

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

July 8, 2014

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers (Chair), Mary Carey Seavey (Vice Chair), Michael DiGregorio, Stacy Sand, and Carl Thibodeau, Town Manager, Earl Sires and Recording Secretary, Holly Meserve.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Weathers stated we would like to move item #6 into the #4 spot, add to #11 three, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for PID 231-106, 147 & 148; and along with #5 ask Chief Solomon to give an update on River Road. **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).**

VALLEY VISION REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT

Bill Edmunds, Station Manager for Valley Vision joined the meeting. Mr. Sires stated that they are requesting to spend \$5,586 out of an account that has \$136,000 available.

Mr. Edmunds described the equipment they would like to purchase (see attached Equipment Funding Request). Mr. Edmunds stated that money would come out of the PEG Expendable Trust Fund and the equipment will be owned by the Town of Conway.

Ms. Sand asked if they will be looking to change the decks they broadcast from. Mr. Edmunds answered in the affirmative and stated that they are mostly for if there is too much programming or not enough time to get them onto the hard drive; we had three and now down to one. Mr. Edmunds stated that eventually tape will be eliminated, but not yet. Ms. Sand asked if the new camera would be digital. Mr. Edmunds answered in the affirmative.

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to approve funding for Valley Vision's request for equipment totaling \$5,586 to be taken from the PEG Fund. The Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

NH DOT PROJECT 14958 CONWAY, NH 16 BRIDGE OVER THE SACO RIVER

William Saffian, Senior Project Engineer and David Scott, In-House Design Chief, from the NHDOT Bureau of Bridge Design joined the meeting. Don Lyford, Project Manager and Brett McCrea, Utility Coordinator, were in attendance. Mr. Scott read the Bureau of Environment Public Statement Conway 14958 (attached).

Mr. Saffian reviewed the rehabilitation plan and traffic control alternatives for the bridge on Route 16 over the Saco River (see attached Outline of PO/PI Meeting Presentation).

Mr. Sires stated that the covered bridge was two-way traffic for years and recently reduced to one-way; can it be reopened to two-way traffic during this project. Mr. Saffian stated that he doesn't have an answer, but it might have been that it was over stressing the bridge. Mike Lane stated too many cars were meeting on the bridge, hitting it and causing damage to the bridge.

Mr. Saffian stated that they looked at a temporary bridge to be built on the downstream side of the bridge, but it was not economically feasible; it would cost an additional 1.8 million.

Mr. Saffian stated under Alt.1 and Alt.3, they would provide temporary signals that would allow preemption by emergency vehicles; however, if closed they would have to detour in some fashion. Mr. Saffian stated there is no anticipation to give school busses that preemption.

Mr. Saffian stated that the current schedule is to advertise in 2017, but be ready to go in 2015 for the 2016 construction season.

Ms. Sand asked if the proposed sewer project was taken into consideration. Mr. Saffian answered in the affirmative and stated that all the work being done is above the deck and will not impact the work under the deck. Paul DegliAngeli stated that the sewer project is expected to be complete in 2015.

Ms. Seavey asked about the lighting on the bridge. Mr. Saffian stated that the four lights on the bridge are State owned and paid for, but are not in operation. Mr. Saffian stated the State has taken the lighting off State owned bridges and the plan here is to remove the lighting. Ms. Seavey asked if they would reconsider. Mr. Saffian stated that we would have to coordinate with the Town to take them over and pay for them.

Ms. Sand stated the State is proposing another project, what is the date to start that project. Mr. Saffian stated that is on shelf for the same date. Mr. Scott stated if shown to cause traffic issues we would shelf one of them.

Mr. DiGregorio stated that the design of the bridge itself is concerning; there is a lot of pedestrian traffic. Mr. Saffian stated there will be a 3.9-foot shoulder from a 2.5 foot shoulder. Mr. DiGregorio stated that the raised sidewalk would be eliminated, but the width would remain. Mr. Saffian agreed. Mr. DegliAngeli suggested reducing the lane width from 12-feet to 11-feet. Mr. Scott stated they deal with bridge design, but we will talk to the highway guys.

Mr. DiGregorio asked if the length of the light from Center Conway would be readjusted. Mr. Saffian stated that all intersections will be taken into consideration for lighting after we receive traffic counts when the Walmart construction is complete. Ms. Sand asked the possibility of having north bound traffic going over the bridge at the end of the week and south bound Sunday through Tuesday. Mr. Scott stated they would have to review the traffic counts, but the signage would have to be redone when it is changed; might find that it creates a worse problem. Mr. Scott stated it is an interesting idea and can look to see if it would work.

Mr. DiGregorio stated that we need to take into consideration the businesses along that area and the impact on them. Mr. Saffian stated that is a big consideration and one of the reasons why we are here. Mr. Scott stated there is no way to compensate businesses for lost

revenue; that is why we are giving you alternatives. Mr. DiGregorio stated closing the bridge would have a huge impact on businesses. Mr. Weathers stated it will take longer, but the bridge should not be shut down completely; should keep one lane open. Mr. Thibodeau asked about the bank and the other building. Mr. Saffian stated that they will still accommodate a left hand turn.

Steve Solomon stated neither of the intersections in Conway Village have preemption. Mr. Solomon asked what months this is to take place. Mr. Scott stated they could try for an April 1st start. Ms. Sand stated putting pedestrian traffic on the same level as the road is going to have an impact. Mr. Saffian stated that they have put it through to get input if a sidewalk is required, but have not heard back. Mr. Saffian stated the State also does not maintain sidewalks on bridges, so it would have to be contracted out to the Town. Mr. Solomon stated there needs to be a discussion with the school district too.

Karen Umberger stated no matter what occurs we are going to have significant traffic over the wooden bridge and over the West Side Road; suggest that we not use the wooden bridge because the locals are going to use that.

Mr. Thibodeau asked if part of this project could be to redo the lights so the emergency services can force those lights. Mr. Scott stated that they can look into that. Mr. Weathers stated he thinks earlier in the season you could get started the better. Mr. Scott stated we could do that just requires coordination with maintenance in case there is a need to plow. Mr. Weathers stated to be completed by the 4th of July would be ideal. Mr. Saffian stated if we could get started earlier in the season still don't agree with full closure. Mr. Weathers stated he is not in favor. Mr. Solomon stated it is risky and too much of an impact.

PRESENTATION OF HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AND RIVER ROAD UPDATE

Emergency Management Director, Steve Solomon, joined the meeting. Mr. Solomon stated that he has not received any public comment regarding the Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Mr. Solomon stated that they created a community Wildfire Protection Plan that has received preliminary approval from FEMA. Mr. Sires stated that he has not received any comment either. Mr. Sires stated that the plan was put together by Town Staff and other people in the community and looked at hazardous situations and how to address them.

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to accept the Hazardous Mitigation Plan. The motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to accept the Wildfire Protection Plan. The motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

Mr. Solomon stated that they applied to the State and to FEMA for funding for River Road repairs and was denied. Mr. Solomon stated the Governor sent a letter to the President of the United States requesting an appeal of that decision. Mr. Solomon stated the appeal to FEMA is the only way to receive outside assistance for this culvert; if not approved, it will be completely out of pocket. Mr. Sires stated he has submitted a draft letter to the Board to send to FEMA in support of the Governor's letter. **Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to send the letter readdressed to the President of the United States. The motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).**

FINANCIAL REPORT – 2ND QUARTER

Lilli Gillian joined the Board at this time. Ms. Gilligan stated that there is 50.66% of the budget left and we are exactly half way through. There were a few questions regarding certain line items that were answered by Ms. Gilligan.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY PROPOSALS

The Board reviewed the Legislative Policy Proposals.

REVIEW OF DRAFT LETTER TO PRECINCTS

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to send the letter as written. Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).

TOWN MANAGER EVALUATION

Mr. Sires stated that he is distributing the information tonight for the Board to review. Ms. Sand asked to have two, non-public sessions; one for the Board and one with Mr. Sires. Mr. Weathers stated that it could be done at the next meeting.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Certificate of Appreciation for Police Lt. Chris Perley
- b. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 232-87
- c. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 210-16
- d. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 210-17
- e. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 231-148
- f. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 231-147
- g. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 231-106

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the Certificate of Appreciation for Police Lt. Chris Perley, Abatement Tax Map/Lot 232-87, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 210-16, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 210-17, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 231-148, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 231-147, and Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 231-106. The motion unanimously carried (5-0-0).

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. Manifest dated 7/10/14
- b. Payroll dated 7/10/14

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the Manifest dated 7/10/14 and Payroll dated 7/10/14. The motion unanimously carried (5-0-0).

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. Manifest dated 7/3/14

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to ratify the Manifest dated 7/3/14. The motion unanimously carried (5-0-0).

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

There were no special event applications presented for consideration.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: 6/24/14

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the minutes of 6/24/14 as written. The motion unanimously carried (5-0-0).

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Sires stated he is doing a tour with LCHIP representatives tomorrow on the 800 acres that the Nature Conservancy is looking to purchase. Mr. Sires stated that he met with Conservation Members, Neighbors and the Forester today in the Puddin Pond area regarding cutting and leaving some of the growth to deter entry. Mr. Sires stated the fees for Special Events will be prepared for the next meeting. Mr. Sires stated that he met with our River Host, Pete Ames; bumpy weekend, but it did pick up later in the weekend. Mr. Sires stated that it seems to be working well. Mr. Sires stated Fourth of July had some challenges; parade and fireworks happened, but some of the entertainment was canceled due to rain.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Thibodeau stated there is a Planning Board meeting on Thursday night and there is nothing on the airport.

Ms. Sand stated the next Healthcare Meeting is on July 29th.

Ms. Seavey stated the Economic Council road work is on target and there is space to rent in the Tech Village.

Mr. DiGregorio stated that they will be analyzing some data at the next Healthcare Meeting and reminded Mr. Sires regarding Minutes. Mr. DiGregorio stated that he will not be at the July 22nd meeting.

Mr. Weathers stated that the Conway Conservation Commission will not have a meeting this month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

There was none.

NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 91-A:3,II(c) – TAX MATTER

At 5:47 pm, Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non public session under NH RSA 91-A:3,II(c) to discuss a tax matter. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The Board returned to public session at 5:53 pm.

NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 91-A:3,II(d) – CONSIDERATION
OF ACQUISITION, SALE OR LEASE OF REAL ESTATE

At 5:53 pm, Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non public session under NH RSA 91-A:3,II(d) to discuss consideration of acquisition, sale or lease of real estate. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The Board returned to public session at 6:44 p.m. A motion to seal the minutes of this non public session was made and carried in the non-public session.

ADJOURN

At 6:44 pm the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Meserve
Recording Secretary