

Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
February 24, 2015

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:07 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C. David Weathers (Chair), Mary Carey Seavey Michael DiGregorio, Stacy Sand, and Carl Thibodeau, Town Manager, Earl Sires, and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Ms. Sand, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF EASEMENT DEED/ROCKHOUSE MOUNTAIN

Mr. Sires reviewed a proposed Easement Deed between the Town of Conway and Rockhouse Mountain Property Owners Association. **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, that we approve the Easement Deed between the Town of Conway and Rockhouse Mountain Homeowners Association. The motion carried unanimously.**

PREPARATION FOR THE DELIBERATIVE SESSION OF TOWN MEETING

a. Discussion of potential amendments to the budget - Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli and Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan, were present for discussion. Mr. Sires advised this item was put on the agenda in case something came up that needed review. There were no questions or discussion.

b. Discussion of Fuel - Mr. Sires reviewed the Budget Committee cut the fuel budget. Mr. Sires stated we could leave it as is if everyone is feeling optimistic. If prices stay where they are we could make it work with the cut. We did also take a look at usage numbers and pricing.

Mr. DegliAngeli reviewed the fuel budget, gasoline and diesel, with the Board. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that it all comes down to price and we don't know what it will go up to. Mr. DegliAngeli next reviewed fuel usage and pricing with the Board.

Mr. Thibodeau questioned if when the proposed budget was first submitted to the Board had we already reduced the request. Mr. DegliAngeli responded in the affirmative. Mr. Thibodeau next confirmed that the Budget Committee then took more out of the fuel budget.

Mr. DegliAngeli next further reviewed usage for library, highway, police and there was discussion by the Board. There was also discussion on fuel costs. Ms. Sand suggested that we also bring figures on costs to the deliberative session of town meeting. **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to direct staff to reconfigure fuel at \$2.75 for gasoline, \$3.00 for diesel and \$2.00 for propane. The motion carried unanimously.**

c. Discussion of 2015 spending to date - Ms. Gilligan distributed and reviewed an updated report of 2015 expenditures to date.

d. Assignments for Town Meeting - Mr. Weathers reviewed that town meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2015 and asked if the Board wanted to make assignments on items for the meeting. The Board agreed Mr. Sires would answer budget questions and bring information on the numbers the Board is recommending for fuel. Mr. DiGregorio questioned if a Board member would ask for the amendment on the fuel budget. The Board agreed. It was next agreed that Mr. DegliAngeli would answer questions on CRF's. With regard to the town earned benefits warrant article –Mr. Sires; PEG warrant article – Mr. DiGregorio; Change of use of PEG – Mr. Sires; Police Commercial Duty article – Police; ESAA article – Mr. Thibodeau; Town Hall Water article – Mr. Sires and Mr. DegliAngeli; Victim Witness Advocate article – Police; Whitaker Woods Trail article – representatives would be at the meeting to discuss; Henderson Road article – no assignment. With regard to the Tax Deed property article, Mr. Sires advised that Rhoda Quint would be there to discuss same and, also, may have a slight amendment to make to the article. With regard to the petitioned articles it was agreed that the petitioners would handle any questions on same. With regard to the tax cap and default budget petitioned articles Mr. Sires advised that public hearings are scheduled for March 17, 2015. Also, if there are any questions on these articles at the meeting, the people who petitioned could speak to the articles. Mr. Sires stated that the article regarding the default budget is actually moot even if it ends up failing as it does not have the statutory language to rescind the authority either. Mr. DiGregorio questioned if this article could be amended on the floor. There was brief discussion and the Board agreed to have Mr. Sires ask the town attorney about this matter.

APPOINTMENTS

- a. Conservation Commission
- b. Zoning Board of Adjustment

Ms. Sand stated that she appreciates people who serve but feels that we should advertise openings to give others a chance as well. **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to advertise the positions on the Conservation Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment.** Mr. Sires pointed out that they are also looking for alternates. **Ms. Sand amended the motion, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to advertise the positions and alternates on the Conservation Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment. The motion carried unanimously.**

- c. Health Officer (Renewal)
- d. Deputy Health Officer (Renewal)

Mr. Sires recommended the reappointments of David Pandora as Health Officer and Ray Leavitt as Deputy Health Officer. **Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to reappointment David Pandora as Health Officer and Ray Leavitt as Deputy Health Officer. The motion carried unanimously.**

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 268-183 (2013)
- b. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 268-183 (2014)
- c. Application for Current Use Tax Map/Lot 259-106
- d. Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed Tax Map/Lot 247-1
- e. Permit to Sell Raffle Tickets - Carroll Country RSVP Drawing 10/25/15
- f. Timber Tax Levy Tax Map/Lot 247-1

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to sign the Abatement Tax Map/Lot 268-183 (2013), Abatement Tax Map/Lot 268-183 (2014), Application for Current Use Tax Map/Lot 259-106, Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed Tax Map/Lot 247-1, Permit to Sell Raffle Tickets for Carroll Country RSVP drawing 10/25/15 and Timber Tax Levy Tax Map/Lot 247-1. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

a. Manifest 2/26/15

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the manifest dated 2/26/15. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

a. Manifest 2/19/15

b. Payroll 2/19/15

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to ratify the Manifest dated 2/19/15 and Payroll dated 2/19/15. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

There were no special event applications to consider.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES 2/3/15 AND 2/10/15

Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to postpone the consideration of the minutes of 2/3/15 and 2/10/15. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Flashing Beacon/Center Conway – Mr. Sires reviewed correspondence received from William Lambert of the NHDOT regarding the yellow flashing beacon in Center Conway. The NHDOT disagrees with the Town's concerns regarding removing the beacon. Mr. DiGregorio asked about data regarding accidents for before and after the beacon was installed. Mr. DiGregorio also reviewed that tree trimming is needed in this area. Mr. Sires stated he will look into whether any data is available.

Warrant – Mr. Sires reported that the Warrant was posted yesterday at Town Hall, Recreation Center, High School and Center Conway and Conway Post Offices.

Deliberative Session of Town Meeting – Mr. Sires reviewed that the Deliberative Session of Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2015.

Fourth of July Planning – Mr. Sires reported that a meeting with police and others is scheduled for tomorrow to go over planning for Fourth of July.

Meeting to Prepare for Town Meeting – Mr. Sires reported that a meeting with the Moderators, Town Clerk, and others is scheduled for tomorrow to prepare for the upcoming town meeting.

Town Moderator – Mr. Sires reported that Dot Seybold has been appointed as the Town Moderator.

Saco River Access Committee – Mr. Sires reported a meeting of the Saco River Access Committee is scheduled for February 25, 2015.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

ESAA – Mr. Thibodeau reported that the ESAA has not met recently.

Planning Board – Mr. Thibodeau reported that the Planning Board meeting for February has been canceled as there was no business.

Budget Committee – Ms. Sand reported the next meeting for the Budget Committee is the Deliberative Portion of Town Meeting.

LMWVSWD – Ms. Sand reported that the LMWVSWD has not met recently.

Healthcare Study Committee – Ms. Sand reported that the Healthcare Study Committee is scheduled to meet on March 16, 2015.

MWVEC – Ms. Seavey reported the MWVEC hasn't met recently.

General Assistance – Ms. Seavey reported that she received a call from someone recently about welfare. Ms. Seavey asked about putting the forms for General Assistance on the web. Ms. Sires advised that we do have applications available at agencies in town, library, etc. but they could also be put on the web.

Candidate Filing – Mr. Weathers reported that the candidate filing period opens tomorrow and closes on March 6, 2015. Mr. Weathers reviewed a list of open town positions.

Deliberative Session of Town Meeting – Mr. Weathers reviewed that the Deliberative Session of Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Kennett High School.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Tad Furtado stated that he is a resident of Conway Village and he is here to represent a Conway village project group for the redevelopment of Conway specifically Main Street. Mr. Furtado advised that a warrant article was submitted to the Conway Village Fire District (CVFD) regarding the maintenance of sidewalks. Mr. Furtado next stated that he has three issues that he would like guidance on. Mr. Furtado stated his understanding is that authorization was granted to this Board to accept responsibility of sidewalks from the fire district. He would like to know how this would be negotiated if the warrant article prevails at the CVFD. Mr. Furtado next reviewed that there was a previous warrant article in the Town of Conway regarding handing over sidewalks. Mr. Furtado next stated that the CVFD Commissioners have adopted a posture that the wording only contemplates the complete dissolution of the precincts and not just some or a few of the responsibilities. Mr. Furtado stated he would like to know what happens if the warrant article on the CVFD warrant this year prevails and does it allow the town to accept the sidewalks or not.

There was discussion by the Board regarding the warrant article passed in 1997, sidewalks, maintenance, authority, responsibility, etc. The Board also discussed getting an

opinion on the matter from the town attorney. **Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to have Peter Malia look at the warrant article from 1997 and clarify its meaning for us.** Ms. Sand questioned if it is our attorneys job to do this as we don't get in the middle of precinct issues. Ms. Seavey stated she would like to know from a voter aspect to make it clear. Mr. DiGregorio stated that the 1997 article was a town article and feels we should get an opinion from our attorney. **The motion carried 3-2-0 with Ms. Seavey and Messrs. Thibodeau and DiGregorio voting in the affirmative and Ms. Sand and Mr. Weathers voting in the negative.**

Mr. Furtado next questioned if there will be negotiations if the CVFD article prevails and what happens when Main Street is reconstructed, etc. There was discussion by the Board regarding the improvements planned by NHDOT. There was also discussion regarding timing, budgeting and planning.

Mr. Furtado stated that CVFD hasn't yet executed a contract with the State but they will in advance of their meeting. Mr. Furtado questioned if the contract will preclude any future changes to the project and could this be a barrier from turning over the sidewalks. He would like to know this information before the CVFD meeting and would like guidance for the CVFD meeting. Mr. Furtado further added that the CVFD Commissioners have also listed the article as a 2/3 vote required on the warrant article. He is not a Commissioner and can't find out an opinion from the NHMA on this. Mr. DiGregorio stated that he would make the call to NHMA for him on this issue.

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked about the next Saco River Access Committee meeting. Mr. Sires advised that it is tomorrow at 4:00 p.m.

Daymond Steer next asked if we know how much State Representative Frank McCarthy's house bill would cost the town if passed. Mr. Thibodeau advised it is for 98% of the last year's budget. Mr. Thibodeau stated it is his understanding this bill is not going forward this year and will be re-worded next year.

Daymond Steer next asked Ms. Sand about the vote on the Blue Loon Bus Service. Ms. Sand stated she supports the idea of the service but feels there should be better administration and coordination and, also, a better presentation on this request. We need to know how the money is being spent.

Daymond Steer next requested a copy of the letter sent regarding Representative McCarthy's bill and the response received from Mr. McCarthy. Mr. Sires advised this will be provided.

Daymond Steer next questioned, with regard to gas prices, if the Board thinks the gas price drop might be a sign of something fierce ahead. Ms. Sand stated we can't predict this.

ADJOURN

At 5:48 p.m. the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hallowell
Executive Secretary