

**Minutes of Meeting  
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

January 3, 2012

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:03 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers (Chair), Michael DiGregorio, Howard C. Dickinson, and Mary Carey Seavey; Town Manager, Earl W. Sires and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

Selectman, Lawrence Martin, was not present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Weathers led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to approve the agenda. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

PUBLIC HEARING: TO ACCEPT UNANTICIPATED REVENUE  
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,499.73 FROM THE STATE OF NEW  
HAMPSHIRE/FEMA TO THE TOWN OF CONWAY

At 4:05 p.m. Chairman Weathers opened the public hearing to accept unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$14,499.71 from the State of New Hampshire/FEMA to the Town of Conway.

Mr. Sires explained the Town received this disbursement from FEMA due to Tropical Storm Irene. The funds in the amount of \$14,499.73 are for three projects. The projects include a bridge on the access road to the NCWP water well where the abutments had to be rebuilt and erosion taken care of, on West Side Road there was some roadside erosion work done and, also, other road work in the area of Wayman Avenue and Bald Hill.

Mr. Weathers asked for public comments or questions. There were none. Mr. Weathers closed the public hearing at 4:08 p.m.

**Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to accept the unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$14,499.73 for the three projects. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

STREET LIGHTING

Update on NHEC LED Municipal Light – Mr. Sires reviewed the Town had put in two LED lights at Schouler Park and also agreed to look into putting in more in the future. Mr. Sires reported he spoke with Bill Johnstone regarding a conversion project for LED lights; however they are not offering a conversion project. NHEC is basically only going to offer LED lights for new projects. Also, if anything is damaged they will replace the LED lights. The good news is we will see LED for any replacements in the future.

NCVA proposal for LED lights in North Conway Village – Janice Crawford of the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce was present for discussion. Ms. Crawford advised they would like to light the streets up again in North Conway. Further, they would like to use the rest of the appropriation received from Senator Judd Gregg a couple of years ago to do this. Ms. Crawford next distributed a proposal memo to the Board and reviewed same. (See attached).

Mr. DiGregorio stated thanks to Ms. Crawford for her efforts. Mr. DiGregorio stated he believes streetlights should be provided through the village. Mr. DiGregorio next questioned if, at this time, they have or have not decided whether to keep the decorative light. Ms. Crawford stated it is her understanding that the fixture can't support LED lights. Mr. DegliAngeli advised that he called the vendor where we got the lights to see if they have something similar and the vendor indicated a fixture will be available in the springtime that will support LED light. The cost is unknown at this point and, also, we could try to sell the existing fixture. Once these are up they will be less expensive upkeep wise. Mr. DegliAngeli further advised that LED is a down light and no light will be going up toward the skies.

Ms. Seavey questioned if selling the lights, would the intent be that this money would go back to the Village Association. Mr. DegliAngeli stated this has not been discussed and we would need to talk about it with the Village Association. Also, the Village Association wants to do Route 16 and North-South Road as well. Ms. Crawford agreed more discussion would be needed on this subject.

Mr. Sires questioned if Ms. Crawford is at the point where she needs the blessing of the Board to move forward to the next step. Ms. Crawford replied in the affirmative. Mr. Sires stated he thinks this is a good idea but also thinks it would be a good idea to find a place that is using LED technology in a place such as ours to see what the light looks like. The white light may look institutional and we need to make sure it will look okay. Ms. Crawford stated she feels it is more important to have lights on the street rather than worry about white light. Mr. DiGregorio stated they may have more colors available as well.

Mr. DiGregorio questioned how much funds are still in the account. Ms. Crawford stated she had varying reports of about \$150,000 to \$190,000.

Mr. DiGregorio next questioned how we deal with the next group of Board of Selectmen and them not shutting the lights off. If we lay out this money, there should be some time frame of agreement for the lights. Mr. Sires stated that short of town meeting approving an agreement he does not know if you can bind future Board's decisions on this matter. Mr. DiGregorio stated that if a donation comes from somewhere –sometimes it comes with a caveat. Mr. Sires state that he will look into this issue.

Mr. Weathers questioned the landowners south of the Village as some of these landowners may want their lights on as well. Ms. Crawford stated there may be a different attitude now from some of the business owners to pay some costs. This is also still part of the future discussion; however, this would not be a MWVPA decision. Mr. Sires pointed out that in one area all the lights are shut off and we may want to look at every other instead.

Ms. Crawford next stated she would like the fixture to have a flag holder and a place to put up wreaths. She would like to have the fixture as high as possible to be able to put flags, etc up again. Mr. DegliAngeli advised that when the lights go up, the fixtures will be in the

same place; however the vendor may have something else. Ms. Crawford stated she would like to try to see if there is a fixture that will support flags, wreaths, etc. Also she will have to go to the electric company and ask about this as well.

Ms. Crawford next stated the MWVPA is looking to turn on lights with no cost to the town and she would like to leave the meeting today with the Board looking favorably on this idea. Mr. Weathers asked if she is talking about leaving the lights or removing and replacing the lights. If so, what is the State going to say about removing the fixtures as this was a big push originally. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed that we can get the same fixture for the LED. Mr. DegliAngeli next questioned if we are in favor of changing from metal halide to LED.

Ms. Crawford next reviewed that it was not the MWVPA that chose the lights it was the CDRC. Mr. Sires confirmed same and advised that this was in about 2003 or 2004 and this was to be consistent with what was originally used in the area. Ms. Crawford stated –who knew at that time they would become expensive and we would look to change them. We are in a catch-22. We want lights and it seems the most responsible to go with the technological changes. Who knew at the time when the lights were put in that we would have to change the fixture to do so.

Mr. DiGregorio stated he would like to pursue this and he would like to see the lights back on and he would like to see us reduce energy costs. He would also like to see the flags up high and the wreaths lower.

Mr. Weathers asked for questions or comments. There were none.

Mr. Weathers stated he would like to see lights but the public may have different ideas and he also doesn't know if we can work this out with NHEC. Mr. Sires suggested exploring this a little further with NHEC as to what we can and can't do.

Ms. Crawford asked the community to please start calling the MWVCC and let them know how they feel about the issues discussed today.

Ms. Crawford next stated that she feels strongly that the flags should go up. She will call the NHEC and have this discussion. Mr. Weathers stated to Ms. Crawford that after she receives a response from NHEC to please get back to this Board. Ms. Crawford agreed.

Mr. Sires next stated to Ms. Crawford that the fireworks were great on New Year's Eve. Ms. Crawford thanked John Eastman, North Conway Fire Department, Pain Care, etc., for their help with the fireworks.

#### DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED 2012 WARRANT ARTICLES

Mr. Sires reviewed the Board had previously received a list of proposed warrant articles and have been provided an updated list with two additional articles to consider. Mr. Sires requested the Board review the proposed articles and vote on them on January 17, 2012.

Bill Edmunds of Valley Vision next distributed a copy of the proposed Valley Vision budget to the Board and reviewed same. Mr. Edmunds discussed the fact that the videographers have not had a raise in three years and the Valley Vision Board approved a raise to a flat \$14.00 per hour for them in this proposed budget. They also will have additional time

and increases in expenses with live broadcasts, etc. Mr. Edmunds advised Valley Vision is asking for the amount of \$96,000 for their budget which runs from May 2012 through April 2013.

Mr. Sires advised that at the next meeting he and Lucy Philbrick will do an overview of the PEG Trust Fund. We also will do some work on laying out the budget for this over the next several years.

Mr. Sires next reviewed information regarding a proposed emergency generator for the Recreation Center. Emergency Management Director, Chief Solomon, explained the emergency shelter is located at the Recreation Center and that this is a good location but it does need a generator. Chief Solomon advised he has been looking for a grant for same. Chief Solomon next reviewed costs for the generator with the Board. Chief Solomon stated he feels it may be too large a generator but time is of the essence with regard to putting forward a warrant article. He would also like to go back and look to see if we can rewire for a smaller generator. Chief Solomon stated they will seek a State grant for 50% of the amount of the generator. Further, whether we get the grant or not, he feels we need to get a generator. Mr. DegliAngeli suggested considering a grant for two generators, one for the garage and one for the Recreation Center.

#### SELECTMEN SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 10, 2012 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

The Board briefly discussed a schedule for their attendance at the polls on January 10, 2012. It was agreed that Mr. Weathers would be at the polls from 8:00 am to 12 noon, Ms. Seavey agreed to be there from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Mr. Dickinson advised he would be there at 11:00 am and stay until Mr. DiGregorio could get to the polls and Mr. DiGregorio advised he could be there at about 3:15 pm and stay till the polls close.

#### SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Current Use Land Use Change Tax Collector's Warrant Tax Map/Lot 272.52.3
- b. Land Use Change Tax Tax Map/Lot 272.52.3

**Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the Current Use Land Use Change Tax Collector's Warrant Tax Map/Lot 272.52.3 and Land Use Change Tax for Tax Map/Lot 272.52.3. the motion carried 4-0-0.**

#### CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. Manifest dated 1/5/12

**Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the manifest dated 1/15/12. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

#### RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. 2011 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Sheets Certificate
- b. Manifests dated 12/22/11 & 12/29/11
- c. Payroll dated 12/29/11

**Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Mr. Dickinson, to ratify the 2011 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Sheets Certificate, the Manifests dated 12/22/11 and 12/29/11,**

**and the Payroll dated 12/29/11 which were signed out of session. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: 11/29/11, 12/6/11 & 12/13/11

It was agreed that consideration of the minutes of 11/29/11, 12/6/11 and 12/13/11 was carried to the next meeting.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Vacation – Mr. Sires reported he was on vacation last week. There also seemed to be a lot of people in town.

Fireworks – Mr. Sires reported the New Years Eve fireworks went off smoothly and everyone seemed to enjoy them.

Transfer Station Attendant – Mr. Sires reported there is an ad in the newspaper for a Transfer Station attendant position. Mr. Sires advised this is due to someone in that department retiring.

Transvale – Mr. Sires reported that we are notifying year round residents of Transvale of a meeting to have discussion on a buyout program.

Saco River Access Committee – Mr. Sires reported a meeting of the Saco River Access Committee is scheduled for Thursday and they will be doing a site tour.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Round the State House – Mr. Dickinson advised the State Representatives will be meeting this week and there are important bills coming up. He feels he should have another Round the State House Program on Valley Vision.

Budget Committee – Mr. DiGregorio reported a Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night.

Dispatch Meeting – Mr. DiGregorio reported a meeting to discuss dispatch is scheduled for January 12, 2012 at 4:00 pm in Moultonborough. Mr. DiGregorio stated that he can attend and, also, if anyone else can make it as well they are welcome.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported the first meeting of the year for the Conservation Commission is scheduled for January 11, 2012 at the Whitaker Meeting House. Mr. Sires stated that was discussion a few months ago about conservation easements and he is ready to proceed with this if the Conservation Commission is ready.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Erik Eisele of the Conway Daily Sun wished everyone a Happy New Year.

ADJOURN

At 5:18 p.m. the meeting adjourned without objection at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hallowell  
Executive Secretary