

**Minutes of Meeting  
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

June 16, 2009

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, Howard C. Dickinson, Bob Drinkhall, and Mike DiGregorio; 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.

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 June 16, 2009

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Consideration of minutes was carried to the next meeting

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

Laconia Harley Davidson - MWV HOG Members BBQ – Mr. Martin reviewed this event is scheduled for June 17, 2009. The Board questioned the location for this event. Staff advised it would be held at Laconia Harley Davidson on Route 16 in Conway. **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, to approve the Special Event Application for Laconia Harley Davidson MWV HOG Members BBQ. The motion carried unanimously.**

Conway Village Area Chamber of Commerce - Village Festival and Soup A Thon – **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, to approve the Special Event Application for Conway Village Area Chamber of Commerce Village Festival and Soup A Thon.** The Board reviewed the date of this event is June 27, 2009. **The motion carried unanimously.**

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE ZBA

Mr. Sires reviewed the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) needs additional alternates. The Planning Director, Tom Irving, is asking if there are any Board of Selectmen members who would be interested in serving as alternates on the committee or any members of the public. It was further explained there have been occasions where ZBA members have needed to recuse themselves for any number of reasons and they have been short members. The ZBA meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at

7:30 p.m. Chairman Martin stated the information is out that and asked that anyone interested to please come forward and contact town hall.

#### UPDATE ON STREETLIGHT SURVEY PROJECT

Mr. Sires reported that that Planning Director, Tom Irving, completed a streetlight survey and is present at the meeting to discuss same and to see if the Board would like to put a committee together to further review street lighting in the Town of Conway.

Mr. Irving presented the results of the streetlight survey project to the Board. Mr. Irving reviewed lights paid for by the town, state, and precincts along with maps of where the lights are located. Mr. Irving suggested a Lighting Committee be formed to discuss how much light, types of lighting, etc. Mr. Dickinson suggested that someone from the Budget Committee be on the committee. Mr. DiGregorio volunteered to on the Lighting Committee but advised that he was not available until late August. Mr. Drinkhall also volunteered to be on the Committee. Mr. Sires advised that Chuck Henderson expressed interest if a committee was going to be formed and he has worked with a local energy committee. Mr. Martin stated someone from the Police Department should be on the committee. Mr. Dickinson suggested putting off the finalization of the committee as people may see this meeting on Valley Vision and read about it in the newspaper and may want to be involved as well. Mr. Martin agreed and stated this should be put on the next meeting agenda. The Board all agreed. Mr. Irving next suggested that Planning Board member be on the Committee due to development, planning, etc. Mr. Irving also suggested that someone from the Conservation Commission be asked to join the committee as well.

Mr. Sires and Mr. Irving next gave an explanation to the Board of how this survey project was completed which included the use of a GPS and a bicycle.

#### UPDATE ON FOURTH OF JULY ACTIVITIES

Recreation Director, John Eastman, and Assistant Recreation Director, Mike Lane, joined the meeting. Mr. Eastman distributed a revised schedule of events for the Fourth of July and reviewed same with the Board. Mr. Eastman reviewed entertainment planned, vendors, fireworks, and the budget for the Fourth of July with the Board. Mr. Eastman advised the Grand Marshall for the parade will be the Kennett High School Hockey team as they are the State Champions. Mr. Eastman next reported that Lenore Wagner has worked hard on putting together the parade, the required permits, set up etc. Mr. Eastman next advised that all floats require rails. Anyone who wants to be in the parade, antique vehicles, politicians, etc, must fill out the form to be in the parade.

Mr. Martin advised he would like to recognize pledges for the Fourth of July Celebration. Mr. Martin requested Mr. Eastman to please supply the list for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Martin next commented that the Board of Selectmen usually ride on a float and this is a reminder. Mr. DiGregorio advised he will be unable to attend due to a baseball commitment Mr. Drinkhall and Mr. Dickinson advised they would be attending.

There was next discussion regarding the grass in Schouler Park. Mr. Eastman stated he is pleased with the progress on the grass and has received a lot of help with the grass from Greg George of the North Conway Country Club.

Mr. Martin asked about summer programs. Mr. Lane stated that 130 have signed up so far. The registrations are coming in slow but sure. Staff is getting ready for the summer programs. Mr. Dickinson questioned when the summer programs start. Mr. Eastman advised they start one week from today.

#### REAFFIRM INVESTMENT POLICY

The Board reviewed an updated version of the Investment Policy to be reaffirmed. Ms. Philbrick reviewed the Town must have an Investment Policy. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Weathers to reaffirm the Investment Policy. The motion carried unanimously.** (A copy of the policy is attached hereto).

#### UPDATE OF BIKE LANE PROJECT

Mr. Sires reported he, Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, and NCWP Superintendent, David Bernier, went to Concord yesterday to explore a TE for the bike lane. Executive Councilor, Ray Burton, was kind enough to set this meeting up for the Town and we put together an application, went to the meeting and heard the sound of screeching brakes when we got to the meeting. The person from the Federal Highways Authority advised us that there was no way this could move forward under the TE program. They advised this road doesn't qualify for TE funding because the road is not in the proper class. Also, even if we got money, we would not be able to use the \$9,000 that was already spent because you can't have spent money already prior to the award and we would have to rebid the project and re-award the project even though it has been bid and awarded under the competitive process. The other issue that made it tough for it to be funded was it has to be on the state transportation plan and that would take until approximately November. While a TE approach may still be feasible for some remainder of the project or if the project doesn't move forward at all and we retro the project. However, the costs of the project will escalate and the match would be greater. These are things to think about for the future. Mr. Sires added that we are still exploring some options for grants and/or local private funding but the avenue of TE is pretty much closed for now. Mr. Sires thanked Bill Hounsell and David Bernier for their help with this process. Mr. Martin echoed the thanks on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Sires next advised there is still two weeks left before they are proceeding on this road and if anything comes up he will call for a meeting of the Board to discuss same. The Board next discussed the road, the possibility of doing this project in the future, voters and making choices known to the voters, etc. There was also a general discussion about how the roadway will be paved with Mr. DegliAngeli.

#### FORCE ACCOUNT AGREEMENT FOR RAILROAD CROSSING AT INTERVALE CROSSROAD

Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, reviewed a letter received from the State of New Hampshire, Department of Transportation concerning a Force Account Agreement for the Railroad Crossing at Intervale Crossroad. The State has signed the agreement and has asked for a check from the town. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed that we

have done this sort of agreement with the state as long as he can remember. This is an 80/20 agreement and we send them our share of the agreement (20%). By doing this work and sharing 20% of a bigger project we spend less on a bad crossing. Mr. DegliAngeli asked that if the Board is in favor of the agreement he would ask for authorization for either him or the Town Manager to sign same.

Selectman Weathers left the meeting room at 5:15 p.m.

There was review and discussion by the Board concerning the Agreement. The Board questioned why we need to do this work. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed the poor condition of the railroad crossing. **Mr. Dickinson moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, that the Board of Selectman support the Force Account Agreement.** Mr. DiGregorio stated that it bothers him to no end that we are responsible to fix the railroad crossing. There was further discussion regarding why we need to fix the crossing.

Mr. Weathers returned to the meeting room at 5:23 p.m.

**Mr. Dickinson amended the motion, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, that the Board of Selectman authorize Earl Sires and Paul DegliAngeli to enter into the Force Account Agreement with the State of New Hampshire. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Weathers abstaining.**

#### RECESS

At 5:25 p.m. Chairman Martin called for a brief recess of the meeting. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

#### STATE BUDGET UPDATE

Mr. Sires reviewed the Legislative Bulletin with State Budget update with the Board. The information was in the Board's agenda packet for review.

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Transformer Move – Mr. Sires reported a meeting will be held tomorrow to review and discuss a large transformer that will be moved into the town to upgrade the substation in Redstone. Because of the size of the transformer, they will be offloading this on Depot Street sometime around June 22 late in the afternoon. They have asked to use the North-South Road; however, he and Paul have advised they would rather they not. They will be putting this on a vehicle and will have to have to take it down Route 16 and will have to move wires. Mr. Sires reviewed that when things such as this happen they do turn into spectator events and the police, fire, etc., have been notified. Mr. Sires reviewed there is a coordinating meeting for the move scheduled for tomorrow.

CDBG Advisory Committee – Mr. Sire reviewed he will be in Concord on Thursday, June 18, 2009 for a CDBG Advisory Committee meeting. Mr. Sires next gave a report to the Board on applications approved at the last meeting of this committee.

Skate Board Park – Mr. Sires advised he will be meeting with people tomorrow who have asked about a skate board park to give them the history of this and talk about same.

Abenaki Property – Mr. Sires there are several cabins woods at the Abenaki property. Several years ago a tree damaged the cabins. The Town has been talking with Denny Obamsawim who has rights to the cabins about what to do with the cabins. Also, the Society of NH Forest did a review and they suggested the cabins be removed. We have the approval of Denny Obamsawim to remove the cabins now. However, we have now notified the State Historical Preservation Department and they say they are on the Register of Historic Places and not to destroy the cabins and they will come and take a look at them first. They say Denny needs to take care of the cabins but he wont be doing that so the town will have to and so we will have to look for grants to fix the cabins. Mr. Sires further advised that we will have to tear one cabin down.

### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Valley Vision – Mr. DiGregorio reported the Valley Vision Board met recently. Mr. DiGregorio advised he was unable to attend the meeting as he had a scheduling conflict and therefore has no report. Mr. DiGregorio advised he will ask Station Manager, Bill Edmunds, to email the report to Karen to distribute to the Board.

Special Event Policy Review Committee – Mr. DiGregorio advised the Special Event Policy Review Committee met and the meeting went well and everyone from the committee has homework to do. The next meeting of that committee is scheduled for July 29, 2009.

Gas Tax – Mr. Drinkhall asked about the gas tax issue and writing the letter to the Governor. Mr. Martin advised that a letter has been drafted to the Governor regarding the gas tax matter.

Town Hall Flag Light – Mr. Drinkhall asked about the light for the flag in front of Town Hall. Mr. Sires advised the light has been replaced. Mr. Sires explained the upper window at town hall was replaced and now the light can't be accessed. CVFD kindly allowed the use of a truck to replace the light.

Stonehurst – Mr. Drinkhall reported the Stonehurst ruling came in in the positive for Stonehurst Manor. The Judge ruled they could continue operations for now.

Letter regarding Groundwater Withdrawals – Mr. Dickinson advised he prepared a draft letter regarding the groundwater meeting he attended. Mr. Dickinson asked for permission to send the letter with the Board's approval. The Board reviewed the draft letter prepared by Mr. Dickinson. There was discussion regarding item #3 in Mr. Dickinson's draft letter regarding cutting down on water withdrawal. Several Board members advised they could not support the letter if this was included. Mr. Dickinson requested permission to sign and send the letter out on town letterhead. Mr. Sires explained that anything in the past that goes out on letterhead needs Board approval. Mr. Martin explained this letter was not getting Board approval and therefore could not be on town letterhead. There was further brief discussion that if item 3 were not in the letter there may be support for the letter. There was however no agreement on this and the discussion ended. The letter was not supported and will not be sent on town letterhead.

White Mountain Amateur Radio Club – Mr. Dickinson reported the White Mountain Amateur Radio Club is having their annual get together at Tin Mountain to communicate with other Ham Radio operators. They encourage people to attend and participate in this event. This will take place Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Dickinson further explained Ham Radios are used for emergency services backup.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported the Conservation met last Wednesday, June 10, 2009. They reviewed one Dredge and Fill Application for the NHDOT to work on 3 bridges.

Kearsarge Road – Mr. Martin asked about the Town crew doing work on Kearsarge Road. Mr. Martin questioned if it is more economical to do this in house or to bid the work out. Mr. Martin stated he would like to have this discussion at the next meeting for the benefit of the public.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Mike DiGregorio's mother was present at the meeting and was introduced to the Board.

Andrea Osmun of the Conway Daily Sun asked for a copy of the letter to the DOT. The Board advised staff get a copy of this letter to her tomorrow.

Andrea Osmun questioned by it is the Town's responsibility to take care of the railroad track. Mr. Sires explained it is a cooperative agreement to do work on the track. It is a benefit to the town to do the work at that same time. Mr. Sires suggested Ms. Osmus further discuss same with the Public Works Director.

#### ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at the call of the Chair at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell  
Executive Secretary