offset property taxes. No property tax funds will be raised to support this warrant article.”**

Mr. Weathers questioned if voters also decide the 3% to 5% increase. Mr. Hounsell stated it would be the Board's decision. Mr. Weathers stated he would like to hear from voter's fist on how they feel about an increase of 3% to 5%. There was brief discussion by the Board. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, to table the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.** Mr. Hounsell requested this matter be an item on the next agenda. The Board agreed.

Police Capital Reserve Fund – Mr. Hounsell stated he did not think this should be asked for this year. Mr. Drinkhall stated he feels this would be a mistake as it would just catch up with us in coming years. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to write an article to appropriate \$38,000 for police vehicle capital reserve fund. The motion carried 3-2-0 with Messrs. Drinkhall, Weathers and Martin in the affirmative and Messrs. Dickinson and Hounsell in the negative.**

#### MOUNT WASHINGTON VALLEY SKI TOURING ASSOCIATION CONTRACT

Mr. Sires reviewed the MWVSTA contract remains in the Recreation budget in the amount of \$3,000. This contact presented is the same contract as in years past but with some rate increases, which go up slightly.

**Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, that the Town of Conway not participate in the Mount Washington Valley Ski Touring Association annual operating agreement for the year 2009-2010.** Mr. Weathers questions if this is for the entire agreement or just one item. Mr. Hounsell stated the motion is to not participate. There was discussion of amending the amount in paragraph #8 of the agreement to \$1. **Mr. Dickinson withdrew the second and Mr. Hounsell withdrew his motion.**

**Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Hounsell, to that funding be in the amount of \$1.** (Paragraph 8 of the contract). Mr. Sires advised they may not be able to have the program. Mr. Sires advised that students use the program and also families too. Mr. Sires further added that you may hear from people in town that this is something that also brings people to the town. Mr. Sires further added there are several outfits that also participate in this and there are several state and regional meets held at this location. Mr. Drinkhall questioned if it would be more equitable to charge residents a fee instead of the \$3,000. Mr. Hounsell stated he thinks the \$3,000 is excessive and feels the amount should be \$1,000. Mr. Martin suggested amending the amount to \$2,500. **Mr. Martin moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, to amend the motion that under paragraph eight we change \$1 to \$2500. The motion to amend the motion carried 4-1-0 with Messrs. Drinkhall, Hounsell, Weathers and Martin in the affirmative and Mr. Dickinson in the negative.** The Board next proceeded to vote on the motion **as amended. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Mr. Hounsell questioned if this changes the recreation budget. Mr. Sires advised that it reduces the recreation budget by \$500. Mr. Sires further reviewed that when the final budget is brought forward the board will have a chance to amend.

Recreation Revolving Fund – Ms. Philbrick reviewed \$63,000 in the recreation revolving fund and she thought there had previously been a motion on same. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that we affirm our position that an amount not to exceed \$63,000 be transferred from the Recreation Revolving fund to the Recreation Budget. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Mr. Sires reviewed that Rhoda Quint would like to ask for an increase in the vehicle decal fee. This would generate revenue of \$7,000. **Mr. Hounsell moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers, that the Board of Selectmen through the Town Manager tell the Town Clerk/Tax Collector that we have no objection to her increasing the fees according to the RSA. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Congresswoman Shea-Porter – Mr. Sires questioned if the Congresswoman could meet informally to talk about issues of concern and public works funding. Mr. Sires asked for volunteers for the meeting. Mr. Drinkhall and Mr. Dickinson advised they would attend. Mr. Hounsell advised he would like it taped by Valley Vision. Mr. Sires stated it is an informal meeting and they may not want it taped. Mr. Martin stated we can always call and cancel Valley Vision. Mr. Sires reviewed issues to be discussed at the meeting. The Board also discussed the southern bypass in general. The Board was in general agreement they were not in favor of fasttracking this. Mr. Hounsell however, felt we didn't need to delay it.

Budget Committee – Mr. Sires reported a Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. Mr. Sires advised he will be asking the chair to ask budget committee members to funnel requests for information through the chair. Mr. Sires stated he would ask Board to do same through him and he will get info to all Board members.

#### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

DWI Task Force – Mr. Hounsell stated he feels this may cloud jurisdictional boundaries and questioned what results if Conway is going to Madison Bartlett etc and how much will this cost Conway taxpayers. How many police officers do we want from other towns coming to the Town of Conway and are we opening up our borders.

Public Hearing Notices – Chairman Martin read aloud two public hearing notices for January 6.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS / MEDIA QUESTIONS

Melissa Stacy reviewed that non profit day is February 7, 2009,

Bill Edmunds of Valley Vision questioned Mr. Hounsell's proposal regarding \$1 and the 3-5% and if this will be one warrant article or two. It was advised that only one would be a warrant article is the \$1. Mr. Edmunds questioned the purpose of the \$1. Mr. Hounsell advised to see if people come out and support it at town meeting. It will be up to the people to increase it or not.

Casey Conley questioned the outcome of the bond issue. Mr. Martin advised it was tabled to get more information.

NON PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3-II(c) / DRIVEWAY PERMIT

At 6:00 p.m., **Mr. Weathers moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, to go into non public session under RSA 91-A:3,II(c) to discuss a driveway permit. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

At 6:10 p.m. the Board returned to regular session. A motion to seal was made and carried in non public session.

ADJOURN

At 6:11 p.m., **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Hounsell, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell  
Executive Secretary