

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
January 20, 2016**

A meeting of the Municipal Budget Committee was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Professional Development Room at Kennett Middle School with the following members present: Chairman Joe Mosca, Doug Swett, Pat Swett, Bill Marvel, Peter Donohoe, Mark Hounsell, Jim LeFebvre, John Colbath, Christopher DeVries, Terry McCarthy, Dick Klement, Danielle Santuccio and John Edgerton. Excused: Bill Masters, Pat Kittle and Frank McCarthy. Also present: Conway Police Department: Chief Wagner, Lt. George Walker, Lt. Chris Mattei; Police Commissioners: Larry Martin, Rodney King and Andy Pepin; Earl Sires, Town Manager; Lilli Gilligan, Town Finance Director; Paul DegliAngeli; David Smolen, Director of Conway Library; and Daymond Steer of The Conway Daily Sun.

Dick Klement led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Colbath moved, seconded by Mark Hounsell, to accept the Minutes of December 16, 2015, as amended. In favor: 13; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 0.

Pat Swett stated on page 2, seventh paragraph: "School Board is not going to close a close ..." should be changed to "School Board is not going to close a school ...".

Bill Marvel stated on page 3, last paragraph, fourth line: "eluding" should be changed to "alluding".

TOWN BUDGET REVIEW

Chairman Mosca asked the members present if there were any questions from the meeting with the Town on January 6th. We will have one more opportunity on February 1st.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Earl Sires stated that the Chairman of the Conservation Commission asked him if he would sit in and make the presentation for him tonight. He also would like to invite the Budget Committee and anybody watching at home to visit the newly acquired Marshall Conservation Lands off the West Side Road by the railroad tracks and the Hussey Farm. There is 400 acres of open space that they are working on creating recreation and conservation land for everyone in town and visitors alike to enjoy. He invites everyone to do that.

Earl Sires stated the Conservation Commission Budget has been reduced by 29% and that is from \$12,000.00 in 2015 to \$8,500.00 this year and that's basically based on the work load of their various projects at the different properties in town. They are in kind of a maintenance mode this year so they don't have as many larger efforts so their Budget is reduced.

Earl asked if any members had any questions and that he would be happy to answer them.

Mark Hounsell stated the Conservation Commission has a fund which they can buy land and stuff; do we know how much is in there currently. Earl Sires stated Lilli Gilligan might know. Earl stated some where between \$100,000.00 to \$150,000.00. A significant amount of that Fund was used for the acquisition of the Marshall property last year. Mark stated money well spent.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further questions. There being none, Chairman thanked Earl for the presentation on behalf of the Conservation Commission.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Wagner stated he was just going to highlight some of the different aspects of the Police Department Budget and if the members wanted him to go line by line after that or if there were any questions, he would certainly answer those.

Chief Wagner stated the total Police Department Budget is \$3,733,558.00 which is up \$111,335.00 for a 3.1% increase. Major increases in the Labor line include an increase of \$68,764.00 for a 3.9% increase in the Police Labor line. Out of that \$68,000.00, \$15,466.00 comes from the Merit Account which they will no longer be doing the Merit Account, they are just going to include it in the Labor line, in the individual Labor lines.

Chief Wagner stated there's an increase in overtime to \$90,000.00. There's an increase in the Prosecutor line due to the addition of the Victim Witness Advocate that was voted in in 2015. A couple of increases in the benefits which includes Medical Insurance of just over \$75,000.00 due to a 9.5% increase in Medical Insurance. There is also an increase in Retirement of just over \$30,000.00; if the members remember last year in July the Retirement System increased their dues to that.

Chief Wagner stated in Operations there's an increase in Office Equipment due to transcriptions and he will explain that. They, as a Police Department, have approximately 50 to 75 hours of transcription that has to be done every year from interviewing criminals or defendants. They never used to transcribe those, but the County Attorney's Office is mandating that they transcribe those now. He did a little research and it was cheaper to outsource their transcriptions than actually do them in house. To outsource them, it's about \$120.00 per hour; to do them in house which takes about every hour is about 3 hours of transcribing, so it would cost any where from \$110.00 to about \$150.00 per transcription. They decided the cost of outsourcing those transcriptions would be some where between \$6,000.00 and \$9,000.00 per year; so they cut it right down the middle and increased their Office Equipment line by \$7,500.00. Doing it in-house would cost some where between \$8,300.00 and a little over \$11,000.00 to pay somebody overtime to do it.

Chief Wagner stated they have a \$5,000.00 increase in Training. Police Standards in training is financially not able to provide free training any more for Police Officers. Other than their normal training that they are required to do which includes use of force, firearms training, every Police Officer is mandated to do 8 hours of in-service training every year. Now they have to pay for the majority of that, so they increased their Training line by \$5,000.00.

Chief Wagner stated there is a \$20,000.00 decrease in their Equipment due to the one-time purchase of portable radios last year and there was a \$1,500.00 decrease in their radio maintenance due to a one-time purchase of a new antenna last year.

Chief Wagner stated on Vehicles, at this point the Police Department uses about 25,000 gallons of gasoline each year. At this point, he has put it at \$2.50 a gallon. He thought at some point between now and the Deliberative portion, the Town Manager, Paul D. and he will probably have a discussion of what they want to do with that. It will probably be much lower. He thought he was paying about \$1.70 right now for gasoline, but that's now. Chief Wagner asked Peter Donohoe if he knew what it was exactly. Peter stated it's less than \$1.50 now. So, they will figure that out.

Chief Wagner stated just in recap again, the total Police Department Budget is \$3,733,558.00, up \$111,000.00 for a 3.1% increase.

Pat Swett stated on the Transcripts, if you put them out, is that appropriate for the Privacy Act. Chief Wagner stated it is; they send, and his secretary is a little more verse in this than he is, but how he understands it is that they send it over a secure server and they do it. They are certainly not the only Police Department in the country that does it. It's a company out of Massachusetts, and like he said, it's done over a secure network.

Mark Hounsell stated he just had a couple of questions. The Medical Health Insurance, he thought the \$75,000.00 increase is in line with what everyone else is doing and probably with the expectation that maybe we'll get something back. You've got to plan on the rates, but it seems like there's this thing that goes on every year that we pay up front and get money back later. Chief Wagner stated it has happened the last few years. Certainly Lilli (Gilligan) can expand a little more on that than he could, but they have gotten money back the last few years.

Mark Hounsell stated the other thing is this Retirement and that's out of your (Chief Wagner's) control. Chief Wagner stated it was out of his control. Mark stated the Office Equipment Maintenance, is that where the Transcript is. Chief Wagner stated yes. Mark stated it seems to him like they are taking a reasonable first step to something that's a new mandate. Chief Wagner stated it is a new mandate; the Police Department used to just send the recordings down or the interviews down, they don't have people to do it. The Public Defender's Office doesn't have people to do it, so it was mandated by the County Attorney that they will do it. Mark stated so this is like an unfunded mandate. Chief Wagner stated what they

are trying to do, once they send it out, it takes about a day or two to get it back, so they're not sending everything only the things that we know are going to Court and they are waiting until the last minute to have it done. Mark stated sure. Chief Wagner stated they don't know how much it is going to cost them, but they sort of have to prepare for the worse and they can reassess it next year.

Mark Hounsell stated the other thing that he had was that the Police Department is figuring gas at \$2.50 and then you (Chief Wagner) stated you are paying \$1.70. Chief Wagner stated he thought it was less than \$1.50 right now. Mark stated the Town doesn't have to pay the tax. Chief Wagner stated they do not.

Dick Klement stated on the first line for Regular Officers, you are presenting a 5.4% increase; is that a contractual pay raise. Chief Wagner stated it's actually not a 5.4% increase and he knows it says that, but it's actually a 3.9% increase. Dick asked if that was contractual. Chief Wagner stated it is. Dick asked when does the Contract expire. Chief Wagner stated this year or actually 2015, so 2016 will be a new Contract. Dick asked if the 3.9% was under the current Contract or under the Contract being proposed. Chief Wagner stated it's under the Contract that expired in December. There's a Warrant Article for 2016. Dick apologized and asked why are you showing a 3.9% increase for 2016 when the Contract expired in 2015; was he missing something. Mark Hounsell stated it's called status quo, when you have a Contract with public employees that expires it stays in effect, it's not Evergreen, but that's a good point because the raise is not part of the status quo. Chief Wagner stated they get their raises every November and what they get on November 1st has to last them until November 1st of 2016. Once a new Contract is put into place, or if a new Contract is put into place, those numbers will change for November and December of next year.

Mark Hounsell stated isn't it the case that if the Contract doesn't pass, then you are in status quo and that means there are no pay raises. Chief Wagner stated right for 2016, but they already got their raises in 2015. Mark stated so this 3.9% is for 2015. Chief Wagner stated correct. Chairman Mosca stated the raise went into effect November 1st of 2015 and it carries out for a year, so it carries to October 31st of 2016, so that's what this is representing. Mark stated he agreed with that.

Jim LeFebvre stated therefore the \$21,000.00 being talked about in the Warrant Article is to cover the 2 months. Chief Wagner stated correct.

Dick Klement stated he was not sure if it was in the Chief's bailiwick or the Town's, the School has an item for the SRO of \$59,725.00 as an expenditure to somebody on the Town side, does that go through the Police Department. Chief Wagner stated no, it does not; it goes back as Police Revenue in the General Fund.

Dick Klement stated the Police Revenue line is less than what the School is sending. Chief Wagner stated he was sorry that he didn't know what the Police Revenue was, but they, as a Police Department, give a number to the School every year which includes 180 days of that Officer's pay, benefits

and everything that goes along with it. It is his understanding that it goes back to the Town as either Police Revenue or goes to the General Fund somehow. It does not go back into the Police Department Budget. Dick stated he was showing that income from the Police Department is \$58,185.00, that's what is showing on what the Town has provided us and, if that's the SRO, it's light because the School is paying \$59,725.00 and he realizes that's not a big difference in money, but is that over and above the \$58,000.00. Chief Wagner stated it may be that the School year is based on two different years; part of it could go into 2015 and part of it could go into 2016.

Lilli Gilligan stated she would like to correct Dick (Klement), he is using 2013 Revenue figures. Dick stated you could be right, he's done that before. Dick stated so it would be \$70,000.00, but the School is giving you \$59,725.00. So \$59,000.00 of that \$70,000.00 comes from the School and the remainder comes from Police Department Revenue. Chief Wagner stated right. Lilli stated most of it is from Accident Reports. Dick stated he was reading the wrong line.

Mark Hounsell stated he had a question for Lilli (Gilligan). Chairman Mosca asked if it was related to the Police Department Budget. Mark stated when the School pays for the SRO, what's the mechanism for them doing that; not requesting more from the Town or is it a check. Lilli stated the Town issues the School a bill that itemizes the labor for the specific person that is the SRO at the School for that period of time that covers the calendar year so it is split over two different School years for you guys and it's paid in a one-time check and then booked to this Revenue line, Police Income. Mark thanked Lilli because he was wondering about that transaction.

Chairman Mosca stated his question is on Dispatchers and Secretarial. One is going up 4.8% and one is going up 5.2%. Are they contractual also? Chief Wagner stated they are.

Chairman Mosca stated the only other thing is Heat and Electricity and they seem to be running a little light. Is that something that will be discussed along with gasoline and you may reduce those line items a little bit. Chief Wagner stated right and he thought maybe even heating.

Chairman Mosca asked the members if they had anything further for the Chief while he is here. There being no further questions, Chairman thanked Chief Wagner for his presentation.

PARKS AND RECREATION

John Eastman stated he would try to be brief and do the same thing the Chief (Wagner) did. The 2016 request this year is \$375,461.00 which is up \$18,327.00 which comes out to a 5.1% increase. As a summary, out of that \$18,000.00, roughly \$11,500.00 is in Personnel and that is due to this past year they had increased numbers in participation in their Summer Program. They increased by this past year by 1 and for 2016, based on their numbers from last year and the averages, they increased it by 3 summer staff which was discussed with the Selectmen. That's at the

recommendation of their insurance carrier based on a 7:7.5 kid per staff ratio. Out of the \$18,000.00 about \$11,000.00 is 3 summer staff for 9 weeks.

John Eastman stated the other portion is in Programs. Again they had increased participation quite a bit this year in all of their Programs, but primarily in the summer and therefore they purchased more equipment, more snacks, more things that they use for the Summer Camp as well as some of their special events which is things like a Halloween Party, the Turkey Trot Race, Letters to Santa and those kinds of things.

John Eastman stated Office stayed the same. Like he said, Programs did increase. They also put in this year the Whitaker Grooming. They give \$3,000.00 to groom the trails at Whitaker Woods and that was put in and that's why it jumped up from what they had last year and they have been able to manage what they are going to spend in 2016 in the Program side. Office was the same; Dues and Seminars are all about the same.

John Eastman stated he wanted to go back to Parks Maintenance. The Parks Maintenance is up by about \$5,000.00 and that's just due to their having a new employee, not an increase, but just someone transferring over. Someone left and someone transferred over from the Town Garage and they just had a higher rate of pay.

John Eastman stated Facilities actually went down; they were able to save some money and move things around with Portable Toilets in their Contracts and were able to save a little bit of money on the Facilities side.

Peter Donohoe stated actually in your Parks & Maintenance you under expended the Budget by about \$10,000.00, so it's really like a \$13,000.00 increase this year. John Eastman stated he could tell Peter why. They had an employee leave in the middle of the summer and it was a full-time employee and they had someone transfer over to take that spot, but now their third maintenance person was now gone and the summer was more than half over and they did hire someone part-time to try to fill in. It took about 3 weeks to hire that person and by that time, two factors: they worked less time and their rate of pay was considerably less because they weren't a full-time employee. That's why they saved money on that end. Peter stated sure. John stated that won't be the case for this year because their third part-time person comes on board on Memorial Day and they had that in and then their full-time employee left right at the end of June 1st or first of July. They had a whole month of where they were trying to fill that spot, so there was some salary that was saved as a result of that. Trying to get someone in place; he actually only had one person on at the time and they were sharing that with Public Works. Paul (DegliAngeli) was giving John some people when he could and then a person just transferred over.

Peter Donohoe stated it just begs the question of "can you do it with 2 people instead of 3". John Eastman stated no; in his opinion, no. In the Parks Maintenance side of what they do, they not only do all of the mowing and take care of all of the Town trash, they groom all of the ball fields. When they finish the Library on one day, they have to be back at the

Library 4 days later. If you look, they have close to between 35 to 36 Cemeteries and Parks that they take care of and do all of the Town trash and they do it on weekends. One of the things that they have is from Memorial Day to Columbus Day, the guys work Monday through Friday and half a day on Sunday because they have to do the Town trash and he always has to have two guys on and if one person is not there, so they have a rotating schedule. In the weekly work, during the week, in his opinion, they could use, and he didn't put it in, but they could use that third part-time person to start even earlier, but they are getting by and he thought they could still get by starting with Memorial Day and finishing on Columbus Day.

Chairman Mosca stated the 3 new part-time people due to insurance requirements, so we have more kids in Programs. What's the revenue for the additional to offset the \$11,000.00. John Eastman stated the revenue is a Revolving Fund. Chairman stated to Lilli Gilligan that he wanted to know the uptake in revenue for the new participants and how much that offsets the \$11,000.00. John asked if the Chairman would like to know the numbers also. Chairman stated he was just looking at the revenue change from the previous year.

Lilli Gilligan stated the revenue did experience an uptake and all revenues for Summer Camp go into the Recreational Revolving Fund which supports dollar for dollar the Recreational Programs. Chairman Mosca stated his question is what was the revenue increase and how much of that is offsetting the \$11,000.00 we're spending. Lilli stated she didn't have the Recreation Revolving Fund documents with her because it's not under the Budget Committee's purview, but the charges and fees for Summer Camp do not come anywhere near the cost of sending a child to the Summer Camp. Chairman stated he was just trying to see how much of an offset. Lilli stated absolutely. Chairman stated it is going to cover some of it though and Lilli stated yes.

Chairman Mosca stated he's looking at the Budget being up \$18,300.00 and of that \$5,000.00 is from someone transferring over to take a position that was vacated and \$11,000.00 for new hires that is mandated by insurance, so that's \$16,000.00 of the \$18,000.00 which is out of our control really. The overall Budget if you take that away isn't going up that much; he was just trying to grasp it with all of the additional children in the Programs, he knows it's not going to cover the costs, but what is the delta between the two. Lilli stated absolutely, okay.

Mark Hounsell stated there has to be, because of the size of the facility and the limitations of the facilities, there has to be a cap on how many new people you can have come, children you can have come to participate. Are we approaching that cap? John Eastman stated he would let Earl (Sires) answer that, but he could tell the members what the numbers are. Not to bore the members with the details, their average this year was 161 kids a day and that's based on participation. They have all of the numbers over the last 10 years. Last year it was about 22 average less and that's where the 7 came from because they are now with Primex Insurance and they recommend, and again they've kept their numbers true to form and he doesn't like coming here saying they need more people, but they based

2016's numbers on what they did in 2015. Their biggest day at the Rec was 187 kids which is probably 45 or 50 more kids than when Pine Tree was there its last year in 1990. With that being said, he didn't know if that was a good comparison.

Earl Sires stated to get to Mark's (Hounsell) question and it is a very good question, they are pushing the facility with these numbers in two different ways. One is sheer space, just having a place for kids and two, the ability of the facilities to support the kids in a healthy way. The members will see when we get to Paul's (DegliAngeli) presentation on the Building Capital Reserve Fund, the members will see some projects that are designed to address some of these issues, i.e. air quality and some of these other things. The Selectmen have talked, and we have talked with them, about the fact that we are pushing these numbers and do you want to raise the fees to limit the number of people that go and that doesn't sound like a good idea; do they just want to cap it and how do you do that; do you use first come/first serve and then tell the other kids "no" or do you try to accommodate through a facility that's going to handle them. The Selectmen have so far chosen that third alternative and have started to talk about, like Town Hall, what's the future of that facility. As we all know, there are a variety of different things that are being kicked around, but they are looking at the need for additional facility space and improvements over the next few years.

Mark Hounsell stated at what number, if you can, or ball park number will you have to start turning children away. Earl Sires stated they are not planning to do that. Mark asked what if 220 becomes your average. John Eastman stated it's not that he didn't have an answer, he wasn't sure how to answer that because their total enrollment and that's been that way, and this is his 26th year, the total enrollment this year was about 262. Never in all of the years that he's been there, have they ever had every kid that's registered show up on the same day, but that must be, as we all know, that must be on the table. It's never happened, so statistically he feels fairly comfortable saying to the members that, and he doesn't really know the number, but he knows that on 182 the weather was good. They have a tent that they have out back for their lunch area. They do lunches like a school, they have to do them in phases. They do them for 6 to 9 year olds because they have to eat first; they do snacks and then they do the older kids. If it were to rain on a day that you have 182, they make do. They use every single classroom or cubby that they have, but 182 would be very, very tight. That's really the only way he knows how to answer it and that's what he's told Earl (Sires) and the Board of Selectmen. He thought if they had a spike and it was 200, they would have to because they are in a situation where they really need to have a discussion about it at the Selectmen's level.

Mark Hounsell stated the thing is, given the layout of the facility, the offices downstairs and all over and you've got all of these cubbies that you are talking about, he thought they better have the help that is being recommended by the insurance company because there's enough corners in that place that you've got to have adult eyes if you're going to have that many kids and it looks like we're going to have that many kids.

Earl Sires stated to wrap this, it's something the Selectmen and staff are aware of and are thinking about. They don't have a plan at this time other than to try to rectify some of the shortcomings of the building as it is now.

Dick Klement stated on the Rec Facilities, he thought it was the maintenance they were doing in facility as well as collecting trash and so on. At \$8,000.00 you can't absorb very much of a problem inside that building. John Eastman stated correct and here's what he would say: Facilities isn't just the Conway Rec Building. They group it all in. It could be Conway Lake beach where they have a Life Guard Stand where they have supplies or it could be Schouler Park where they have to fix. The main facilities portion is not so much for the Conway Community Building, that's included in Government Buildings.

Bill Marvel stated he had two questions with the first being pretty simple: are you gauging your staff need based on that insurance recommendation on the worse day attendance or the greatest attendance or on the average attendance. John Eastman stated the average attendance.

Bill Marvel stated his other question is since recreation is not mandated by the Constitution like education, why is raising fees not a good idea, particularly in an area where people are complaining about the decline in non-tax revenue. Earl Sires stated whether it's a good idea or not, the Selectmen have looked at it and decided not to do that. He thought the thinking there is that they want to provide a safe place for kids to come in the summer; it has social benefits in that the kids are there and not out some where getting in trouble and that kind of stuff. In talking with staff, the opinion of staff is that we are kind of bumping up on the point at which they would start to see people priced out, even though it's very affordable for most folks, there are those people that would have trouble. They do scholarships so that nobody gets turned away for financial reasons. To answer the question, he guessed the Selectmen have just decided to keep it where it's relatively affordable for everybody. It is below what you would see in comparable programs, actually he wouldn't say they are comparable programs, it's below other programs that he thought weren't nearly as well run as their program. Earl further stated that John (Eastman) has reminded him that there have been increments of \$10.00 to \$15.00 a year over the years so it hasn't remained static, it has crept up a little bit.

Chairman Mosca stated he had a question on Patriotic Purposes. Last year we increased the Budget for the 4th of July for the 250th Celebration and, at that time, we were told it was going to be a one-time thing. Now it looks like we are increasing it even more because everybody would like more fireworks at the larger stage.

Earl Sires stated \$21,000.00 was being recommended and the Town had about \$14,000.00 for the 4th of July and \$17,000.00 this year. Chairman Mosca stated whereas in 2014 we were only at \$8,300.00. Earl stated a couple of things have happened and he was going to answer in a general way and then John (Eastman) can give the members some of the details. One of the things they learned going through the exercise of preparing for the 250th was

that they needed to kind of up the security, up the planning and up the presence of Town staff at this event. We see the kinds of the things that are going on all over the country. They spent half of a year planning with the Police Department on emergency response, medical response and a lot of different procedural things with staff. They learned that and they realized that with the leadership of the Police Department that you really can't have these kinds of events with 10,000 to 12,000 people showing up downtown without a staff and planning for it. Part of it is that they have realized that they just need to up the preparation and that has some expense. Also, there's some other things that John can mention here to add to this.

John Eastman stated one of the things, when he put this whole thing together, he planned it out from soups to nuts, i.e. what would it cost, the Chief and Lieutenants put theirs together and they can tell you the cost from the Police side. The fireworks for 2016, they did not and have not intended to spend. They spent \$12,000.00 for the fireworks for the 250th; some of that funding came from donations and the Conway's Celebrations Committee and other entities of donations and Grants. For the same the Town got in 2014, he thought they were spending \$9,200.00. The same show now is at \$10,000.00. That can be debated or they can back it down or do whatever the members may want.

John Eastman stated the other thing, the staffing as Earl (Sires) has said was ... we have a stage, and again we're talking and he planned it exactly the way they normally do it and it can be backed down and he didn't think it needed to be increased because there are only so many people. The stage, for example, costs \$2,400.00 before they even put anyone on it. Sound and lighting: they have to have a professional sound and lighting company because of safety and the way the company does it which is about \$1,700.00. Then, to his dismay and one of the things he told the Celebrations Committee on the planning that they did for the last two years, he's a Rec guy, not a concert promoter, so he kind of grossly underestimated what entertainment costs. He was thinking you could get someone for \$1,200.00/\$1,300.00, but when he talked to some entertainment people he was getting quotes like "it's \$5,000.00" and he was like "are you kidding me, hope the Eagles are coming" because that's a lot of money. (laughter)

John Eastman stated he is not making light of it, but to prepare it as a Rec person he looks at all of the Contracts that he has to deal with and then he looks at the 250th, which is one of the things that Chief Preece in North Conway talked about and Lt. Walker can talk about. One of the things that they've always had issues with is people parking on River Road. That doesn't sound like a big deal, but he had to increase his Parks guys to come in 4 hours/5 hours earlier to post "No Parking on River Road" because, as you know, when cars park on both sides of the road the Ambulances and fire personnel can't get through. He had 3 Parks guys that work, now that doesn't take an extra \$8,000.00, but then he has Rec staff where they help with all of the clean up and he kind of equates that to a smaller version of Mardi Gras. If you go and look at Schouler Park at the end of the night, they do have barrels out, but the place is trashed and they go from one end of Schouler Park all the way down through and make

sure even every gum wrapper is picked up, but he can't do it with just himself and his 3 full-time people. He does have his summer counselors, so they are there.

John Eastman stated there are different ways to plan and budget for the 4th of July. You can have fireworks and that's it or you can have what the Town has had and that's entertainment which is a band, stage, sound, lighting and an electrician. A couple of years ago they had a short and were able to have it fixed, but he has some people that say "oh, I'm an electrician and I can help you out". The Town can't have that so this year for the 250th you always anticipate what could go wrong and if it goes wrong he has to move out of town and leave his job because he would be tarred and feathered.

John Eastman stated this past year they had an electrician on site which cost about \$900.00, but he thought it was worth it if they are going to have this type of entertainment. Not to mention, but they have power for all of the vendors and the Town does get some revenue out of the vendors. The vendors are non-profit, churches, schools, civic groups, Knights of Columbus and that sort of thing and the Town charges a modest fee of about \$175.00 and the Town may take in \$1,800.00 or \$1,900.00, but they have to get an electrician because if they lose power, and it has happened, they always come to him as the person in charge. He is not an electrician and that makes him nervous when you're trying to do something. He was not making light of it, but he thought it was a degree of what does the Town of Conway/everyone want to see. Do they want to start the entertainment at 3:00 PM or do they just want to see, it's kind of here or kind of here, you have to figure out what kind of entertainment you want.

Chairman Mosca stated his problem is that we were told last year that it was going to be a one time bump and then it was going to go back. Not only has it not gone back, but it has increased, it has doubled from what it was 2 years ago, more than doubled. He wanted to know why; part of what John (Eastman) was telling the members he hears, but that wasn't what they were told last year. It's completely against what this Committee was told last year.

Earl Sires stated that may well be and he guessed it was a lesson learned on their part.

Chairman Mosca asked do we really need that big of a fireworks display and stage and everything; who makes the money, the Town doesn't make the money on this, the businesses are. Earl Sires stated that's a question that he took to the Selectmen last fall: here's where we're going with this thing; much like the Rec Program itself, it grew and they realized in order to make this thing safe and do it appropriately they had to staff up, had to have these expenses, had to have an electrician and this kind of stuff and the price tag being this. You've got options. They can not have entertainment; they can have everyone show up for fireworks at 9:00 PM/9:30 PM and that's that. They were providing them with some options and they chose really to continue something, not at the same level as this past year, but similar. He thought the thinking was that this brings people to the Valley, it helps businesses that are in the tourism industry

and they were supportive of that. So they sort of made that policy decision that they would continue at this level and the price tag is the price tag.

Chairman Mosca asked shouldn't we be going to the Chamber of Commerce and asking them for money for the increases. They're the beneficiaries, the townspeople aren't the real beneficiaries. People are going to come, stay in the hotels and use whatever whether we have this or not. Earl Sires stated they could do that. Chairman stated of the 12,000 people who were in Schouler Park, how many are from the Town of Conway and how many are not from the Town of Conway. Earl stated about 1,500.

Mark Hounsell stated he thought that actually takes us back to the reason why we have Patriotic Purposes at all. Up until this year, and he won't say the 250th because that only comes around a quarter millennium, but what we have seen and it is correct to point out, is more than a doubling from 2014. So that begs the question: is it Patriotic Purposes or is it entertainment that is used to track people into do business. If it's that, that's okay he guessed for some, but it shouldn't be Patriotic Purposes, it should be something else because we can be patriotic without all of this. He was happy to find out that they are still going to have the Parade in Conway Village because, quite frankly, he doesn't much care to go to North Conway on the 4th of July. It really comes down to: is this Patriotic Purposes or is this just kind of supporting businesses at the taxpayers' expense. That's the bigger question.

Chairman Mosca stated he guessed that is something that will be discussed at the Deliberative.

Bill Marvel stated he actually has a question since we have some uniformed constabulary here and they might be able to answer a question for him; could potentially weigh on whether he supports even fireworks and that question is, and he wanted to precede it by noting that certain citizens or residents in Conway around the 4th of July tend to have huge fireworks demonstrations on their own property and he means huge. Dick (Klement) may have been kept awake by a neighbor of ours and he wasn't quite sure who it was. Dick stated he thought it was a canon. Bill stated you're coming out of bed thinking it's a mortar or something, but these fireworks are going on when there is no fire engines around, there hasn't been any rain in a while and the fireworks are going out to what used to be a swamp but now it's cut over and dead, is that legal and then, if he knew the answer to that, he might make a decision about whether he may want to support a controlled, contained demonstration or just sit back and enjoy the ones that he really doesn't enjoy now.

Chief Wagner stated he couldn't hear really well what Bill (Marvel) had said, but fireworks are not permitted within the Town of Conway on your own other than fire crackers or sparklers. Bill stated no, no this rivaled North Conway's demonstration and may have exceeded it. Chief Wagner stated the Police Department gets probably 20 calls between the week before and the week after, they get quite a few calls for fireworks. They do respond to them, but usually they are done by the time they get there so they can't take a lot of action. It is not permissible within the Town of

Conway. Bill stated you (Police Department) would have made it to this one because it lasted about 45 minutes. Chief Wagner stated he wasn't sure if someone had called. Bill stated he didn't because he didn't know if it was legal or not. Chief Wagner stated it is not. Bill stated he didn't know that.

Chairman Mosca asked if there was anything else on any of the Budgets or the different Department Budgets before we go to the Warrant Articles. There being none, Chairman asked Earl Sires to proceed with the Warrant Articles.

WARRANT ARTICLES

Earl Sires stated he wanted to draw the members attention to Page 5 in the Warrant Article packet. That presents all of the Warrant Articles that are being proposed, their Tax Rate impact and the difference between this year and last year. He started out the discussion with the Budget Committee on the Town's Budget this year by saying he felt the Operating Budget was pretty straight forward and pretty much a status quo Budget, but that the real issue was going to be the Town's Capital Budget and he felt that if the members looked at the summary sheet they would see that is the case.

Earl Sires stated the Town was looking at significant increases being requested in the Capital side and the Warrant Articles side some where in excess of \$600,000.00, a significant tax impact and he just wanted to sort of give the members that heads up as the Warrant Articles are reviewed, so that everyone literally is on the same page with what is going to be talked about. Earl asked Chairman Mosca if he wanted to talk about the Operating Budget Warrant Article because that's pretty straight forward which would then get us into the Police Union Contract. Then Paul (DegliAngeli) will be up to talk about the various Capital Reserve Funds.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEARS 2016-2017 BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CONWAY AND POLICE

Lt. Mattei stated they have a tentative agreement for 2016/2017. It's a two year Contract with a total cost of \$94,153.00 and if you break that down over the two years: 2016 would equate to \$21,774.00 and 2017 would equate to \$72,378.00. Two-thirds of that, a majority of that increase is in Police Salaries, Law Enforcement Salaries for the entire Department and they are going to be transitioning to a step system, a step pay system. That will get them away from utilizing the 30-Town Survey. It allows an employee to earn up to a 3% raise if they score effectively on a performance evaluation. The employee has to score 82% or higher to move up to the next step in salary. The cost of that 2 year salary would be \$33,500.00 if you broke it up under the two years.

Lt. Mattei stated other factors in the Contract were educational incentives, those are going to be increased slightly. Employees will get an incentive for an Associates, Bachelors or Masters degree, so those are going up slightly. They have Special Assignment incentives which are for Officers, employees for such things as accident reconstruction, Detective call-outs. Right now their Detectives that are on call-out do not get paid

to be on call-outs, but they are required to be in town and around on weekends or during their week of call-out, they are not paid for that right now, so they will be offered a stipend for that.

Lt. Mattei stated other things would be Fleet Manager, DARE Instructors, Certified Firearm Instructors, small stipends for those. The last would be Holiday Pay Rate; right now an Officer, Dispatcher or employee works a holiday, on that day and in that pay check they get paid straight time for that and they would go to time and a half for that.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any questions. Mark Hounsell stated thank you for getting that 30-Town Survey gone. Lt. Mattei stated it is pretty convoluted. Mark stated he appreciated that personally and he thought the town would too. He missed it; your increase is 3%. Lt. Mattei stated they can earn up to 3% annually and that's based on a performance evaluation. To move to each step it is based on a maximum of 3%, so if they score an 82% or higher that would qualify them to move to the next step which would max out at a 3% raise. Mark stated so you budget for the best scenario and then you base it on evaluations. Lt. Mattei stated that's correct. Mark stated thank you.

Chief Wagner stated Mark (Hounsell) talked about the 30-Town Survey and they got rid of it except for one thing: to have a starting pay. They still start their Patrolmen at 92% of the average of that 30-Town Survey, but after that, it's gone. Mark stated so it's almost gone. Chief Wagner stated almost gone, but he just wanted to let the members know that.

Dick Klement stated he said this when the School was here or he said it to Earl (Sires). Social Security raise this year was 0%; Military raise was 1.3%; the Civilian Federal raise is 1%; Military retirees get 0%; Medicare Part B has not changed, thank God; and Civil Federal Retirement, those retirees will get 0%. You can see the problem he is facing in giving any raises to anybody in Town and municipal government. It's a tough year for the people that write the check to pay your salaries. That's not good news for you guys, but at some point in time we need to realize that these are the guys writing the check and something has got to slow down. Just fair warning where he stands on it.

Jim LeFebvre stated on the 82% grouping, how many of your Officers hit that percentile. Lt. Mattei stated it's department wide, not just Police Officers. Jim stated okay, then department wide then. Lt. Mattei stated a majority; they do have good staff majority. Jim asked if it was 55%, 75%, 85% or what. Lt. Mattei stated he would say that a large majority of their staff hit the 82%. Jim stated to Chief Wagner that he would like more information on that. Chief Wagner stated that he didn't hear what Jim had said. Jim stated he was curious as to how many of his staff are hitting the 82% rate across the board. Chief Wagner stated he thought there was probably 2 that did not. Jim stated thank you.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any more comments or questions on the Police Contract. There being none, Chairman thanked Lt. Mattei and Lt. Walker for their presentation.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
RECONSTRUCTION

Chairman Mosca stated Capital Reserve for Infrastructure Reconstruction in amount \$800,000.00. Paul DegliAngeli stated if you read the Warrant Article, it's \$550,000.00, but the Selectmen voted to place in \$250,000.00 which was leftover from this year. It's a little confusing. So you are raising \$550,000.00 from taxation. Chairman stated and the rest from Fund Balance which is already taxes.

Dick Klement stated it's a question of instead of writing a Warrant Article for the \$800,000.00 and refunding \$250,000.00 to the taxpayers, the Warrant Article comes down and the taxpayers get less of a refund from last year's surplus. Paul DegliAngeli asked Dick if he had page 1. Dick stated he did. Mr. DegliAngeli stated if you look at the third Article down, just read through that for a moment. Dick stated right, it comes from the Fund Balance, but if you took money from the Fund Balance and applied it directly to taxation and then came out with a true cost of \$800,000.00, then people would know if they want to spend \$800,000.00 for this. Right now they are spending \$800,000.00, but its just coming from a different bucket.

Earl Sires stated to Dick Klement that he was exactly right and that's why the Department of Revenue Administration requires the Town to write that Warrant Article that way. How much are you going to spend? \$800,000.00. Where is it coming from? Some from taxation and some, in essence, from the bank account at year end 2015.

Earl Sires stated just to talk about contribution to the Fund Balance at year end 2015, the Town is estimating \$650,000.00 would be going into Fund Balance. So the Selectmen plan to use \$250,000.00 to contribute to this Capital Reserve Fund; \$350,000.00 to offset taxes in 2016 and contribute \$50,000.00 or so to Fund Balance. So offsets the Capital needs, offsets taxes and then actually add to Fund Balance a little bit at the end of the year so they are not actually netting that drawn down. That's the plan.

Mark Hounsell stated he knows the Town likes to maintain a Fund Balance; he was wondering where we are after all of this, where would we be as far as a percentage of the Fund Balance remaining. Earl Sires stated it would be about the same as where the Town is now; it will be in the 8% or 9% range. Mark stated that's within the range. Earl stated he thought it was talked about last year, but the Department of Revenue Administration recommends that municipalities have between 5% and 15% of their gross Budget in reserve. The Town is at 8% which is towards the low end, but they are comfortable with that because, unlike other municipalities, the Town has this series of Capital Reserve Funds which function because they carry a balance. They also function as reserves or rainy day funds for individual usage, i.e. equipment, vehicles, projects and so on, so the Town is okay and the Town's Auditors are okay with being towards the lower end. It's still a healthy amount; it's \$2 Million plus in the bank. Mark asked if it was over \$2 Million and Earl stated yes.

Chairman asked if there were any further questions or comments on Infrastructure Reconstruction. There being none, Chairman asked to proceed with the next Warrant Article.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT

Chairman Mosca stated Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in amount \$300,000.00.

Dick Klement stated on page 7, you show the Sidewalk (Trackless), is that a lease to purchase. Paul DegliAngeli stated it was; it was a 5 year program.

Chairman Mosca asked why are we raising \$300,000.00 if, at the end of the year, we're still going to have a \$200,000.00 Capital Reserve balance. Paul DegliAngeli asked the Chairman if he wanted to see a higher number in balance. Chairman stated no, he wanted to see a lower number in balance.

Paul DegliAngeli stated the problem with a lower number is that if you look down the life expectancy column, members will see that the Town has bumped their vehicles from 10 years to 12 years and the Town's heavy equipment from 10 years to 15 years. The Town is able to do that because they track their maintenance and, if in the 11th year they do maintenance and look back at what the maintenance was years 1 through 10 and it's still within the average, they keep pushing the life. If, however, they are in the 12th year of a 15 year vehicle and are faced with a \$30,000.00 repair, that's a bad investment, so instead the Town goes for the replacement. If you look across the spreadsheet, members will see the replacement of some of those more expensive pieces of equipment are \$170,000.00, \$150,000.00 etc. They have tried to do two things: keep the funding level and, as members look at the Warrant Article request projected over the next 10 years, that's what they have tried to do and keep a balance so that they can push the life of these things, but make a reasonable decision when they are out there towards an end of life if it makes more sense to replace rather than repair.

Paul DegliAngeli stated the repair/replace decision is a common one and the tried and true financial analysis is: what does that repair cost; how long are you likely to have left in the vehicle if you capitalize that repair over that limited life time. How does that compare to what the average annual expense of that vehicle was. What does that do, that repair plus a purchase price towards another one versus deferring the purchase of another one. It's not very subjective, it's extremely objective, it's finance. Having that balance gives the Town that latitude and they've proven over these last almost two decades that they've been able to stretch.

Paul DegliAngeli stated when he came to work for the Town in 1992, they were replacing trucks at every 7 years and heavy equipment at every 10. When the members look down there, they won't see that. What the members do see in some cases are the snow blower, Vehicle #1, life expectancy 40 years, purchase year 1978. It's a diesel engine. They break it nightly when they use it and they repair it to keep it running because there's no

reason not to. With that balance it gives the Town that ability to make a sound financial decision.

Dick Klement stated he thought one could see from the frustration, or his frustration, the Capital Reserve Funds for Highway and Maintenance of Buildings and that stuff is about \$1.5 Million which is about what was spent last year on all Warrant Articles. So in a year when we are \$700,000.00 up on Warrant Articles, most of that is Highway and Maintenance. He does not discount that because if you don't maintain stuff, then you spend a whole bunch more money, but it is a big bump.

Chairman Mosca asked if the members had any further questions or comments. Paul DegliAngeli stated he would like to get back to what Dick (Klement) was saying.

Paul DegliAngeli stated he was not sure if he could wrap his mind around what Dick (Klement) was saying. Other than the mouse in the snake's belly, if you will, which was the Trackless and at that \$225,000.00 members will see that go up in the future because it is adjusted for inflation, but they are aiming to keep that level. Now if you (Dick) are referring back to Infrastructure ...

Dick Klement stated he was just looking at the totals for the Warrant Articles and there's the top half and then there's the bottom half and most of the stuff on the top half is Capital Reserve. Paul DegliAngeli asked what page was Dick looking at. Dick stated he was on page 5. Dick stated most of the top half is Capital Reserve and in doing some quick numbers excluding Police, but leaving in Parks and Rec, Town Buildings and Maintenance, that's about \$1.5 Million which is the total amount last year that we had for the Warrant Articles. So we're spending about \$700,000.00 more in Warrant Articles this year and his concern is that he knows we have to do the maintenance because if you don't do the maintenance, everything falls apart. This is just a concern that this is a significant bump this year.

Paul DegliAngeli stated he didn't see that bump in Highway, but he did see it in Infrastructure and the bump in Infrastructure happened last year as well and the message there was that the Town embarked on a 10 year plan 20 years ago. Our reality is that when he was hired he was asked to inventory all of these things and come up with a strategy and there are those roads or bridges that the Town invested significant dollars in, going back these last 20 years, and they are now due for maintenance. However, through holding the bottom line, holding the bottom line, holding the bottom line which is what he was asked to do year after year, many things got deferred. So now the Town has Infrastructure, roads and bridges, that they made a major investment in are now due for maintenance. You don't want to squander the money invested, so you need to do that stitch in time.

Paul DegliAngeli stated yet there are other items that have never been addressed because they kept deferring them. In those other items, was a bridge in his (Doug Swett) back yard that closed the road in East Conway. There was a bridge at Tasker Hill which closed Tasker Hill when it collapsed. They know where these are; it's not a secret, they've been in

there a good long time and the Town has known for a good long time they need to be repaired and by budgeting, via the bottom line, they kept deferring them until they collapsed. So when he puts the question to the decision makers of whether they want to defer this list of others until they collapse, which by the way always costs more money to fix, or do you want to up so that there is a chance to repair them before they collapse. Here's where we are and he can't solve that problem.

Dick Klement stated the purpose of his comment was not to say that money is being spent foolishly, don't get him wrong; the purpose of the comment is to say that we, as a Town and God knows as a nation too, have wanted to have the nice things and have frittered away our money on nice things, but when it comes time to fix roads, fix bridges or whatever, that takes a second seat. As you (Paul DegliAngeli) pointed out, they wanted to hold the line, so it's a question of perhaps all of us need to look at expenditures and to say we don't have credit cards here, we have dollar bills we put out on the table and the Town doesn't have money that they get from the printing press located some place on Pennsylvania Avenue. It was not aimed at the Highway Department.

Chairman Mosca stated let's get back here as he didn't want to sit here having a philosophical discussion all night or we'll be here until Midnight and that's not going to happen. Let's stay on the Warrant Articles and discuss the Warrant Articles.

Chairman Mosca stated we are on the Capital Reserve for Highway Equipment in amount \$300,000.00. His comment was does it have to be that high basically when every other year for the next 10 years out it's going to be \$225,000.00. He was just looking at where can we cut some things without hurting ourselves.

John Edgerton stated looking at the Warrant Article for \$300,000.00 this year, if it was \$225,000.00 this year, it would still increase as it goes along and it would not impact quite so bad. There's no reason. That's his thought of looking at the numbers.

Paul DegliAngeli asked John Edgerton if he was saying to reduce \$300,000.00 to \$250,000.00/\$275,000.00 and then put it in the following years. John stated the next 5 years is \$225,000.00 and that still gives you a decent pad, \$300,000.00 or \$225,000.00 and that \$75,000.00, not a lot of money in our budget, but it doesn't screw you up any.

Paul DegliAngeli stated to John Edgerton what do you suggest should be changed in the 2016 request. John stated \$300,000.00 to \$225,000.00. Mr. DegliAngeli stated take \$75,000.00 out of it which would leave \$125,000.00 balance. Unfortunately, he didn't bring that magic 8-Ball this week that he talked about last time. If the members would look at Vehicle #15, just for instance, Basin Cleaner and Truck, 20 years, that's 18, if it goes down in 2016, that's a \$135,000.00 piece of equipment. He is left with \$125,000.00, \$10,000.00 short, for example, he could come back and change all of the life expectancies down and just say "10 years, we're done, let's replace it", but instead he is trying to stretch the life of these

things and he can only do that with a safety net. It's your pleasure; he was just pointing out what the logic was when it was put together.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR SOLID WASTE EQUIPMENT

Chairman Mosca stated Solid Waste Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in amount \$110,000.00. There were no questions or comments from the members.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR LANDFILL EXPANSION

Chairman Mosca stated Landfill Expansion Capital Reserve Fund in amount \$110,000.00.

Jim LeFebvre asked what was the current balance in the Capital Reserve Fund for Landfill Expansion. Paul DegliAngeli stated the balance is \$112,901.00.

Jim LeFebvre stated based on our earlier conversations regarding the extension that we have seen in the Landfill, can you forego that this year. Paul DegliAngeli stated maybe, but the Town did forego it two years ago. Pick a year; when do we want to start. The Town has a projection and when they sat down and did this, they said this facility will last this long. They know what it will cost; they've built three Phases now and they know what each Phase costs. Based on the number of years they've projected it to last, they know future worth/present value based on inflation historically and they funded it a little under that because if it's lasting longer or if it's going to cost more, they have time to escalate it at the end. He gave the Town Manager two numbers to bracket it and, of course, they went with the lower number. So, something has to be put in unless one wants to finance it, take out a Bond, pay interest, and if you pick a number of years, divide it by this and this is what you get.

Paul DegliAngeli stated there's a lot of variables in there and he admits that, but he guessed that it was a fancy way of saying they had a logical nexus for how they arrived at this number and, you know, how else do you want to do it.

Jim LeFebvre stated he just had a concern over what we heard from you (Paul DegliAngeli) previously and that this is, he's not convinced that this is the appropriate process on this one. You were telling us earlier that the Landfill has been extended and we haven't heard, at least he hasn't heard and maybe he missed it, how long that extension is aimed at and therefore will this affect that number, will that extension affect this number in some degree that we haven't yet totally looked at.

Paul DegliAngeli stated he would address that. The Town based this on 21 years, thinking it usually takes a year to build; you have to do a year ahead of time so there's 22 and if you ever had a problem, there's 23. The first Phase lasted 8 years and they are projecting that this one will last three times that amount for 24 years. Is it possible it could go 30 years? Yes. Is it possible it could go 18 years? Yes. He doesn't know the future. He can tell the members that last week, they were taking sheetrock to a final destination where it was processed, where they've been taking it for

12 years. That ended; they sent the Town a letter saying that as of next week they are no longer accepting it. It's trash; he doesn't know. Pick a number; if you want to make it \$100,000.00 instead of \$110,000.00, but if you just zero it like the Town did that first year, then there is another year. You've got to pick a place, have some sort of rationale. They are open to any method, but the cost is the cost. The Town has built three of them and they've always been right on for what each cost. If you have a method or suggestion, they would be happy to kick it around.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further questions or comments from the members. There being none, Chairman moved on.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR MAINTENANCE OF TOWN
BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Chairman Mosca stated Maintenance of Town Buildings and Facilities Capital Reserve Fund in amount \$275,000.00.

Chairman Mosca asked Paul DegliAngeli why nothing was scheduled to be spent in 2019. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that's a good question. Another way to ask that question is: why did you put gym installation out at 2020. This particular gym is the Rec Center. The members heard John (Eastman) talk about the Rec Center earlier. The Rec Center needs a lot of work and it's been years since the Town has done anything to it. The Town has been deferring any maintenance there for two reasons: they had other things that seemed higher on the priority as one reason, but primarily there's a group in town, Friends of Rec, who have been talking about funding a new facility for a number of years now. Over the last two years, they have met more frequently, more intensively and have looked at projects, but a decision hasn't been made.

Paul DegliAngeli stated that he and Earl Sires met with the Friends of Rec early this Budget season and said the time has come, there's an average of 160 kids in a gymnasium on a hot, humid summer day and the ventilation doesn't work and he can't fix the ventilation, he has to take it out. It's been there since the 1970's, since Mark (Hounsell) put it in, it's his fault, the warranty period was short. (laughter)

Paul DegliAngeli stated the time has come and there was some interesting discussion earlier about the number of people, trying to get at the number for capacity, what's the capacity of the building and the facility. He would say at the 160 mark, we are at that capacity. It was looked at earlier and looked at it when they were making Budget estimates for this group that wanted to build a new facility and the gym is a small gym, it's not a full-size gym, but it suits the purpose. The old Pine Tree School was 4 rooms and one of those rooms is a Cafeteria and is set up for that and is not for general play. Standard classrooms these days have like 22 students in them if they are sitting nicely in rows and columns, but if you're in there for recreation, 10 kids in one of those rooms is a lot. Let's squeeze in a few more and go to 15 times 3 and rooms are at 45; take 160 minus the 40 or 45 and you have 120 kids in the gym. Actually you can put some of them out under the tent, but that's the situation.

Paul DegliAngeli stated so they were shut down and he means that literally. The boiler inspector came and shut them down. They spent \$7,000.00 on fixing the boilers and the flues; last week they fixed the circulator pump. The fan units don't work in the vestibule, the lobby, Lenore's Office, they don't work. They have little electric space heaters plugged in. The big room still works for heat. The outside air ventilation fan and the make up fan don't work; they've tried to fix them, they can't fix them. The air conditioning: there is none. It actually smells if you go there during Summer Rec in that building. It's not he thought the thing we should be doing.

Mark Hounsell stated just to kind of knit this all together and he knew the members were on page 2 talking about Government Buildings, but if one goes to page 3 there's an Article in there to do a Study on Town Hall Facility. Wouldn't it be wise to put a Town Hall Facility/Recreation Facility if we're going to spend \$40,000.00 to really look at it, then let's really look at it. You (Paul DegliAngeli) are right; the building is not suitable for the use that we are using. It's not secure; it's not healthy; and it's not suitable. At the same time, we're going to be seeing an Article where we're going to be talking about looking at Town Facilities for \$40,000.00. Now, that's reasonable, but he thought the Town could also for that same amount of money do a facilities evaluation for the Recreation Center instead of putting a bunch of money into a building that just, no matter how much money you put into it, isn't worth it.

Paul DegliAngeli stated the other item on the Rec is the Well. At a 160 kids, they are running out of water. They can't flush toilets so they have to bring in Port-a-Johns and he needs to do something with that. Mark Hounsell agreed and stated it's not healthy.

Dick Klement stated given the average number of attendees, the age of the facility, the state of the facility, hasn't the Fire Department come in and said how many people can actually use that facility at any one time. Paul DegliAngeli stated the Town hasn't asked the question. This summer, staff started asking that same question. Dick stated shouldn't we ask that question and get an answer before we talk about how many kids we are going to have in the Summer Program. Mr. DegliAngeli stated sure.

Bill Marvel stated he wanted to make a general comment on all of the Capital Reserve Funds collectively. He does this sort of thing with his own finances, he has a cubby for money for this and money for that and this has worked well for a long time. Just the other night he was complimenting this Department on the way the money has been managed and this is part of it, but he gets nervous to see so many more. Then the cumulative total is climbing and generally speaking he looks at Capital Reserve Funds as a way around Bonds, to get the money without asking 2/3 or now only 60% of the population do you really want to spend this much money especially when it comes to things like road reconstruction. He was just wondering, and he certainly wouldn't suggest it for this year and maybe not next year, certainly wouldn't be suggesting it maybe if we had a new person at the head of the Departments that maybe it's time to go to bonding some of this stuff. It just strikes him, although it has been very economical for us and he thought it would continue to be for awhile, it

just makes him nervous to see so much money being spent on a simple majority vote.

Paul DegliAngeli stated it's the classic argument. He's reminded of Chet Lucy arguing against a Capital Reserve for the Landfill and he was very frank saying "I'm not going to be here to see it, so why do I want to save that money". It's a classic argument, whether it's a Bond or to save. He didn't know if there was one right way; he did know that when you bond for something you're paying the interest rate, so there's a cost of financing, but the Town doesn't have an investment, so it's not like there's a lost opportunity, the Town doesn't have an investment potential, the Town's funds have to be in the PDIP and, Mr. DegliAngeli asked Lilli Gilligan what percentage the Town was getting on those. Lilli stated .00025%. He would be happy to turn all of that interest earnings over to you. Danielle Santuccio stated promise and asked how much money was in there. Mr. DegliAngeli stated there's enough in his children's piggy banks to cover it. (laughter) Mr. DegliAngeli stated Bill (Marvel) raises a valid point, but it's the classic argument.

Earl Sires stated that they did explore with the Selectmen, they started looking at some of these things; does it make sense to have a Bond for \$1.5 Million to \$2 Million. Last year they had that decision and they looked at it and, you know, when you look at the financing, \$1 Million or \$2 Million is relatively a small bond issue and then you have the financing on top of it. The Selectmen have elected to go this route at this point, but as was mentioned, it is an option.

Bill Marvel stated the complaint about the interest, you're also losing the value of the money now. Earl Sires agreed and stated they could kick that around with the Selectmen again.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR PARKS DEPARTMENT
VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

Chairman Mosca stated Parks Department Vehicles and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$25,000.00.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any comments or questions from the members. There being none, Chairman moved on.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR POLICE VEHICLES

Chairman Mosca stated Police Vehicles Capital Reserve Fund in amount \$65,000.00.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any questions. Mark Hounsell stated now that they don't make Crown Vics, are they buying Dodges or Fords. Lt. Walker stated Fords. Mark asked what are they, Taurus. Lt. Walker stated they are much like a Taurus, but the body shape is, but they are actually a police vehicle structurally set up for police and police alone.

Chairman Mosca asked that Mark Hounsell and Lt. Walker speak up a little bit because the other side of the room can't hear what's being said.

Lt. Walker stated they have experimented in the past. He spoke with the representatives from Chevy and Dodge at the Police Expo in great length and they all raved about their vehicles for obvious reasons, but when he started asking around at different municipalities, county and state, he wasn't getting a lot of great feed back from them about the vehicles. He could talk all day about braking and transmissions. They have, over time, had better luck themselves with the Ford cruisers that they currently have. The package has changed; it changed a few years ago, but again, they have had pretty successful luck with the Fords. The biggest concern for the Police Department switching different packages is that some of the equipment is not transferable, so if they buy a cruiser, a Dodge cruiser, they now have to spend "x" amount of dollars to outfit that cruiser. Some of the things transfer like a radio going in, but a console for example or the window guards or the seat guards or the partition between the passenger up front and rear are all different, they are specific for the vehicle.

John Colbath stated to Mark Hounsell that they also maintain their fleet of vehicles so they have the parts and stuff and it's easier to maintain especially like the Police fleet if you stay with one standard vehicle rather than having the expense of maintaining different brands.

Mark Hounsell stated to Chairman Mosca that the only reason he was asking was because some times you're in a better negotiating position if you're not just dealing with one product, but if you guys have probably gotten pretty good at beating people down. Lt. Walker agreed and stated for the most part, they are very competitive and just again their experiences have been real good with the Ford vehicles. Let's be honest, Chevy and Dodge have been in and out of the cruiser making; for a long time Dodge wasn't making a cruiser, Chevy was in it and then they were out, Ford has stayed in it, so they feel comfortable in sticking with the product that they are most comfortable with and most familiar with.

Peter Donohoe stated he thought we have seen recycled charts in the past, but what's the life expectancy on the current brand of cruiser that the Police Department is deploying. Lt. Walker stated it's actually quite long, but what they do is they rotate, basically they have 4 front line cruisers, 3 patrol cars and a Supervisor's vehicle. Those vehicles rotate through; as an example, they buy 2 cruisers and those 2 cruisers go to front line cars and are used in patrol. After the first year, and they get any where between 65,000 to 70,000 miles per year is what they put on those cars. They rotate to still a front line position, but they bring in 2 more cars so that they now have 4 new ones. Once the patrol, as an example, has used that vehicle and usually any where between 100,000 to 150,000 miles sometimes depending on manufacturers and their manufactured dates, they have to push these out even longer. What happens is they rotate from patrol to Detectives or Administrative or to SRO. We are talking any where between 200,000 to 250,000 miles and then when the Police Department is done, they usually give them to the Town which they use.

Peter Donohoe stated but that hasn't happened with the current rotation of vehicles with the newer interceptors that you have in your fleet. You haven't got to that point yet. Lt. Walker stated he has one of their newer interceptors currently has 147,000 miles on it; that's a 2013. Peter stated three model years old at this point and Lt. Walker agreed. Peter stated so average rotation life is something like 3 to 3.5 years. Lt. Walker stated out of patrol, but then they may go into a secondary or non-primary for Administrative or the SRO for a year, maybe 2 years and then they'll transition to the Town.

Peter Donohoe asked what drives the number of miles per year per cruiser, what's the primary driver of that, is it calls. Lt. Walker stated calls and idling actually. There is quite a bit of idling time which Ford gives them a figure to use, so really it's driving and idling time. Peter stated those numbers are fairly static. Lt. Walker stated yes, for the most part.

Chairman Mosca asked if there was any further comments or questions on the cruisers. There being none, Chairman moved on.

PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL/GOVERNMENT CABLE
TELEVISION (PEG) TRUST FUND

Chairman Mosca stated Public Educational/Government Cable Television Capital Reserve Fund in amount \$110,000.00.

Earl Sires stated this is a fund that supports the Public Educational/Governmental Television which we are all benefiting from tonight. The monies for this Article are raised or received by the Town through franchise fees that the Town is authorized by law to charge for the use by the cable company of the Town's rights-of-way. The Federal FCC Legislation also then allows the cable company to pass that charge onto the consumer. The Town receives about \$130,000.00 a year, that number has been pretty stable over the last few years. The Selectmen have chosen, as they did last year, to ask the voters to deposit \$110,000.00 of that franchise fee into the PEG Fund with the remaining \$20,000.00 or so goes into the General Fund as Revenue for general Town purposes. The Selectmen have entered into an agreement with Valley Vision to continue the services in the same manner that they have been providing services to the Town over the last few years. That Contract will be signed if this money is approved to be donated into the Fund or deposited into the Fund.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on the PEG Fund. There being none, Chairman moved on.

TOWN EMPLOYEE EARNED BENEFITS EXPENDABLE
TRUST FUND

Chairman Mosca stated Town Employee Earned Benefits Expendable Trust Fund in amount \$30,000.00.

Earl Sires stated this is something that was started last year. The short story is, particularly in the Police Department, the Town was experiencing unexpected departures from service for a variety of reasons, both

voluntary and involuntary, and that was causing some disruption to Budgets because in some cases there were tens of thousands of dollar payouts. This Fund was established to provide a back up, to provide really a contingency fund for those unexpected departures. The Town had planned to have funding for 2 years at \$30,000.00 each year, to have an amount of \$60,000.00 in there which would be enough to cover the next few years should there be one of these events.

Mark Hounsell stated the corresponding reduction was in the Police line item for that purpose was zeroed out. Chairman Mosca stated no, that was merit. Earl Sires stated to Chief Wagner that there was at one point in the process an amount for retirements and separations. Chief Wagner stated the Police Department zeroed out their Earned Benefits line.

Mark Hounsell stated it is the same amount that is being raised in this Warrant Article and he thought it was \$30,000.00. Earl Sires agreed. Chief Wagner stated it was pretty close. Mark stated it seemed to him like that was good planning because you never know when someone might leave. Earl Sires stated this money can only be used for that purpose.

Mark Hounsell stated so you are going to cap it at \$60,000.00. Earl Sires stated yes. Mark stated this is the second \$30,000.00. Earl agreed. Mark stated so then in the future we will not have to see operational budgets with that figure in there because the Town has this reserve. Earl Sires agreed.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on the Town Employee Earned Benefits Expendable Trust Fund. There being none, Chairman moved on.

EASTERN SLOPE AIRPORT

Chairman Mosca stated Eastern Slope Airport in amount \$10,000.00.

Chairman Mosca asked if this was the third year on this. Earl Sires stated it is the third year. When this was proposed 3 years ago, the thinking was that if this was supported as a Warrant Article for 3 years by the voters, after that point it would be introduced into the Operating Budget. It has received support the last 2 years and he thought everyone was aware that this is funding to support the Eastern Slope Airport. It's not described for any particular purpose in here, but what they do use this for and what they do intend to use these monies for is some of their capital projects. They have some apron work and eventually a new terminal and that sort of thing. There was a lot of discussion 2 or 3 years ago about the value of that Airport to the Valley, for a variety of reasons. John (Edgerton) has talked about medical flights. The Town did some surveys of who is using it and primarily it's folks coming to the Valley for both personal use and for business use. Here it is again for the third year.

Bill Marvel stated all of the points that were alluded to the credit of the Airport were being undertaken without community support and besides that most of the people who showed up to support it were the sort of people who when he gets in their midst, he puts his hand on his wallet.

Earl Sires stated one of the things the Airport Board and the community feel is important is to show that there is support in both New Hampshire and Maine because there is an attempt, speaking of hands in pockets, to generate some Federal funding for some of these capital projects and future plans.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on the Eastern Slope Airport. There being none, Chairman moved on.

VEHICLE FOR TOWN HALL EMPLOYEES

Chairman Mosca stated Vehicle for Town Hall Employees in amount \$20,000.00 because they don't like the 300,000 mile police cars.

Dick Klement asked Earl Sires what do you get for \$20,000.00. Earl stated they were hoping to get a small fuel efficient sedan, something like a Chevy, Ford or something like that. Mark Hounsell stated it would have to be big enough for you to get into. Earl stated he would probably not, but it would be for most people, not all. Earl stated the Town may get a 2 year old car or something like that and they do make light of these Police vehicles, but they hadn't gotten any for 3, 4 or 5 years and the ones that they did have were not in all that great of shape. They are actually are glad to be able have the vehicles they have; they have an Expedition and a sedan. You paint them and they look pretty good, but the Town's Building Inspector has the use, pretty exclusively, of the 4-Wheel Drive and that leaves the sedan for all other purposes. They do have one remaining Crown Vic that's beyond it's last leg, but it is still being used a little bit here and there. This augment the Town's fleet of two functional vehicles.

Jim LeFebvre stated if he recalled properly, the Town Clerk had a \$2,000.00 line item for mileage. Earl Sires stated she has been getting paid mileage. Jim stated would it be more cost efficient to pay mileage rather than purchase a new vehicle. Earl stated it might be; one of the things he mentioned last time was that the fact of the matter is most of the senior Town staff use their own vehicles as it is in Town and don't charge mileage. Particularly, if everyone was charging mileage, that might be closer to offsetting the cost. They haven't really done a study of it, he thought one of the issues is people traveling to Concord or elsewhere for them to have something decent other than their personal vehicle.

Bill Marvel stated he thought he saw a newish looking gray sedan with municipal plates on it. Earl stated newish, it is newish. Bill stated it looked too new for a Policeman to have ever driven. Earl stated it's 10 years old, 11 now. It's not bad.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on the Vehicle for Town Hall Employees. There being none, Chairman moved on.

CRIME SCENE MAPPING SYSTEM FOR THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chairman Mosca stated Crime Scene Mapping System For The Police Department in amount \$27,200.00.

Chairman Mosca stated this is something that for the last 2 years has been brought before us. There has been an Article that has been pulled at the last minute for the last two years. By the Police Department waiting for the third year, they are actually going to be receiving a Grant from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Program and this is to help at crime scene investigations. The system right now, if he recalls, is a mishmash of hardware and software that don't really go with each other and issues of updating is becoming more and more difficult. Basically that's it.

Lt. Walker stated he would be very brief on this. They have had a tough time in previous years with the Board of Selectmen supporting this. This year, they supported it. For those members that aren't aware, and he will be brief, this is an evidence mapping tool that's a high tech piece of equipment that they use at large accident scenes and large/complex crime scenes. At best, they have one opportunity at these scenes to document them thoroughly so that they can then take this physical evidence to Court.

Lt. Walker stated it's an invaluable tool for the Police Department that is used. Obviously he thought everyone understood that an improper or bad documentation of scenes can lead to bad publicity for the Police Department, for the Town and obviously the loss of a conviction.

Lt. Walker stated in 2015, as an example, the Police Department has used this 4 different times for 4 serious accidents. They train on it every month and they plan to use it to pre-map the Town's major intersections. They pre-map those so in the event there is a major accident at that scene, they are not spending the time having to document that intersection and the layout of it. It's already laid out for them. That equates into less time they have to keep roads closed due to the large scenes.

Lt. Walker stated this year he was able to find and apply for a Grant, a 50/50 matching Grant, for the equipment and that equated to about \$13,600.00. The equipment total cost is \$27,200.00. He didn't know if this Grant would be available in the future, but at this point he is asking the Budget Committee to support it.

Jim LeFebvre asked if the \$27,200.00 including training for the Officers. Lt. Walker stated yes.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on the Crime Scene Mapping System for the Police Department. There being none, Chairman moved on.

TOWN HALL FACILITY NEEDS AND SITE
ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

Chairman Mosca stated Town Hall Facility Needs and Site Alternative Analysis in amount \$40,000.00.

Earl Sires stated Mark (Hounsell) alluded to this earlier, this is part of the Selectmens' efforts to see and to come to some recommendations on what to do about the future of the administrative offices for Town Hall and Town Hall employees. Originally the Selectmen talked about looking at Town Hall and then at the old Echo Building two doors down. They have decided to just look at Town Hall and do a couple of things, three things actually. The first part of the Study would be working with staff to come up with an estimate of space needs that would be for storage, fire proof storage, office space needs, meeting space needs and all of that. How big of a space is needed and then they would look at the building and just do all of the systems and structural issues with Town Hall, look at the site, look at parking, look at access, look at a lot of the environmental issues - lead, asbestos and so on, and really come up with a recommendation as to what, if anything, can be done on site with that single building to meet the space needs for Town Hall for the next 50 years.

Earl Sires stated the Selectmen plan to enter into a Contract, they've selected a firm - Alba Architects out of Woodstock he believed or over on the other side of the hill and they have ATB involved as well, a local firm. They will take a look at the building and come up with a recommendation. It's a two-part project; the first would be the analysis of whether this building is actually structurally, and from all of these other technical factors, could serve as Town Hall for the next 50 years.

Earl Sires stated if the answer is no for a variety of reasons, Code and so on and so forth, then the project is stopped and it really is more of a \$20,000.00 project. If it looks like it's a go, then they go ahead and do another set of analyses to start the planning and set the stage for some recommendations of what could go on. That's the thinking there. It is the same kind of thing that would be done or could be done with the Rec Building, it's just that they've decided to start here.

Earl Sires stated one other thing, as Paul (DegliAngeli) was talking about the Rec Building, the projects that the Town has done or planning are being scheduled in a way that it doesn't prohibit some expansion or some addition to that building. That's why the insulation and some other things were deferred to give the Town a year or two to think about some alternative on-site for the Rec Building as well.

Peter Donohoe stated to Earl Sires that he may have drifted off a little at the beginning there because it's late, but did you say the \$40,000.00 is to be spent on the current building. Earl stated yes, doing the analysis for that building. Peter stated he was surprised; from his own standpoint having been in there a fair amount and you folks are in there an awful lot, he thought he already knew the answer to what a lot of this would find.

Earl Sires stated he thought most of the Selectmen would agree with Peter (Donohoe) and he thought what they are thinking is when they get up in front of the community, they don't consider themselves technical experts and they want to have this data and this work and this Study to show everyone and say "Look, we had a third party come in and look at it, these are the experts and here's what they said" rather than get up and say or have staff get up and say "We've worked in that building for 25 years or 15 years and we can't imagine that it would make sense to invest in this facility for the next 50 or 100 years". If for no other reason, the carrying costs once you do that, you've still got the energy efficiencies that you're losing and so a new building starts to pay off pretty quickly, but he thought even given that argument, he thought the Selectmen would want to be able to stand up and say they've went to the experts and this is it. Peter Donohoe stated you still don't have me, but that's okay.

Chairman Mosca stated he understood the position of the Board of Selectmen. It's something that the School Board has done in the past. They've done studies because a lot of times people won't believe the internal experts that we have and it's easier if you have an outside Study that says something rather than listening to the people that are here. It gives more.

John Colbath stated to Peter Donohoe that if he watched the televised part of yesterday's Selectmen's Meeting, they had an in depth discussion of just what you (Peter) said and, you know, try to come to a decision and actually there were 4 firms and the average cost is \$70,000.00 for doing this, to do everything, and they scaled it back to the \$40,000.00 to give the Selectmen professional answers for questions that we all presumably know the answer to, but don't have the credentials of credibility.

Peter Donohoe stated strictly on the merits of outgrowing the space alone, he can't see the value in spending any money. You've outgrown the space, you're not going to get smaller, Code and upgrades aside, it just seems to be a foregone conclusion.

John Colbath stated presumably we all know the answer and the voters also. They have to tell the Selectmen what direction to go and if it gets turned down, then the Town is back to square one where they stand now. The Selectmen need some direction. People have said, as an example, kick everybody out of the Meeting Room and turn that into 4 more offices. Then we won't have a Town Hall Meeting Room if they do that and will have to seek out sites such as this to do official meetings and that's certainly an option, but the future needs to be discussed and the Selectmen need to start some place to get an answer to move forward.

Mark Hounsell stated he didn't think the Town needed to spend a penny to find anyone to tell us what we already know: that building is a piece of ... a dump, the foundation to the ridge pole. There's nothing in it worth preserving, it's a good memory, but there's no future in it. He would rather spend \$40,000.00 on going forward to work on developing a new plan in a new place and he also thought it ought to include the Rec Center because the two are together. That's just his feeling; he sides with Peter (Donohoe). He thought it was a waste of money just to satisfy the idea

that some people may want the expertise of someone that doesn't live here and he thought the expertise of people that do live here that's worth listening to and if you look at the foundation of the thing, look at how that building is standing, he would be embarrassed to spend any more money on it.

Chairman Mosca stated there are those people who are just the opposite of the way you (Mark Hounsell) feel that think that the building itself because of it's age and it's beauty are something worth saving.

Mark Hounsell stated he understood that, that's a good thing he supposed, but he was just stating his opinion here in a public forum, but he thought it was a waste of money. Chairman Mosca stated he was just playing Devil's Advocate.

John Colbath stated see subconsciously that's why Paul (DegliAngeli) left 2019 as an open column on the Facilities so that we can build the new buildings. Chairman Mosca stated very good.

Dick Klement stated the Town and the School do not talk to one another. Dick and Mark Hounsell started to debate the issue when Chairman Mosca stated let's just deal with the \$40,000.00 request for a Town Hall Study. Dick stated that the Town was ignoring the buildings that may become excess. He knows Mark would be against closing one of those schools, but there's less kids. If they're going to go forward and build a building, they're going to want a couple of acres of ground.

Chairman Mosca stated he was going to rule Dick Klement out of order. Dick stated that's fine because you do that all the time, but he was just saying nobody's looking at each other. Chairman stated we've heard this and we've all discussed this a lot of times, we know where you are coming from. Dick stated they, the School Board and the Selectmen refuse to get together. Chairman stated there is nothing we can do about it, let's stick to the Article of \$40,000.00 to fund a Study.

Bill Marvel stated he was one of those that disagrees with Mark (Hounsell) about that. You'd be surprised what someone will come up with for an idea. Making the Meeting Room into office space doesn't sound like that bad an idea. To Bill, the foundation to the Town Hall isn't that much different from the foundation of his house. He understands that there is an old gym not that far away for a potential Meeting Room where the people who are using it now aren't very happy with it. He thought given the relative size of the Warrant Article against the Town Budget, he thought it would be worth pursuing to see what ideas people might come up with other than "just tear it down" because one thing he is thinking is just how much more property in Town can we put under Town ownership and take off the tax rolls. Every time we leave a School, we turn it into something else municipal and, before you know it, the Town owns every other property in the community.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on the Town Hall Facility Needs and Site Alternatives Analysis. There being none, Chairman moved on.

PLACE THE CONWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING AND PARK
ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Chairman Mosca stated Place the Conway Public Library Building and Park on the National Register of Historic Places in amount \$10,800.00.

David Smolen stated the Library received a Grant from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources for \$8,640.00 to hire an architectural historian to submit a nomination form to the National Register of Historic Places for the Library. The Grant is a reimbursement program, so they would need to pay the consultant up front and then the Town Library would be reimbursed for the \$8,640.00. The cost to the Town is \$2,160.00.

Chairman Mosca asked if the building gets placed on the National Register of Historic Places, does that not make it more difficult to do maintenance or any changes to the building. David Smolen stated the National Register designation is honorific, meaning the answer to that is "no". The only penalty you can incur is to be de-listed and he has confirmed this with Peter Michaud from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources a couple of times on that point; they have covered that.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on Place the Conway Public Library Building and Park on the National Register of Historic Places. There being none, Chairman moved on.

REPLACE THE ROOF ON THE CONWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Chairman Mosca stated Replace the Roof on the Conway Public Library in amount \$250,000.00, \$200,000.00 from taxes and \$50,000.00 from Grants or donations.

David Smolen stated that the Trustees have said that they would raise 20% of the cost and they believe that the \$250,000.00 number is the maximum number; it could be lower, the actual cost.

Chairman Mosca asked what happens if the \$50,000.00 isn't raised; is there a Grant available for that or, if the \$50,000.00 donation isn't raised, where do we stand. David Smolen stated from everything that he has been told from people on the Board who have experienced raising money for projects such as this and other sort of fundraising efforts that there's a high degree of confidence that they can raise the funds necessary.

Earl Sires stated you (Chairman Mosca) are making him think about something that might make sense for this Warrant Article; like the need to put a percentage in there. In other words, if the project is set at \$200,000.00, maybe the fundraising only has to be 40% or 20%. Earl stated to the Chairman that it was a good point and they may have to think about rewriting that.

Jim LeFebvre stated just from a historical perspective, maybe the two members from the Library Trustees could answer this better. How long has the current roof been in place as he couldn't recall. Bill Marvel stated

114 years. Chairman Mosca stated the last work on the roof was in the 1960's he believes. David Smolen stated there was a major renovation in 1960.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on Replace the Roof on the Conway Public Library in amount \$250,000.00. There being none, Chairman moved on.

ASSUME THE OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SIDEWALKS
LOCATED WITHIN THE CONWAY VILLAGE FIRE DISTRICT

Chairman Mosca stated Assume the Operational responsibility for Sidewalks Located Within the Conway Village Fire District in amount \$60,214.00.

Earl Sires stated the historic background: the voters last year at Conway Village Fire District meeting voted to relinquish responsibility for maintenance, construction and ownership of sidewalks. The Village District has, since its inception, been the responsible party for sidewalk activities of maintenance, construction and ownership. Town voters in 1997 passed a Warrant Article which basically says if a Precinct or District relinquishes a service, the interpretation is that the Selectmen would negotiate with the Commissioners from the District or Precinct come up with a proposal and then have it submitted to the voters of the entire town for approval. There have been ongoing discussions between the Board of Selectmen and the Conway Village District Commissioners. This is a proposed plan or arrangement that the Conway Selectmen are comfortable with presenting to the voters to assume the responsibility. The Village District Commissioners are, at least they haven't taken a formal vote, but the feedback that he has gotten is that they are not in favor of this; particularly they are not in favor of contributing monies to the construction of sidewalks along Main Street in Conway Village.

Earl Sires stated what this does is that the Selectmen are proposing that the Town will make the final payment on a machine that the Conway Village Fire District owns and attachments to that machine for its use for sidewalk maintenance for \$22,214.00. The Town will raise and appropriate additional operating costs for staff and materials for the remainder of 2016 in the amount of \$18,000.00 and the Town will fund the construction of sidewalks along Pollard Street for the amount of \$20,000.00.

Earl Sires stated what the Selectmen are asking the Commissioners to do is, as he has said, to provide this machine that have a value of about \$60,000.00 and also to contribute to the construction of sidewalks in Conway Village along Route 16 in year 2017. That is part of a larger project including DOT street reconstruction, Village District utility installation and sidewalk construction.

Earl Sires stated basically the Selectmen are saying "we'll spend this money; we'll take the machine and we will cost share the construction of sidewalks in 2017". The total for concrete sidewalks is \$180,000.00; it's a 50/50 split that they are proposing.

Mark Hounsell stated he knows members are supposed to ask questions tonight, but he didn't know how to phrase the question because most of what he would say would be comment. He thought at this point he would just say why does the Town or the Selectmen think that we need to construct sidewalks on Pollard Street.

Earl Sires stated he would turn that over to Paul (DegliAngeli), there are sidewalks there at this point and they did have a Public Hearing. Mr. DegliAngeli stated you were at the Public Hearing and that was one of the options and it was felt that the consensus was that in the Village and the neighborhood sidewalks are warranted. Currently there are sidewalks on both sides. The Town proposed sidewalks on one side and the third option was no sidewalk. The Selectmen decided on sidewalks on one side.

John Colbath stated to Mark Hounsell in answer to him, from John's perspective because the Selectmen attended the Public Hearing, there was a hearing specifically for Pollard Street and there were very few people opposed to it. The majority of people that came forward, and that's only a minority, that's the minority that shows up, the voice of opinion, the opinion was strongly for safety reasons and everything else to reconstruct sidewalks on Pollard Street.

Chairman Mosca stated of that minority that was there, did they all live on Pollard Street or are in the Village. John Colbath stated they were both. Chairman asked how does this benefit the Town in general and why should the taxpayers of the whole town pick up the cost for what the Village District hasn't been doing in maintenance themselves. He has an issue with this because he doesn't see why the rest of the taxpayers in Conway should be picking up something that has been within the Village District for however long it has been there.

John Colbath asked Chairman Mosca if he was specifically referring to just Pollard Street or sidewalks in general. Chairman stated the whole thing in general. Earl Sires stated he thought the Selectmen feel that there is an equity issue because the Town does maintain sidewalks throughout the rest of the town and so from just a basic equity perspective they feel that it makes sense and what they are trying to craft here is a way to make this make sense to the rest of the folks in town. In other words, we're going to spend \$60,000.00 this year and we're going to get a machine worth \$60,000.00, then we're going to split the cost of the sidewalks along Main Street. That's the deal; they felt like that would make it palpable to the rest of the town because they recognize that it's easy for folks in other areas to turn this down if they feel like it's an unreasonable entry into the responsibility so they wanted to make it relatively palpable.

John Edgerton asked if this is a move to dissolve the political entity of Conway Village and turn it over to the Town. Earl Sires stated he would refer John to the Conway Village Commissioners on that. This is a single issue that the Town is working on, at least at this point, is not wrapped up into a bigger issue. Having said that, the Commissioners would be better able to answer that than him.

Bill Marvel stated the equity issue comes largely from the North Conway sidewalks he thought. Recently and he forgot how many years ago although it's not that many, North Conway successfully forced its sidewalk maintenance onto the Town. He was opposed to that too; but they have the plurality of voters, maybe even a majority at that time. The only other sidewalk he could think of except North Conway is the one leading to the Pine Tree Elementary School which the School Board insisted on back in 1991 when they were building the school. He didn't know why the Town took that over and guessed maybe because it was the only one and there was no Center Conway plow. He has been driving through Conway Village and he has probably driven down Pollard Street once or twice a week, every week for most of the last 50 years and he doesn't remember ever seeing anyone walking on the sidewalks on Pollard Street. He really doesn't; he can't think of it and he has been trying to think of it.

Earl Sires stated just a quick, just for everybody, make sure this is clear, the sidewalks in North Conway were the responsibility of the North Conway Lighting Precinct and not the North Conway Water and Sewer Precinct and that Precinct extinguished itself and basically went out of existence and those responsibilities fell to the Town. Just so everyone knows who it was went out of business.

Bill Marvel asked did we vote on taking over the Lighting Precinct. Earl Sires stated he wasn't here at the time. Paul DegliAngeli stated it dissolved, the Town was obligated. Earl stated Intervale Lighting Precinct is thinking of doing the same thing this year. If they dissolve, then the Selectmen would have to step up and take it over. Bill stated he thought there was a vote just two or three years ago, maybe five at the most, what about on the strip, no, he was wrong. It must be the drugs.

Paul DegliAngeli stated what Bill (Marvel) is referring to is the strip and which side and the ADA ruling and all of that business, but as Earl (Sires) said, the North Conway Sidewalk and Lighting Precinct extinguished itself his first year here and the Town just took it over.

Doug Swett stated what he is hearing is that his taxes are going to go up, right. Chairman Mosca stated yes. Paul DegliAngeli asked Doug if his taxes had gone down since he started paying them. Doug stated he didn't think so. Earl Sires stated to fully answer the question, yes the Town would take over the annual operation and maintenance of sidewalks, clearing and plowing like the Town does in North Conway Village and, as Bill (Marvel) mentioned, in Center Conway by the school. The Town would also have future responsibilities for construction, repair and maintenance of the sidewalks.

Mark Hounsell stated his observation is that this benefits no one. When you go to operation costs in 2014 for a total cost of maintaining the sidewalks in Conway Village was under \$9,000.00 and here we're looking at \$18,000.00. The sidewalks on Pollard Street are not used. They never should be used; they're not sidewalks; they certainly don't meet ADA. He didn't see any specialness about Pollard Street, God bless the people who live there and he hoped they were comfortable, but there are so many streets in this town that are the same type of street as Pollard Street

that do not have sidewalks. He couldn't for the life of him imagine why Pollard Street needs sidewalks. He actually believes that if you do the construction that you are talking about with the curbs, it will slow down the speed, it will slow down the traffic. You might be able to do something with traffic patterns, but we don't need sidewalks on Pollard Street. People may like them, but he doesn't see them on them. He has never seen anyone walking on them.

Mark Hounsell further stated aside from that, why would the Precinct want to give a \$60,000.00 piece of equipment over even though the Town is going to make the final payment, they still made 40, and why in the world would we want to take the \$180,000.00 that we've got as a Precinct in our account, why would we want to give that to the State to replace a sidewalk that's on their right-of-way and probably should be part of their problem. Why is the Town going to absorb costs at the expense of Conway Village and the idea that they're helping Conway Village. This doesn't help Conway Village; this doesn't help anyone.

Dick Klement stated so the Town is going to take over the Conway Village sidewalks using the machine provided to the Town from the Village. Are we going to need to hire another guy. Earl Sires stated he would turn this over to Paul DegliAngeli to explain how the Town is going to handle it. Mr. DegliAngeli stated yes, obviously only in the winter and the Town has seasonal employees that they have in the Rec/Parks and Grounds in the summer. That's one option to do it that way and make it a full-time position whereas they have seasonal positions. Dick stated a full-time position, probably with benefits, is probably in the \$50,000.00 or more range even if they are only getting \$10.00 an hour. Earl stated he wouldn't argue that.

Dick Klement stated that kind of doesn't show up in this Warrant Article. Earl Sires stated that the Town was only appropriating monies for 2016; \$18,000.00 is really for the tail end of the year. You (Dick) are completely correct that the Town is going to take a part-time employee and making him a full-time employee, so there's an incremental cost to this that includes insurance as well. So, you are right.

Danielle Santuccio stated the Conway Village Fire District just dissolves then you have to do it any way and we don't have to give you anything. Is that how that works. Earl Sires stated if Conway Village dissolves completely then the Town, and he will say this, the Town has had no indication from Conway Village Fire District that they plan to take measures to dissolve, but they are talking about it. The Town hasn't explored that whole issue thoroughly yet, legally or financially, but as they understand it now, if the District were to dissolve, the responsibility for operating and managing the District's functions would fall to the Town.

Earl Sires further stated folks have said if that happens, does that mean everybody in Town is going to pay for the debt in Conway Village for water and sewer, for the operation of water and sewer, would it be a town wide Fire Department or how is this all going to work. It is the Town's understanding and the Selectmen's stated intent, at least in discussions

not any voted position, is that the management would change, but the folks receiving the services would stay the same and therefore the folks paying the bill for services would stay the same. State law actually says debt incurred by a Village District is to be paid by, even after dissolution of a District, is to be paid by the same properties that were funding the debt before dissolution. If someone were to say what would be the advantage of the Town doing this, he would say the Town's goal if it fell in their lap would be to run the operation more efficiently, or as efficiently as possible, try to save some money and look at some other things that might save some money. It's not going to change the world in terms of broadening the burden for costs of operation throughout the whole town.

Mark Hounsell stated that's right, the people who incurred the debt are responsible for the debt whether they dissolve or not. First of all, there's not going to be a dissolution of that, not without an awful lot more conversation, but if it was to happen and if the Town was to take it over, it's not going to be at no expense to the Town because they're going to have to have staffing, they're going to have to have billing situation. You're going to have to have collections. One of the things that Conway Village has to do is threaten people or even some time turn the water off for not paying their meter charge. You are going to have a whole new operation that you're going to have to consider that will cost the Town if it took over the Precinct. He doesn't see that happening; might happen with the Fire Department, but it's not going to happen with the Precinct itself.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments, questions or concerns on Assume the Operational Responsibility for Sidewalks Located Within the Conway Village Fire District in amount \$60,314.00. There being none, Chairman moved on.

TAX ABATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH HB 359

Chairman Mosca stated to see if the voters will give the Board of Selectmen authority to grant tax abatements to new and expanding businesses in accordance with HB 359.

Earl Sires stated he would be honest, he's not the expert on this. Selectmen Thibodeau has been working with Representative McCarthy on this. This is related to HB 359 which is State Legislation. Earl asked Terry McCarthy if she was up on the details of the legislation. Terry stated if you have a business being taxed \$100,000.00; if you want to expand and you put \$50,000.00 in it, you won't be taxed for 5 years on that \$50,000.00. You'll just be taxed on the \$100,000.00. There's other things, too, but it did just pass the House today.

Mark Hounsell stated this isn't the same thing as the Economic Council one time wanted to have a tax free zone. Earl Sires stated he would say two things. It's a local option that's built into the Legislation so that's what this Warrant Article is about: do the voters want to adopt this option and it's similar to what has been called a TIF, Tax Incentive Financing. The idea is that it becomes a tool that can be used to bring

businesses to the community, bring jobs to the community by allowing businesses to expand without suffering a tax burden for the first 5 years. To be honest, he was not 100% up on are there criteria that the Selectmen would use or how all of that works, but that is something that they will be looking at in the next few weeks, but that's what that is all about.

Jim LeFebvre stated he thought it was a great idea for new businesses who are going to be entrepreneurial and bring new business in. For businesses that are going to expand, they have already proven that they are successful, therefore why should be give them a tax abatement just to further expand themselves. You could use several instances; let's say for example that he wants to open another Chinese Restaurant and he has no interest in opening a Chinese Restaurant, but he would be competing against the Peking and competing against three other Chinese Restaurants, he needs the break, they do not because they are already successful or they're not in business.

Dick Klement stated his question is since this does not involve the funding of Town funds, why are we involved in discussing or voting on this. Earl Sires stated he thought the Town was looking at it sort of a broad interpretation that there is a financial component to this in that the argument goes two ways. One, as Terry (McCarthy) mentioned it would provide an incentive for a business to expand and create jobs that is good for the community so they don't pay taxes on that increment. The other argument might be that there is a tax revenue that the Town is foregoing there which means that the rest of the folks in town will have their tax rates change a little because of that. Because it has to do with revenue and those kinds of issues, they felt it was close enough to having a monetary component.

John Colbath stated two things. It really just postpones revenue for 5 years because at the 6th year there is going to be a kick in and the tax is going to be on the growth, so it's an incentive to come. John further stated to answer Jim's (LeFebvre) question, two recent businesses, GE and BAE both have no incentives to expand within New Hampshire so they are both leaving New Hampshire for expansion. GE is going to Boston and BAE is going to the Carolinas because we couldn't do anything like this to help them business wise to expand.

Bill Marvel stated he had two questions: is there a means of automatically monitoring the 5 year period or do we have to watch it, do we have to have somebody watching it; and the other is why are we dealing with this when it isn't even a law yet. Is it going to be removed if this law fails. Earl Sires stated he thought Terry (McCarthy) said it passed today. Bill stated it passed the House. Earl stated he thought the anticipation is that by the time Town Meeting comes around, it will be law. He would add that when they kicked this around at the Town, as Jim (LeFebvre) mentioned, they would hope that there is a provision that the Selectmen can sit down and kind of create some criteria. Do you want to offer this to jobs paying a certain amount or certain kinds of jobs or certain kinds of industry and that kind of thing and does it apply to any retail expansion that already exists. That might not be as beneficial certainly as bringing new jobs with higher pay.

Mark Hounsell stated he thought it was a little preemptive and thought what the Town needed to do was see how this Bill passes in its final form because it says "in accordance with" and we may like the "in accordance with" it now, but having been down there, when it goes to the House and Senate, it could come out looking like a Christmas Tree and if we tie ourselves into "in accordance with" we may be tying ourselves into something that we will say "we shouldn't have done that". We should see what the Bill looks like and maybe next year say "hey, does this fit us", but to do it before it is passed is a little early.

Terry McCarthy stated she could say that it passed in the House unanimously today and it was a Bill that Frank (McCarthy) put forth last year and they retained it. He did it specific for Carroll County and the State retained it because they wanted to do it state wide, county wide for each county and each county takes a vote or each municipality will take a vote on whether they want to go with it or not.

Mark Hounsell stated he had no problem with the Bill and from he understands its passage, but the thing is it hasn't passed. Terry McCarthy stated he was right, it hasn't passed. Mark stated he thought it was early to be voting on something like this. Terry stated she didn't realize that this was going to be on the Warrant and if she had, she would have brought the Bill with her. She did not know this was going to be on here already. Mark stated even bringing the Bill with you would not do any good. Terry stated she thought it may have helped with the questions.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on Tax Abatement In Accordance with HB 359. There being none, Chairman moved on.

TERMS OF COMPENSATION FOR THE ELECTED TOWN
CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Chairman Mosca stated to see if the Town will vote to amend the Terms of Compensation for the Elected Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

Earl Sires stated the language that you see in that paragraph is language that has been in effect and approved by the voters since 2002 or 2003. This was instituted right after she came on board, so that the Town would have some kind of guidance from the voters as to how to compensate the Town's Town Clerks as they are elected officials. Basically, the language outlines what is afforded to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and the last sentence read: "After the completion of each year of service, the Town Clerk/Tax Collector shall receive an increase in salary equal to the CPI-U 12-month average for the preceding year". This is what is used to say so that after each year the Clerk's salary was adjusted based on CPI. At the time, that was 3% or 4%, now it's been 1% or less, so over the last few years the Town Clerk has received salary adjustments significantly less than other staff. The proposal here is to add "... the CPI for the preceding year or 3% whichever is greater". In other words annually the Clerk's salary would be increased by at least 3%.

Doug Swett stated the way things are in this country economically, Dick (Klement) said tonight this percentage, percentage, percentage and 3 year Contracts when you don't know what's going to happen in Washington or any where else, some of this doesn't even make any sense. It can almost be classified as greed. He means that we have got to face something here some day, he didn't know when.

Dick Klement stated it does appear that both the School and the Town put forward salary increases that they know are not in line with what other people are getting, but it's easy for them to do that because they leave it for us to say it's too much and to say "no, we're not going to pay this". We're in deep trouble here. You just can't keep writing checks when there's no money in the account, but he supposed we will because that's the American way.

Doug Swett stated he didn't mean it as a slam against the Town Clerk. Dick Klement stated he didn't either.

Chairman Mosca asked if there were any further comments or questions on Terms of Compensation for the Elected Town Clerk/Tax Collector. There being none, Chairman thanked Earl Sires, Lilli Gilligan and Paul DegliAngeli for coming tonight. Chairman asked Earl Sires to thank all the others that appeared from the Town and made presentations.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Mosca stated to Jim LeFebvre that Jim was going to look into the DRA and the issue of Petitions. Jim stated he called Michelle Clark at DRA today regarding the voter petition Warrant Article question that came up. If a voter petitioned Warrant Article is expending money, it has to be at the very top, this is the \$4.9 Million question, it requires 60% to pass, the School District will have to hold a hearing on it and the last day, according to the School District, to present a Warrant Article by voter petition is February 9th. That's all he has.

Dick Klement stated recapping one more time, if 25 people get together and do a petitioned Warrant Article for a Bond, it has to go to a hearing and it has to be on top. Jim LeFebvre stated it has to go on top, it has to passed by 60%. The School District will have to hold a hearing on it and the last day to do it and have it in front of the School District is February 9th.

Mark Hounsell stated the question that he has is: can a petitioned Article precede the regular Bond. Jim LeFebvre stated according to what Michelle Clark said the petitioned Article spending the money would go to the top of the Warrants. Mark asked even if it is a petitioned Article. Jim stated correct. Mark stated thank you; that's good information. Chairman Mosca thanked Jim.

Chairman Mosca stated that at our last meeting, we invited the School Board to come before us next Wednesday evening. He spoke with the Chair of the School Board today and they've actually invited us to come to their meeting Monday evening if anybody can attend. It seems like they will be

discussing the Study on Monday evening again in more detail. He unfortunately will be in Boston on Monday and can't be there, but if anybody wanted to attend and see what's going on, he thought it might be worthwhile to go.

Mark Hounsell stated he would love to see as many people come to that if they can. John Edgerton asked what time. Mark stated 6:15 PM, but they usually go into non-public and then they come back.

John Colbath stated just a point of order, Chairman Mosca said for them (School Board) to come before us when really they were invited to meet with us. Chairman stated the motion was that we invited them to come before us to discuss the Engineering Study that was done. That's paraphrasing it, but that was what the invitation was to invite them to come. Dick Klement stated so they won't be coming here. Chairman stated he didn't know if they will or will not, but in his conversation he had with the Chair of the School Board earlier today, she extended to any one on this Board that wanted to come Monday evening, please come and they will be discussing that issue.

Chairman Mosca asked if there was any other Old Business. There being none, Chairman moved to New Business. There being no New Business, Chairman moved to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daymond Steer stated he wanted to hear more about Chairman Mosca's thoughts concerning the Fireworks. Chairman stated he didn't think there was any thoughts on it, we were told one thing and now it appears to be something else and that was just something that he wanted to bring to the attention of the Town Manager and maybe some members on this Board who may not have been here last year.

Daymond Steer stated it appears to be what. Chairman Mosca stated what he believes came out of last year's meeting when they increased the line item for Fireworks for 4th of July was that it was a one time increase and it would be going back to what was done in the past this year. What we're looking at now is the increase is actually more than last year. What the Town is looking for 2016, it is going from about \$14,000.00 plus or minus to plus or minus \$17,000.00 and it was about \$8,500.00 in 2014.

Daymond Steer stated so the point is does this benefit the business community or the residents. Chairman Mosca stated that was a question he asked of the Town Manager and didn't know if answered that or if he can even answer that. In his opinion, it's benefiting the businesses downtown more than it's benefiting the citizens of Conway and, in that respect, he asked if maybe we should be looking at the Chamber of Commerce to come up with some money.

Daymond Steer stated this is not an idea of just cutting out Fireworks. Chairman Mosca stated no, not at all, not at all. It's just who should be paying for it. If we're going to increase it, who should be paying for it. Should it be borne on the taxpayers solely or should it be seeking out

donations from the business community. That's his opinion; he can't speak for the Board, but that's his opinion.

Chairman Mosca asked if there was any further comment from the public. There being none, Chairman stated that he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Jim LeFebvre moved, seconded by Bill Marvel, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Iris A. Bowden, Recording Secretary