

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

January 12, 2010

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:08 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 January 13, 2010.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Consideration of minutes was carried to the next meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

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

CONSIDERATION OF UNANTICIPATED REVENUE LESS THAN \$5,000/RSA 31:95-B, III (b): A) \$200 DONATION FROM AN ANONYMOUS DONOR TO THE CONWAY POLICE DEPT DARE PROGRAM; AND B) \$3 DONATION FROM AN ANONYMOUS DONOR TO THE CONWAY POLICE DEPT

Lt. Chris Perley of the Conway Police Department joined the meeting. Lt. Perley was present to discuss donations to the DARE program in the amount of \$200 and \$3. Without objection the Board agreed to handle the donations together. Lt. Perley reviewed the \$200 donation is from an anonymous donor who has contributed to the program previously. The \$3 was received from someone who was trying to tip and the Police can't receive tips and so it was suggested it be a DARE donation and the person agreed to same. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson to accept the \$200 and the \$3 donations to the Conway Police Department DARE program. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED
GENERAL ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION

General Assistance Officer, Billie Jo Parker, joined the meeting.

Mr. Sires reviewed there was a discussion with the Board previously regarding this matter advising of proposed legislation concerning general assistance. Ms. Parker is here to discuss the proposed bill and to see if we have the support of the Board to move forward.

Ms. Parker distributed copies of the proposed legislation, HB 1511, to the Board and reviewed same. Ms. Parker reviewed that Conway is the largest town in the County, volume is up with regard to general assistance, and there are issues that need to be addressed. Ms. Parker advised that she has met with Representatives Bucu, Umberger, and Butler and out of that came a proposal for a study committee for reimbursement to towns. Ms. Parker next advised that she has been invited to testify at the State House on this matter scheduled for January 21, 2010 and asked for the endorsement of the Board of Selectmen before doing so. There was brief discussion with the Board. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, that we endorse BJ Parker going before the legislature on January 21, 2010.** Mr. Dickinson asked for more information from Ms. Parker on this matter. Mr. Dickinson next pointed out that he feels the word may in the proposed legislation is weak and should be changed. Mr. Dickinson felt some other proposed wording could also be changed. Mr. Sires reviewed that sometimes people leave one town to come to another or sometimes neighboring communities drop people off out front and this proposed legislation would define the responsibility of towns. Mr. Drinkhall agreed with Mr. Dickinson regarding the word may and felt shall would be a better word to use in the proposed legislation. There was further discussion regarding the issues surrounding the proposed legislation. Chairman Martin appointed Selectmen Dickinson to work with Ms. Parker and to go to Concord on January 21, 2010 for the hearing on this matter. Mr. Dickinson advised he would be happy to work with her on this matter. It was agreed by the Board that the suggested amendment should be made regarding the word may to shall. **Mr. Drinkhall moved to amend his motion, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, that we endorse BJ Parker going before the legislature on January 21, 2010 and that Crow Dickinson work with BJ Parker and go to Concord. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

TOWN OF CONWAY/CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT
FUNDS AND ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH NHDES
REGARDING HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Mr. Sires reviewed the Town of Conway Certificate of Authorization to Accept Funds and Enter into a Grant Agreement with NHDES regarding Household Hazardous Waste Day allows the Town of Conway to apply for and be eligible for funds for September. Mr. Sires reviewed if the Board approves, we will enter into the contract and appoint Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, to sign the documents. **Mr. Drinkhall moves, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to agree to accept and enter into an agreement with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for Household Hazardous Waste Day. The motion carried unanimously.**

REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT BUDGET
PROCESS AND TOWN MEETING DATES

Mr. Sires distributed a calendar of important dates for the budget process and reviewed same with the Board. Mr. Sires advised the schedule is available on the town website.

Budget Committee Chair, Jim LeFebvre, was present in the audience and asked that Chair of the Board of Selectmen to chair the dual meeting for the non profits on Saturday, February 6, 2010 as he will be out of town. Mr. Martin agreed to Chair the meeting.

BUDGET / WARRANT ARTICLES

2010 Warrant Articles – Mr. Sires distributed a draft of the warrant articles to date as well as a warrant article study sheet to the board and reviewed same. Mr. Sires discussed the Kearsarge Bike Lane project and advised that Conway ranks 3rd in the state with regard to funding; however, we do not know yet if we will receive any funds and we wont know what is going on with funding until end of February and we may not know by town meeting. There was discussion regarding the draft article language and it was agreed the language would need to be reworded as it depends on funding, timing, and how the board wants to proceed on same.

Bond Hearing – Mr. Sires distributed a copy of the draft bond hearing notice. It was noted that amount and wording could be amended after meeting.

Mr. Drinkhall stated that at the last Board meeting he was instructed to contact his Garage Committee members to discuss the issues. Five committee members were all unhappy, as was he, and they would like to be involved with the final decision. Mr. Dickinson suggested the garage meeting take place prior to the Bond Hearing. Mr. DiGregorio asked if they are unhappy with the final design decision or financing decisions. Mr. Drinkhall stated they wanted to be involved with final decisions.

Mr. Martin asked if the Committee can meet before next week. Mr. Drinkhall advised that one important member can't meet this week and he won't be back before the 29th. The Committee currently has a meeting scheduled for 2/2/10.

Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund – Mr. Sires reviewed the building maintenance capital reserve fund. Mr. Sires next reviewed a recent situation occurred at town hall which was dicey and that he has concerns with safety and advised that the we need to look at the safety situation at Town Hall. Mr. Sires stated this is something the Board needs to think about for the future.

Review of Valley Vision Budget – Bill Edmunds, Station Manager for Valley Vision, joined the meeting. Mr. Edmunds distributed budget information for the Board to review. Mr. Edmunds pointed out that traditionally the budget information was presented as April to April but last year Valley Vision was asked to do a traditional calendar budget and so this is how they are presenting same this year. Mr. Edmunds next reviewed they are asking for a slight increase this year. Mr. Edmunds next reviewed the budget revenues for last year and also reviewed the proposed budget for next year. There was brief discussion about future live broadcasting and also grants received by Valley Vision.

Mr. Sires asked if the Board would like to see a MOA brought forward based on this budget request and the same as last years MOA. The Board agreed with bringing forward a proposed MOA for review and consideration.

Mr. Edmunds next discussed programs, i.e., political roundtable, construction, electronics, etc

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Grant Application – Mr. Sires reported the USDA Rural Facilities Grant application for the garage is in and they have already asked for additional information from the Town.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Interconnect – Mr. Drinkhall asked for an update at the next meeting from the Public Works Director regarding the North Conway Water Precinct and Conway Village Fire District interconnect.

North-South Road Lights – Mr. Drinkhall stated the lights replaced on the North-South Road are brighter and he would like a report from Paul as to why. Mr. Martin advised the difference is between the old and the new lights.

Street Lights – Mr. Drinkhall stated we were going to mark the lights he proposed shutting off and questioned the status of this matter. Mr. Sires advised information was given to the Board to review at a recent meeting. This matter can be placed on an agenda for further discussion.

Modine Heaters – Mr. Drinkhall advised a walk through of the schools was done by some of the Budget Committee members. We have been offered some heaters. There are nine Modine Heaters that were going to be thrown away. Mr. Drinkhall advised that he spoke with the Highway Foreman about these for use at the garage or if the town has use for them elsewhere. Mr. Drinkhall advised that he is still in favor of radiant heat for the garage however. Mr. Sires advised these may work at the storage garage or elsewhere. Mr. Drinkhall advised that Andy Greigle is the contact person for the heaters.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Doug Swett asked about the tax rate regarding the garage. Mr. Sires advised we have not received the amortization scheduled yet. However, \$40-\$60,000 per year would amount to approximately a nickel to six cents on the dollar. Doug Swett next suggested paying for the garage in one year. Mr. Sires stated if the amount gets down to a certain amount it does become feasible. Mr. Drinkhall stated that in thinking about it it does get down to saving interest. Mr. Sires stated he will look into getting an amortization schedule for next week. Mr. Swett next commented that if you apply for and receive the grant you are tied to the US Government and you have to do certain things. Even if it costs \$100,000 more do it in town and--forget about the federal government.

Bart Bachman of the Conway Daily Sun asked if the garage is still going out to bid. The Board advised yes eventually but cant do that until after we know about the grant. The Board advised that if we get the grant the Federal Government has requirements.

Doug Swett commented that he feels that we need the new garage.

NON PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A,II(c) / LITIGATION MATTER /TAX MATTER)

At 5:20 p.m. **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to go into non public session under NH RSA 91-A,II(c) to discuss a litigation matter. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to seal the minutes of this non public session. The motion carried 4-0-0.

ADJOURN

At 5:47 p.m., the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Hallowell
Executive Secretary