

Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
February 18, 2014

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:04 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers (Chair), Michael DiGregorio (Vice Chair), Mary Carey Seavey, Stacy Sand, and Carl Thibodeau, Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. DiGregorio led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Weathers advised that Item 4, Police Request to expend from Capital Reserve, is being removed from tonight's agenda. Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously

POLICE REQUEST TO EXPEND FROM CAPITAL RESERVE

This agenda item was canceled.

BUDGET/WARRANT ARTICLES

Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan, was present for discussion.

A copy of the draft warrant was distributed to the Board for review. Mr. Weathers reviewed that the Board needs to act on Articles 2 and 28 of the proposed warrant.

Ms. Gilligan distributed a copy of the proposed 2014 budget for the Board's review. Ms. Gilligan reviewed that the proposed budget was approved by the Budget Committee at their most recent meeting. Ms. Gilligan next suggested that this Board vote on the Budget Appropriations as listed on the forms.

The Board next reviewed Article 2 regarding the Budget. **Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve Article 2 of the proposed 2014 warrant in amount of \$10,141,914.** Ms. Sand questioned if we should also mention the default budget in the motion. It was advised that the Budget Committee sets the default budget. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, that we approve the itemized budget on the MS-737 as listed. Mr. DiGregorio stated that there had been a discussion of moving line item amounts and questioned if this would affect what we are doing. Ms. Gilligan stated it would not and that this forms reflects the budget put forth to the town. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

The Board next reviewed Article 28 regarding an increase in compensation for the Supervisors of the Checklist. **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, that we recommend Article 28.** Ms. Sand commented that she was at the Budget Committee meeting when they voted to not recommend this article and she was a no vote as well. She feels that budgets are tight this year and she doesn't feel it is a time to increase the compensation. Mr. DiGregorio pointed out that there are many positions in town that people hold that do not get

any compensation at all. He does understand that they have more work this year however this article is written that the increases will be in the budget in the future as well. **The motion failed 0-5-0.** There was next discussion as to whether this Selectmen's article would appear on the warrant as it was not recommended by the Board. Mr. DiGregorio commented that this Board did say previously that we would put it on the warrant. Ms. Sand stated that this has been out there for discussion at both the Selectmen and Budget Committee meetings and that she hasn't heard any comments from the public on this matter. Her general feel is not to increase any compensation this year. There was further brief discussion. Mr. Thibodeau suggested that we ask the LGC for an opinion as to whether this article should appear on the warrant. The Board agreed. The Board further agreed to put the article on the warrant unless it is statutory that we can't put it on as it was not recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

APPROVAL OF 2014 TOWN WARRANT

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the warrant pending whether Article 28 is allowed to be put on and to sign the warrant out of session. The motion carried 5-0-0.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

a. Warrant for Collection of Expenses – **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to approve the Warrant for Collection of Taxes in the case of Walter and Linda Fullerton for property located at Tax Map/Lot 251-64. The motion carried unanimously.**

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. 2/20/14 Manifest
- b. 2/20/14 Payroll

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the Manifest dated 2/20/14 and the payroll dated 2/20/14. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

There were no documents signed out of session.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

There were no special event applications for consideration.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: 2/4/14

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to approve the minutes of 2/4/14 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Acting Town Manager, Mr. DegliAngeli, advised that at the next meeting of this Board, we will do a review of items such as salt, fuel, etc., in the Public Works budget before the Deliberative Portion of Town Meeting.

Mr. DegliAngeli next reported that the Town has to hold a public hearing on the petitioned warrant article regarding a tax cap. Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed RSA 3:5 with the Board and the date requirements to hold the public hearing. The Board discussed dates to hold the meeting. It was determined that the Public Hearing would be held on March 18, 2014.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Budget Committee – Ms. Sand pointed out that the Budget Committee voted on the warrant on all of the warrant articles and they now appear on the copy of the draft warrant distributed to the Board. Mr. DiGregorio questioned if there was any talk or rationale that the Budget Committee would support the budget figure but also support the tax cap article since they have the power to do the 2% anyway. Ms. Sand stated that the tax cap is on the tax rate and not the budget and what it means is that the tax rate can't go up more than 2.5%. Ms. Sand next further briefly discussed what would be involved in a tax cap.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported that the Conservation Commission met last week. At that meeting Rob Adair was reaffirmed as Chair, Larry Heummler as Vice Chair, and Carol Lyman as Treasurer.

Town Meeting – Mr. Weathers reviewed that the Deliberative Sessions for the School is Monday, March 3, 2014 and Town is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2014. Voting is scheduled for April 8, 2014.

NORCROSS PROJECT

Janice Crawford, Executive Director of the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce and member of the Mount Washington Valley Preservation Association, appeared before the Board. Also present for discussion was Russ Seybold from the Conway Scenic Railroad.

Ms. Crawford stated that she is here today to ask the Board of Selectmen to reconsider the vote taken at last week's meeting to use the preservation funds for the small circle on Norcross Circle and go back to the original premise of what the funds are for. She would like to see the sidewalks enhanced, the enhanced entrances, and forget about the rotary. The Preservation Association's decision was to use the funds based on the whole project and they would like to see the sidewalks and entrances done and also do Pine Street.

There was discussion on the federal funds, the town portion of the project, materials, design, costs, etc., for the Norcross Circle project. There was also brief discussion on Pine Street and it was pointed out that the Board has not seen any design for Pine Street. There was also discussion of the modified Norcross Circle project and what portions of the project may or may not qualify for federal funds if certain parts of the proposed project were eliminated.

Russ Seybold stated that he has been here many years and there is an eyesore in front of his property. He wants to get rid of the wires and posts on his side of Norcross Circle. If some of the money can go for something like this he would endorse eliminating the circle and keep the shark fin and other enhancements. Also, it doesn't matter if the sidewalk is brick or painted. Also he would like to see the wooden poles taken away and have ornamental lights installed. He is not in favor of the circle and he would participate in doing work with the polls, etc. Mr. DegliAngeli advised that we have separately bid alternatives on Russ Seybold and Joe Berry's behalf to underground power lines that go across to the train station and the Berry property and the businessowners are willing to pay for this to be done.

The Board and Ms. Crawford next reviewed the figures again for the project. The Board also reviewed the motion made at the last meeting regarding this matter. There was discussion of tearing up sidewalks to put in brick. It was pointed out that the sidewalks are in good condition and that we would be tearing them up to put in brick to use the federal funds.

After further discussion, Ms. Crawford stated that these are the Preservation Association's funds and she would like to go back and speak to that committee and see if they want this project done at all now. Mr. DegliAngeli advised that the town still needs to rehab the road in the future. The town will then be spending less money and could also do the work in house. Ms. Crawford stated that they don't want to get into a project that costs the town more. They are trying to save money and it was not their intent to create a situation that would cost the town more money. If this has gone past the original costs then we have to look at this again rather than feeling like we all still have to do the project. The Preservation Association is open to something different.

Ms. Sand suggested the town move forward with our portion of the project and include the shark fin and then let the Preservation Society discuss what they are going to do with the other funds. Ms. Sand suggested the town do the pavement project that is on our schedule, we don't need to redo the sidewalks but we can do work on the crosswalk and also do the shark fin. Ms. Sand questioned if this would fit in with our original budget. Mr. Thibodeau asked if this includes pavement and drainage. Mr. DegliAngeli advised we have money in our plan for the road rehabilitation project and if we just proceed with the town portion of the project we can use our highway crew for the work. Mr. Weathers questioned if the federal money would go away. Ms. Crawford advised that they are being pressured to use the remaining funds. There was further brief discussion on costs for the town portion of the project. Mr. Thibodeau suggested that we just go back to square one and use the money for the project that was originally planned by the town and put in the shark fin as well. Ms. Crawford stated there are no hard feelings if this is done. The intent was not to bring the town this money and make the project cost more. They can look at a different project for the remaining funds. It started out as a good idea but has turned into a boondoggle. Ms. Crawford further added that the Preservation Association could look to see if they can use the money for things like removing the transformer, putting in a decorative light on the shark fin, etc, and also look for another project. After further brief discussion **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, that we don't do the Norcross Circle project but that we continue to include Norcross Circle in our Capital Improvements Program and that we include the shark fin. The motion carried unanimously.** The Board agreed that this decision nullifies the vote taken at the last meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked about the Washington Street project. Mr. DegliAngeli advised that we are awaiting approval from Governor and Council so that the state can fund their portion of the project. It is anticipated that this will be on the Governor and Council agenda next week. Also, the project has already been bid.

Mr. Steer next asked about the CVFD/NCWP project. Mr. DegliAngeli reported that it has been bid. Also, it came in \$700,000 under budget and this work will start in the spring. It is a two year project.

Mr. Steer next asked about the roundabout for the North-South Road. Mr. DegliAngeli reported that work will start this spring.

ADJOURN

At 5:45 p.m. the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hallowell
Executive Secretary