

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
January 10, 2017

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:03 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers (Chair), Mary Carey Seavey, Carl Thibodeau, John Colbath, and Steven Porter; Town Manager, Earl Sires, and Executive Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Seavey led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING – RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT ON AN OFFER OF GIFT  
OF LAND TO THE TOWN OF CONWAY 2859 WHITE MOUNTAIN  
HIGHWAY TAX MAP/LOT 215-7 (HEARING 1 OF 2)

Mr. Weathers opened the public hearing at 4:03 pm regarding an offer of gift of land to the Town located at 2859 White Mountain Highway, Tax Map/Lot 215-7.

Sheila Duane was present at the meeting.

Mr. Weathers reviewed the location of the lot. Mr. Weathers advised that it is proposed that the building will be removed from the property and then turned over to the town of Conway. Mr. Weathers next reviewed that the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board have reviewed this matter and have given recommendations on accepting this property.

Mr. Weathers asked for questions or comments from the public and Board. Mr. Colbath questioned if the land will be an add on to the Whitaker property. Mr. Weathers stated that once the building is removed it will be grassed over. The property is less than 1/5<sup>th</sup> of an acre. Mr. Sires commented that it will be returned to natural land.

There were no further questions or comments. Mr. Weathers closed the public hearing at 4:05 pm.

APPOINTMENT OF BETTY HOLMES AS ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Lt. Walker of the Conway Police Department was present. Lt. Walker reviewed the RSA and requested that the Board appoint Betty Holmes as Animal Control Officer. **Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to appoint Betty Holmes as the Animal Control Officer. The motion carried unanimously.**

RECONSIDERATION OF VOTE ON AMBULANCE AGREEMENT FOR  
CONWAY VILLAGE FIRE DISTRICT

Conway Village Fire District Commissioners, Janine Bean and Steve Bamsey, were present along with Chief Steve Solomon of the Conway Village Fire Department.

Mr. Sires reviewed the status of discussions from the last meeting. Mr. Thibodeau commented that he asked for a motion to reconsider. Mr. Thibodeau stated he felt there was a disparity in the money for Care Plus and Conway Village and he thinks the amounts should be the same. There was brief review and discussion of the contract amount.

Ms. Seavey stated that she feels five years is waiting a long time and is there something we can do to make it less time –one or two years and then form a committee to look at this matter. Mr. Colbath asked about a clause to get out of either contract. Mr. Sires reviewed that neither have been entered into and if the Board only wants two years we would have to go back and see if this is agreeable to the providers. If this is the way the Board wants to move then they should direct him to have discussion with the providers. There was next discussion of contract length and also putting a 180 day cancel clause in the contract.

There was next brief discussion on townwide services.

**Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to increase the amount of the Conway Village Ambulance Service contract to be equal that of Care Plus for each of the five years of the contract, which is a total of \$608,400 for the five years. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Weathers abstaining.**

**Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, that we include in both contracts a cancelation clause with 180 days notice by either party.** Mr. Colbath pointed out that it states 90 days now and questioned if this would have to go back to both parties. Mr. Sires stated that both say 90 days now but feels Care Plus may be okay with 180 and will contact them. **Motion carried 5-0-0.**

Mr. Bamsey thanked the Board of Selectmen for the reconsideration vote and support of the Conway Village service.

#### BUDGET

Mr. Sires advised there are no updates to the proposed 2017 budget at this time. Mr. Sires next advised that Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan, will be making presentations on the Budget to the Budget Committee.

#### WARRANT ARTICLES

Mr. Sires distributed an updated copy of draft warrant articles to the Board for review.

Ms. Gilligan distributed a Warrant Article study sheet and reviewed same. Ms. Gilligan advised that the ambulance service would be \$15333 due to the vote made earlier in the meeting.

Ms. Gilligan next recommended that that the CRF for Maintenance of Town Buildings and Facilities be reduced from \$218,000 to \$200,000. Ms. Gilligan reviewed the account with the Board.

Mr. Gilligan next reviewed the PEG fund with the Board and advised this information was expanded out on the spreadsheet. Ms. Gilligan reviewed that it is recommended not to place any money in the PEG fund this year as there is enough funds to cover the year and then in 2018 put money in again. Ms. Seavey suggested keeping a warrant article with \$1.00.

Mr. Sires reviewed that a proposed article has been placed on the draft warrant for the solar energy farm at the landfill site. Mr. Sires advised a meeting is scheduled with Solar Garden on Friday and that we may be at a point to have a lease for the Board of Selectmen to consider for this year. We hope to have more details for the Board for the next meeting.

Mr. Colbath stated that he feels the Board should also keep an article on the warrant for the landfill CRF at \$1. He does not feel that this article should go away this year either. There was brief discussion by the Board. The Board agreed to keep both the Landfill CRF and PEG fund articles on the proposed warrant at \$1 each.

Mr. Sires next reviewed there will be an article for Charter changes. The article will have to include all changes and will be a lengthy article. This is because we have to submit the written version of what the Town is proposing to the voters.

### REPORT ON KENNETT MIDDLE SCHOOL TOUR

Mr. Weathers reported on a tour of the Middle School yesterday. Some Board members attended along with Earl Sires, John Eastman, Kevin Richard and others.

Mr. Sires reported that he met with Paul DegliAngeli and John Eastman today to discuss this matter. The proposal from the school was to take the gym locker rooms and three spaces and rehab the old gym and create locker rooms for middle school use. There is more gym space than is needed, the rooms are block with no windows, some rooms have semicircular tiers built up, etc. We did ask if the tiers could be torn out but we were advised they are concrete. We would have to build up the floor and put steps and/or a ramp in etc. There are some real challenges with rehab of this building. Also, if it were to be rehabbed how functional would it be. Also, the rehab costs would be more that what we looked at the first time. There is much more extensive interior work that would need to be done. There is also a rental fee per year, electrical costs, etc. Mr. Sires next advised that Mr. Eastman is also not convinced that we wouldn't need another employee due to the expanse area of this location. We are not saying it wouldn't work but it is a lot to think about.

Mr. Colbath stated that all agreed that the gym is fantastic but the building needs a lot of work. There are different scenarios and we have to look further at what we are going to do. We have an aging property, we need a multiuse recreation center and we need to look at this for the future. Mr. Thibodeau stated he is opposed to going to the middle school. We could take the \$70,000 they want to charge us and put this in town our own building and we own it. We would also end up with a facility that better suits our needs and at the end of ten years it is ours. It makes no sense to do anything other than rehab our facility. He is also bristling at paying any type of rent. We have paid for that building and he is not interested in paying for it again. Ms. Seavey stated she agrees with both John and Carl. Also, knowing what the recreation center needs for space she can't even envision our recreation center going into the other building. She is not against moving to the junior high but she doesn't see the space. Mr. Porter stated we are talking about safety and security for kids. The fields are far from the school and how do we protect the kids. Our present recreation facility fields are closer. Also, as Carl has said, the costs for rehabbing that building and renovating -we could pay for our own building. Mr. Weathers stated also, at our own facility, we have control and say over it. If we move to the other facility we don't have any say over the building or the grounds. He would rather take the time and have a program to work out with our building. Mr. Colbath next pointed out that parking at the school facility is also an issue. Mr. Weathers agreed. Mr. Weathers suggested that we send a letter back to the school with the points made today. All agreed. **Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to send the School District a letter stating**

**that we have no further interest in moving the recreation department to the Kennett Middle School. The motion carried unanimously.**

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 219-104.1
- b. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 219-104.2
- c. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 219-104.3

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to approve the Abatement for Tax Map/Lot 219-104.1, Abatement for Tax Map/Lot 219-104.2 and Abatement for Tax Map/Lot 219-104.3. The motion carried unanimously.**

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest dated 1/12/17

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to approve the Accounts Payable Manifests dated 1/12/17. The motion carried unanimously.**

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest dated 12/29/16
- b. Accounts Payable Manifest dated 12/30/16

Ms. Gilligan explained there was a manifest for 12/30/16 due to the end of the year and this was not listed on the last agenda. There is also the 12/29/16 manifest that needs to be ratified.

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to ratify the Accounts Payable Manifests dated 12/29/16. The motion carried 3-0-2 with Messrs. Porter and Thibodeau abstaining.**

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to ratify the Accounts Payable Manifests dated 12/30/16. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Weathers abstaining.**

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

There were no special event applications presented for consideration.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES 12/20/16

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to approve the minutes of 12/20/16 as written. The motion carried unanimously.**

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Solar Project – Mr. Sires reviewed lease terms for the solar project with the Board. Mr. Sires next reported that we will ask that they get site plan approval as well. This is due to the size of the project and potential possible impact to the neighbors.

Boston Post Cane – Mr. Sires reviewed that it has been a while since we had a holder of the Boston Post Cane. Mr. Sires gave a brief overview of the history of the cane. Mr. Sires

next reported that Flossie Blake turns 107 this month as she has agreed through her nephew that she is willing to accept the cane. Mr. Sires stated his recommendation is to put this on an upcoming agenda and also to take a field trip to Mineral Springs to present Ms. Blake with the cane. Mr. Sires next reviewed that the person used to actually get the cane, however, it is now kept at the Conway Historical Society and the person is presented with a certificate that they are the holder of the cane. There was brief discussion by the Board and it was agreed to put this on an upcoming agenda and that the Board would like to try to arrange a field trip as well.

Diana's Bath Parking – Mr. Sires reviewed that at the last meeting he talked about an email that he received from Bill Lambert and that he was going to hold decision on the towns request regarding parking in the area of Diana's Bath until after the meeting scheduled for the end of this month. Mr. Sires stated that he has since found out that this matter will not come up at the meeting at the end of the month. He has emailed Mr. Lambert that this Board has already considered the information regarding this matter. Mr. Sires next stated that he has also asked the Town Planner to attend the regional planning meeting as well and also any Board of Selectmen can attend. Mr. Colbath questioned if they are going to discuss trailhead parking at the meeting but not specific trailheads. Mr. Sires stated we need to cut our request out of the process. What is different here is that it is in a neighborhood and Ranger Innes agrees with this as well. Mr. Sires stated he will wait to hear from Bill Lambert and advise the Board on same.

Transportation Alternative Grant – Mr. Sires reviewed the transportation alternative grant was not funded. We ranked 20 something.

Budget Committee – Mr. Sires reported a Budget Committee meet was held las night.

House Bill – Mr. Sires reviewed a house bill regarding the Northern Pass Project. There is an effort to reinforce that local approval for siting of transmission lines needs approval by local boards. Mr. Sires further reviewed that we have a letter from the Sugar Hill Selectboard regarding same.

Holiday – Mr. Sires reviewed that Town Hall will be closed on Monday for the holiday.

### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Budget Committee – Mr. Colbath reviewed the Budget Committee met last night. Lilli Gilligan, Earl Sires and David Smolen made presentations to the Committee.

LMWVSWD – Mr. Colbath reviewed that the LMWVSWD met last Friday. There was good discussion and they revisited the matter of hours and staffing at the dump. Mr. Sires reviewed that there was also discussion about the CRF for landfill expansion. The Chair, Coleen Cormack took this as a positive that people are recycling and we can defer costs of expansion. Mr. Colbath stated the committee is also happy about the solar project. Mr. Weathers stated that the committee also got into discussion regarding cameras and if it will help with enforcement, etc. There were no decisions made on the cameras however.

Budget Committee – Ms. Seavey reported she attended a Budget Committee meeting recently. Lilli Gilligan, Earl Sires, Rhoda Quint and Paul DegliAngeli gave presentations on the proposed budgets. Also, precincts made budget presentations to the committee as well.

MWVEC – Ms. Seavey reported the MWVEC council has not met recently.

Valley Vision – Ms. Seavey reported there has not been a Valley Vision Board meeting recently.

Kim Perkins – Ms. Seavey reported that Kim Perkins passed recently and this is a big loss to our community. He gave a lot to all of us and to the North Conway Community Center.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Sires reported the Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet tomorrow night.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked what will the town do about some spaces around town and will the town be interested in a school if it was available. Mr. Colbath commented that to answer this question would be premature. The School Board previously recommended not closing a school. Some taxpayers however would like to see one closed. This is all down the road.

Mr. Steer next questioned if there is anything we can do to coordinate recreation in town as we have two. Mr. Sires reviewed that we spent time a few years ago and there was discussions about centering one location however, the North Conway Community Center decided they wanted to do their own thing and they did.

Mr. Steer next stated that every year the North Conway Community Center get funds from the town and do we want to continue doing that. Mr. Weathers explained that it is up to the voters whether they want to support this or not.

Mr. Weathers next commented that with regard to Mr. Steer's questions about the school –we can't make decisions for the school. Mr. Colbath suggested that Mr. Steer show up to the next school board meeting with his questions.

Mr. Steer next asked about the ambulance contract and what the difference was over five years. Mr. Porter reviewed the information with Mr. Steer on the contract discussion. Mr. Steer next asked about giving one entity more than what they asked for. Mr. Porter explained that Chief Solomon misinterpreted what Mr. Sires presented to his Commissioners and we did the right thing by giving them what should have happened. Mr. Sires added that it was also still less than the original proposal. Mr. Weathers reviewed that this will now be voted on by the voters in April.

Mr. Steer next asked how the issue of townwide services started. Mr. Colbath reviewed that Chief Solomon had stated that he would get this started.

### NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 91-A:3,II(e) – LITIGATION

At 5:26 pm, **Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to go into non public session under NH RSA 91-A:3,II(e) to discuss a litigation matter. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

At 5:40 pm the Board returned to public session.

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to seal the minutes of this non public session. The motion carried unanimously.**

### ADJOURN

At 6:41 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hallowell  
Executive Secretary