

Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 16th, 2018

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:06 in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: Selectmen, C David Weathers, Carl Thibodeau, John Colbath, Steven Porter, Town Manager, Thomas Holmes, and Executive Secretary, Krista Day. Selectmen Mary Carey Seavey joined the meeting directly after the approval of the agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to approve the agenda. The motion carried (4-0-0).

VOLUNTARY BOAT TAGGING PROPOSAL

Rick Blank, a member of the Board of Directors for the Conway Lake Conservation Association was present, along with Association President, Kin Earle, Vice President, Rick Gronneberg, Senior Lake Host, Judy Capreralla, and President of the New Hampshire Lakes Association, Tom O'Brien.

Mr. Blank gave a bit of history about the Conway Lakes Conservation Association noting that it began as Walkers Pond Association nearly 60 years ago. The mission is the preservation of Conway Lake Water Quality, the preservation of the lake for generations to come, as well as a focus on keeping out invasive species from Conway Lake. The Association is fully funded annually by the \$50-dollar dues of their 130 members consisting of friends and neighbors of Conway Lake, as well as through donations. Their annual budget is approximately \$35,000. \$31,000 of that goes to fund their Lake Host Inspection Program, ongoing scuba diving inspection, and weed watching on Conway Lake. Their Lake Host Inspection program runs 120 hours per week from Memorial Day to the end of October.

Mr. Blank gave some information on the dangers of invasive species that have invaded many lakes in not only New Hampshire, but country wide. It has a terrible effect on water quality, swimming, and land value. He explained that it only takes one piece of milfoil to take root and infect an entire lake They are fearful of this, so they are working hard to keep invasive species out of the lake. He noted that 85 lakes in New Hampshire have already been infected. Rick Gronneberg handed out a map showing the infected lakes nearby in New Hampshire and Maine.

Mr. Blank explained the Conway Lakes Conservation Association's 3-pronged approach to protecting the lake. This approach includes their Lake Host Boat Inspection Program, scuba diver, Cliff Cabral, who dives to make sure nothing has taken root, and a volunteer weed watching program that includes 24 volunteers who inspect the lake on a weekly basis.

Mr. Blank noted that in 2017, the Lake Boat Host Program inspected 1700 boats and 2300 canoes and kayaks during their 120 hour a week time frame. He noted that a lot of those inspections came during fishing tournaments. He noted the importance of inspecting boats that come for fishing tournaments because they could be coming from any lake, in any state. Mr. Blank noted that many fishing boats come from Massachusetts, which is currently in a control situation when it comes to invasive species, whereas New Hampshire is still in prevention mode.

To improve efficiency in their inspection process, Mr. Blank explained that they had been doing a lot of research and tracking of how other lakes across the country are working to prevent invasive species from

entering their bodies of water. He explained that from this research, they have put together a program that they are calling, 'tagging and sealing boats', to help take the guessing out of where boats have been launched previous to entering Conway Lake.

Mr. Blank explained that this completely voluntary program would involve asking the boat owner whether they want to be part of the program, putting a decal or sticker on the boat window, and when the boat is taken out of Conway Lake, a seal would be made with the device through the eye of the bow and the secure part of the trailer.

Mr. Gronneberg handed out sample devices while Mr. Blank demonstrated how these devices would work.

The devices would have Conway's name on them, as well as consecutive numbers for tracking purposes.

Mr. Blank explained that by using this tagging and sealing system, the Lake Host would know that the last body of water the boat had been in was Conway Lake.

Mr. Blank noted that this type of system is being used in places like Michigan, Colorado, and Lake Tahoe, Nevada. However, he noted that unlike many other programs, the CLCA program would be entirely voluntary and monitored at no charge to the participants or taxpayers; the cost would be absorbed by the Conway Lakes Conservation Association.

Mr. Blank stated that this pilot program will be run in for 2018.

Mr. Weathers asked Mr. Blank how they inspect other entrances other than the north end of the lake? He referenced the south end of the lake, specifically Potter Road, and the east side of the lake, where the water comes close to the road. He asked if there are any type of inspections or notices posted to make people aware of what the Association is trying to do. Mr. Blank noted that this question has been one that they are challenged with. We have been doing spot inspections and do have postings.

Kin Earle explained that the Association had met with the Selectmen of Eaton because that end of Conway Lake is in Eaton. The Selectmen gave the go ahead and signed a letter that is posted on the south end of Conway Lake in regards to parking and stating facts about inspecting your boat. What they are trying to do at the end of the lake is keep motorized boats from entering. They have been given permission by the Town of Eaton to put big rocks in the way of that entrance of the lake, however, have been told by the plow driver that they would move the rocks.

Mr. Weathers suggested touching base with Fred Goss because he does the maintenance for that property.

Judy Capreralla explained that they do not want to have a Lake Host at that south entrance full time because they don't want to encourage people to think that that is a good spot to launch. They want them to know they have to go to the north end to launch.

Mr. Gronneberg explained that one challenge they are facing is that the State has the south end marked as a public boat ramp, but it is actually private property.

However, because of the current use of the south end, there has been precedent set and the owner of that private property is not going to challenge it.

Mr. Blank explained that the Association is not trying to hinder lake use, but instead, funnel motor boat traffic to the north end.

Mr. Weathers posed the question about whether or not the State is obligated to have more than one launch based on acreage. In response to Mr. Weather's question, Tom O'Brien explained that in New Hampshire, there are 600 public access boat ramps and over 1000 lakes. This means that on average,

there is less than one access ramps per lake; some lakes have no ramps, and others like Winnepesaukee have several. He acknowledged that it is a bit random. In this case, the launch on the south end has become a sort of unofficial public launch and can be found on a map.

Mr. Weathers also noted that the location on Potter Road has a few rocks, but people still launch from there.

Mr. Blank explained that they have tried spot inspections there in years past, but reiterated Ms. Capreralla's point that if people saw Lake Hosts doing inspections at that launch full time, that we would be inviting people to launch there.

Mr. Thibodeau posed the question about what they would do if a boat did not have the tagging and sealing device. Mr. Blank explained that that situation is the typical situation that Judy and her team of Lake Hosts face currently. They would do a complete inspection; looking for hanging weeds and a dry boat. He noted that it is a law in New Hampshire as of 2017 that all boats have to be dry prior to launch.

Mr. O'Brien noted that even though it is a law, the Conway Lake Conservation Association Lake Host Program is voluntary.

Mr. Weathers asked how many people refuse inspection.

Ms. Capreralla answered that maybe one person has refused in the ten years she has been doing it.

Mr. Blank explained that there is protocol if the Lake Host runs into any issues. This protocol includes calling 911. He said they have only had one incident that occurred 3-4 years ago.

Mr. Thibodeau asked what the procedure was if someone authorized an inspection, and they found something hanging off their boat. Mr. Blank explained that they would be escorted to the unpublished, Town wash station where they have a hot wash and blowers. However, during the 2017 season, there was no one who needed it.

Mr. Thibodeau asked where the wash water goes. Mr. Blank responded that it went to the maintenance drain. Ms. Capreralla explained that prior to being escorted to the wash station, anything hanging off the boat would be bagged and sent to the state.

Mr. Weathers inquired about the frequency of this occurring. Mr. Blank explained that it has happened only 3-4 times and that his team had caught milfoil a few years ago and thus preventing it from entering the lake.

Mr. Holmes asked Mr. O'Brien if there was anything preventing the town from imposing a fee for our boat ramp. Mr. O'Brien explained that restricting access can be challenging. However, you could charge for parking and have boat ramp access remain at no charge. He concluded that more research is warranted on the issue and he would do the research.

Mr. O'Brien ended by commending Mr. Blank and his team for using cutting edge practices to help with the prevention of invasive species.

Mr. Colbath asked if the Selectmen were to take action at this time. Mr. Weathers explained that this presentation was more of a review and update.

Mr. Colbath noted that it was unfortunate that this meeting was not being recorded by Channel 3. He gave the Association members accolades for doing what they were doing.

Mr. Porter stated that this topic would be a good narrative for the Conway Daily Sun.

DISCUSSION OF PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION RSA TITLE V CHAPTER 72:80-83

Mr. Holmes explained that this was a motion voted on a few meetings ago in regards to Property Tax Exemption RSA Title V Chapter 72:80-83 which pertained to commercial or industrial properties town wide; the previous vote was unanimous (5-0-0). Mr. Holmes explained that Selectmen Seavey contacted him and asked about the possibility of revisiting this. He explained that under Robert's Rules, it can be done by amending or rescinding the vote, but not by reconsideration.

Ms. Seavey stated that she did not believe the original vote was 5-0-0. Mr. Weathers and Mr. Holmes explained that it had been looked up and it was in fact 5-0-0.

Mr. Holmes stated that because the vote was 5-0-0, Ms. Seavey could bring it up.

Ms. Seavey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Colbath to rescind the original vote taken on December 12, 2017 to place on the warrant the contents of RSA Title V Chapter 72:80-83 to read in part as follows: "to allow for property tax reduction for industrial uses for a period of five years in the amount of 50%". There was brief discussion by the Board members on the process of rescinding the vote. **The vote carried (2-3-0) with Mr. Porter, Mr. Thibodeau, and Mr. Weathers in the negative.**

Mr. Holmes stated that the original vote held.

APPOINTMENTS OF CONWAY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EASTERN SLOPE AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Holmes explained that last spring, the Board of Selectmen voted to appoint Selectmen Carl Thibodeau, Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan, and former Town Manager, Earl Sires, to the Eastern Slope Airport Authority Board of Directors. Mr. Holmes explained that when Mr. Sires retired as Town Manager, he took on that position as Board member to fill out Mr. Sires' unexpired term.

Mr. Holmes stated that he had been contacted by ESSA Secretary, Ed Bergeron, who was requesting a signed letter from the Board of Selectmen to confirm the appointments of Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. Gilligan, and Mr. Holmes. He advised the Selectmen that there was a letter in the folder to be signed.

At this time, Representative Frank McCarthy interjected the conversation by inquiring whether the Board was finished with their discussion on House Bill 316. Mr. Holmes replied in the affirmative. Mr. McCarthy explained that he gave up a committee meeting in Concord to be at this Selectmen's meeting on time because the Board was supposed to ask him questions and he was supposed to explain some of the bill. He acknowledged that the discussion was finished and thanked the Board.

In regards to the ESSA Appointment Letter, Mr. Thibodeau noted that the letter that was to be signed appeared to be contradictory to the bylaws of the Authority which state that members should be appointment for a 3-year period.

Mr. Holmes explained that through discussion with Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan, they do not believe that the Board of Selectmen can appoint for a period longer than one year due to differing Selectmen terms.

Chairman Weathers stated that because no formal appointment had been made for Mr. Holmes to take over Mr. Sires position on the ESSA Board of Directors, the Board needed to make a motion.

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Porter, to appoint Town Manager, Thomas Holmes, to the Eastern Slope Airport Authority Board of Directors from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. The motion carried (5-0-0).

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the of appointment to the Eastern Slope Airport Authority Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON SELECTMEN WARRANT ARTICLES

Mr. Holmes acknowledged that many of the warrant articles on the agenda have already been voted on by the Selectmen, but in order to keep things organized, they are all listed. He advised the Selectmen that the intention was to take a vote on each of the warrant articles that had not been previously voted on and that any discussion is allowed and welcome. He advised that the Chair would lead the Board through items A-S.

Mr. Thibodeau stated his assumption that if the Board wanted to revisit any of the previously voted upon articles, they would have to rescind the vote. Mr. Holmes clarified that they could rescind or amend.

- a. Operating Budget
 - i. Vote Previously recorded (5-0-0)

There was brief discussion and clarification that they do not need to vote on articles previously voted on.

Mr. Colbath asked if there was a figure for the default budget yet. Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan was present and stated that the final number had not been presented to the Budget Committee yet, but would be discussed at the Budget Committee meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2018.

- b. Police Collective Bargaining Agreement

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to approve the cost items of a two-year collective bargaining agreement for the calendar years 2018-2019, between the Town of Conway and the Conway Police Department. The total for the 2-year agreement is \$65,063. The motion carried unanimously.

- c. Special Meeting

Mr. Holmes explained that this article is a sort of fail safe article that follows all collective bargaining agreement in case the article fails to allow for a special meeting.

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to place on the warrant an article that reads in part that if the previous article is defeated, the governing body shall call one special meeting, at its option, to address article cost items only. Mr. Colbath noted that this article got contention last year from the Budget Committee, but questions whether the Budget Committee will be voting on it this year. Mr. Holmes stated that he believed this to be true because it is not a money article. Ms. Gilligan noted that she would removed the line in the warrant article. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- d. Capital Reserve Fund for Infrastructure Reconstruction

Mr. Holmes explained that many of these proposed warrant articles have been discussed as part of the budget process, but have not been voted on.

Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan, explained to the Selectmen that in their packets, there were corresponding spreadsheets that followed the word problem version of the warrant.

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$850,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Infrastructure Reconstruction to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. The motion carried unanimously.

e. Capital Reserve Fund for Highway Equipment

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Highway Equipment to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. The motion carried unanimously.

f. Capital Reserve Fund for Solid Waste Equipment

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$135,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Solid Waste Equipment to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. The motion carried unanimously.

g. Capital Reserve Fund for Landfill Expansion

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Landfill Expansion to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. The motion carried unanimously.

h. Capital Reserve Fund for Maintenance of Town Buildings and Facilities

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise the appropriate the sum of \$250,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Maintenance of Town Buildings and Facilities to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. The motion carried unanimously.

i. Capital Reserve Fund for Parks Department Vehicles and Equipment

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Parks Department Vehicles and Equipment to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. The motion carried unanimously.

j. Capital Reserve Fund for Police Vehicles

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 to contribute to the Capital Reserve Fund for Police Vehicles to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. The motion carried unanimously.

- k. PEG Trust Fund
 - i. Vote previously recorded (5-0-0)
- l. Communication Console System for the Police Department

Mr. Holmes noted that they had a lengthy discussion previously on this particular article, however, no vote had been taken. He explained that this article was to provide a place to put and spend the money the Police Department is hoping to receive from a grant.

Mr. Weathers asked Conway Police Chief, Ed Wagner, if this will be utilized for just police or other departments such as the Fire Department. He also asked if this would be used to replace towers. Chief Wagner stated that this money was strictly to be used to replace the Police consoles because that has to be done first.

Mr. Thibodeau stated his assumption that if the tower upgrade portion of the plan comes to fruition, that this communication console system it is fully compatible so that in 2 years they are not looking for another console. Chief Wagner stated that it would be part of the overall 1.3 million.

Mr. Thibodeau inquired that if they get this console, does the estimate then become \$950,000. Chief Wagner answered that it would become about \$850,000-\$900,000. Chief Wagner went on to explain that he and Chief Solomon received an email from someone over in Portland that has said they can do this for much cheaper than Ossipee Mountain Electric. He noted that it would not be Motorola brand if they went with this other provider. He stated that Ossipee Mountain Electronics is the only place in the area who sell Motorola. Chief Solomon is supposed to be contacting the person in Portland for more information.

Chief Wagner explained to the Board that he had spoken with the State Police Communications Director who was going to speak with the higher ups to see if the Town can get on the State Police system. He is unsure if that is a possibility, but will inquire. Chief Wagner stated that the person he had spoken to previously had said that the State Police system would not work here in the valley. Mr. Thibodeau stated that it works for State Police in the valley. Mr. Wagner noted that the State Police has dead spots too so they probably will not go away if we are on the same system.

Mr. Thibodeau brought up the person in Portland who says he can do it for cheap. He asked Chief Wagner whether or not buying this console ties the Town to Motorola. Chief Wagner replied that he was unsure. He said that they would have to get more information for the man in Portland. He stated that even if they receive the grant, they do not have to take it. The man from Portland says he can do what we need for \$350,000. Chief Wagner is unclear on how he can do it for 1 million dollars less than Ossipee Mountain Electronics. He would make a decision on what is best for the town.

Mr. Weathers asked Chief Wagner if he would put it out for bids. Chief Wagner said no because there is no one else that does Motorola. Ms. Gilligan noted that the bidding process is required by the Town to make purchases. Mr. Holmes added that even though the police department has their own bidding policy, he still believed that it would have to be put out for bids.

There was brief discussion and clarification that while the original estimate had been made for Motorola, the police department is open to other options.

Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli noted that they could all sit down with the fire and police to write up a performance spec. Instead of saying we want Motorola, we specify what we want it to do. Then, that information is put it out state wide. He added that he has previous experience with this and would be happy to help.

Mr. Holmes noted that he had received a call from a taxpayer suggesting we look into FirstNet.

Chief Wagner was unsure if there are any local grants for FirstNet.

Mr. Colbath inquired about whether we are locked into Motorola with this specific grant in question. Chief Wagner explained that the write up was from Ossipee Mountain Electronics. However, he is unsure that if they are awarded the money, that they still need to go through Ossipee Mountain Electronics. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that he did not believe they would.

Chief Wagner expressed that he did not think we needed to be concerned right now with a vendor and brand. This warrant article would just allow the police to get the grant and spend the funds in 2018 if they choose.

Mr. Colbath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Porter, to put an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$450,000 to upgrade the Communications Console System for the Police department and to see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any grant funding or other revenue in support of this project. The entire project funding amount shall be raised by grants and contributions such that no funds shall be raised by local property taxes. The motion carried unanimously.

m. Capital Reserve Fund for Police Communication Equipment

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter to open discussion on the warrant article for the Capital Reserve Fund for Police Communication Equipment.

Mr. Holmes explained that this warrant article would be for the rest of the equipment.

Mr. Weathers questioned why the Town would not set up \$150-200,000 annually knowing they have to replace the equipment, instead of waiting for it to fail.

Chief Wagner explained that the \$1 was put there to be able to open up discussion.

Mr. Weathers asked about whether someone on the floor at the deliberative portion adjusting that dollar amount would defeat the original intent of this article. Mr. Holmes answered in the negative.

Chief Wagner explained that this warrant is to authorize spending in 2019 and beyond. Mr. Weathers acknowledged this but noted that if we know we are going to have to replace equipment, why wouldn't they want to start savings for that. Mr. Colbath asked where they were going to get the \$150,000. Mr. Weathers replied that they would raise and appropriate it as they do with all of the other departments and equipment.

Ms. Gilligan stated that the parties involved were hoping that the Selectmen would increase the dollar figure tonight.

Mr. Porter made a motion to amend the dollar amount to read \$250,000. It was not seconded.

Chief Wagner explained that the 1.3 million dollars is to replace every piece of equipment. His thought is that they are not going to have to replace everything every 15 years; perhaps just the consoles. He believes that it may be closer to \$400,000 every 15 years. So he was thinking 15 years at \$50,000 a year.

Mr. Weathers asked if there were still going to be dead spots. Chief Wagner replied in the affirmative but added that they would be in a better position then they are currently.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that the purpose of this article is not to offset the costs of the 1.3 million total package. This fund is something that money will be put into every year for the next 12 years. He questioned whether this has anything to do with the 1.3 million dollars. Chief Wagner replied in the

negative, but explained that they cannot supplement the grant with raised and appropriated funds, but if they don't get the grant, this is a start instead of raising all the money at once.

Mr. Holmes added that there is flexibility. If they do not receive the grant, this money becomes available for the use initially intended for the grant.

Mr. Porter stated that he believes \$250,000 dollars would give them a starting point. Mr. Weathers agreed with a starting point, but noted that he believed \$250,000 to be too high. He added that he did not have enough answers right now. Mr. Thibodeau added that he does not disagree with Mr. Porter because the equipment has a definitive life span. However, he cannot agree with \$250,000.

Mr. Holmes asked the Board to look at the bigger picture. He explained that the school has expanded their budget and if it passes, the tax rate is going to increase. Mr. Thibodeau stated that for that reason he would want to take the \$250,000 down even more.

There was brief discussion about the current communications system. It was determined that it is unknown due to the uncertainty of Windows XP shutting down.

Mr. Colbath asked how realistic the State Police offer is. Chief Wagner replied that he should have an answer by the next night.

Mr. Weathers stated that because they do know that something is going to come up, why not start with \$75, 000 to \$100,000.

Mr. Colbath asked Finance Director, Ms. Gilligan what a realistic number would be. Ms. Gilligan replied that \$150,000 would be as low as she would go. Mr. Porter stated that is why he said \$250,000; it can be amended at the deliberative. They are looking at up to 1 million dollars' worth of equipment that could happen in the next two years.

Chief Wagner added that although he is not an expert on the budget process, if they don't get a grant, they would have to ask for the whole amount in 2019 through a warrant article or bond. Then they would need to raise and appropriate money in a capital reserve fund for 15 years down the road.

Mr. Weathers noted that they should be setting money aside each year.

Chief Wagner added that they cannot wait until it fails.

Mr. Weathers stated that he is not comfortable with the data from only one vendor

Ms. Seavey asked Chief Wagner when he expected an answer from the grant.

Chief Wagner believes anywhere from this Spring to this Fall.

Mr. Colbath made a motion to amend the warrant article to read in part "to see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for Police Communication Equipment for the purpose of purchasing equipment that supports the Police Department's effort in communicating with police officers, police dispatch, fire departments, and the public. Also, to authorize the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from it; and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be placed into this Capital Reserve Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Colbath noted that he believed that the Budget Committee would be voting on these warrant articles the next day. Ms. Gilligan stated that she would give them the updated information.

- n. Compensation for Supervisors of the Checklist
 - i. Vote previously recorded (5-0-0)
- o. Construction of Multi-Purpose Path
 - i. Vote previously recorded (5-0-0)
- p. Library Website Design
 - i. Vote previously recorded (5-0-0)
- q. Operation of Keno

- i. Vote previously recorded (3-1-1)

Mr. Holmes explained to the Board that he had been wrong about when the public hearing regarding Keno had to be scheduled. According to statute, it has to be within 30 days of the April 10, 2018 vote. He noted that the State had said that this problem is being seen in other SB-2 towns.

Mr. Holmes was asking the Board for a motion to change the Keno public hearing to March 13, 20, or 27, 2018.

Mr. Thibodeau made a motion, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to set a public hearing on Keno on March 20, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Thibodeau made a motion, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to rescind the public meeting that had been scheduled for February 13, 2018 on Keno. The motion carried unanimously.

- r. Property Tax Reduction RSA 72:80-83
 - i. Vote previously recorded (5-0-0)
- s. Funding Support for Eastern Slopes Regional Airport
 - i. Vote previously recorded (5-0-0)

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

Receipts were available for the Board's review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 260-43 (2017)
- b. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 264-24 (2017)
- c. Elderly and Disabled Tax Deferral Map/Lot 264-24
- d. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 263-36
- e. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 254-192
- f. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 280-7
- g. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 264-1
- h. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 260-24
- i. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 210-16

Mr. Holmes told the Board that these Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions are new, relaxed Veterans credits that more people are applying for.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the Abatement Tax Map/Lot 260-43 (2017); Abatement Tax Map/Lot 264-24 (2017); Elderly and Disabled Tax Deferral Map/Lot 264-24; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 263-36; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 254-192; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 280-7; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 264-1; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 260-24; Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 210-16. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest 1/18/18
- b. Payroll Dated 1/18/18

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest and Payroll, both dated 1/18/18. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

(None)

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

(None)

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. 1/9/18 Regular and non public.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to approve the regular and non public minutes of 1/9/18. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes told the Board that on 1/10/18, Zoning petitions were due and we did not receive any.

Mr. Holmes explained that he observed a virtual reality police training by put on by their insurance company, Primex. Officers were presented with different situations and got the opportunity to respond accordingly.

Mr. Holmes noted that the Town and Library employees had attended a mandatory training session on effectively dealing with the public. The one-and-a-half-hour training touched on dealing with angry patrons and diffusing tense situations.

Mr. Holmes gave an overview of his week full of meetings including a hearing in Concord on the Sale of Tax Title Property, the Municipal Budget Committee meeting, and the LMWVSW meeting.

Mr. Holmes stated that there are warrant articles that have not been addressed yet such as moving the Conway Recreation Center to the Middle School.

Mr. Holmes explained that there has been discussion of potentially implementing fees for the use of the Town boat ramp that could perhaps aid in raising the funds for the reconstruction of the current ramp. The estimate for the reconstruction could be anywhere from approximately \$30,000 to \$60,000. Mr. Holmes inquired as to what the Selectmen's feelings would be on this and if they would be opposed to him bringing a warrant article next week on the matter.

Ms. Seavey expressed that she did not believe that a local should have to pay a fee.

Mr. Holmes agreed and said that they perhaps go by whether or not the patron has a dump sticker from the Town of Conway. If they do, then they would not be subjected to a fee.

Mr. Thibodeau inquired as to if the reconstruction work would be done in house or if they would contract out.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that it was still uncertain. The \$30,000 estimate would be if it was done in house, whereas the \$60,000 would be the estimate as of now to contract it out. Paul – 30,000 in house number. He added that there is potential for those numbers to be closer to \$25,000-\$45,000.

Mr. DegliAngeli said that as far as time of year, the work would need to take place in the Fall in order to not lower the lake prior to the summer season.

Mr. Weathers inquired as to when.

Mr. DegliAngeli said it would need to occur prior to the November lowering.

Mr. DegliAngeli briefly discussed that the high rate of powerboat use in the lake is having a negative impact on the current ramp. He explained that they had been 'band aiding' the ramp for a long time.

Mr. Weathers asked about the potential use of the gabion basket. Mr. DegliAngeli explained the process of reconstructing the boat ramp and the need to build out much farther than the previous ramp. He is unsure how they would get a gabion basket out that far underwater.

Mr. Holmes explained that the warrant article would be a standalone article to simply repair the boat ramp. He is unsure on the voters because not every taxpayer has a boat and would utilize the ramp.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that if the Town starts charging a fee, he can keep patching the ramp.

Mr. Colbath asked when warrant articles were due. Mr. Holmes answered February 13, 2018.

Mr. Colbath then asked what the fee structure would be and how would they collect it. Mr. Holmes stated that there are still lots of details to determine. He asked if the Board would be amenable to a warrant article for \$45,000 to repair the boat ramp. The Board was in agreement.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Planning Board – Mr. Porter had nothing to report.

Budget Committee – Mr. Colbath stated that last week, the Budget Committee spent a long time talking about the School budget. The Board had a chance to submit questions to School and Town. Jim LebFevre, committee chair, had questions for Town. Mr. Holmes stated that he had not received them. Mr. Colbath had assumed that he had received them.

Mr. Colbath stated that at the Budget Committee meeting the following night, they would be voting on the warrant articles; he was anticipating a lot of in depth questions.

Mr. Colbath shared that on January 31, 2018, there would be the annual joint meeting of the Budget Committee and the Selectmen for the non profit budget presentations. It was strongly encouraged that Selectmen attend the meeting.

There was brief discussion over the schedule of hosting the meeting.

Zoning Board of Adjustment – Mr. Colbath reported that the ZBA was meeting the following night to discuss a change of use for a property that was looking to change from a retail space to an office space; he believed it would be favorable.

Eastern Slope Airport Authority – Mr. Thibodeau said that the next meeting would be January 25, 2018 at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds at 6 pm.

Economic Council – Ms. Seavey had nothing to report.

Valley Vision – Ms. Seavey had nothing to report.

Ms. Seavey inquired about whether or not the Economic Council land would be considered under RSA 72:80-83 because they can do light manufacturing there.

Mr. Holmes stated that it would depend on the actual use of the building and he will refer to Mr. Irving.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported that Wednesday, January 10, they had a meeting to review the status of the Rec Path. The project has been given conditional approval for the grant of 1.2 million.

Larry Garland made a presentation on the plans for the path to date including the tentative location. Mr. Weathers reported that the north portion is on Town land by Pudding Pond. The committee is looking for our blessing on the proposed location. He also added that they are planning on putting in a raised walkway where the path would cross the outlet to Pudding Pond using pylons in order to have minimal impact on the wetlands.

In the northern corner of Pudding Pond near Thompson Road, they have made switchbacks

The only other problem area is that near the Thompson Road entrance of Pudding Pond, there is a main truck road that goes towards the pond. They had planned on putting their path there. However, they need to reconsider due to the need for access to that road.

There was also discussion regarding parking at the Thompson Road access point for the path. There had been concern by some local residents about the idea of using the existing trailhead parking area. They are now looking at the option of running the trail near the southern side, almost parallel to Thompson Road. It would run parallel in an easterly direction, and then cross at a 90-degree angle and they would expand one of those lots for parking. Mr. Weathers believes this is the best option.

Mr. Weathers reported that Mr. Lucy was under the impression that the Conservation Commission had given approval. Mr. Weathers believes that it should be recommended by Conservation Commission, but ultimately decided on by Selectmen.

Ms. Seavey inquired as to how long the trail was.

Mr. DegliAngeli answered that it was 2.6 miles.

There are three different access points for the path; Cranmore, Thompson Road, and down by Walmart on Hemlock.

The fundraising process is ongoing.

Mr. Weathers explained that he asked the Rec Path Committee if they had anything in writing from NH DOT. Mr. Garland told him that they do not have anything specific, but they are confident they will have approval.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that Board had sent a letter to NH DOT to liquidate properties, which implied they were looking for easement for this path. He stated that up until this point, there was a separate Board or Committee for the Rec Path that was doing the work to get this CMAQ grant. Now, the Town is putting a warrant article specifically for this project because the grant cannot go to a non-profit; it is specifically for a municipality. Essentially, the Town of Conway becomes the project sponsor; the Town is now involved in the project.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that the State is now sending communications through him. He noted that his first meeting with the group is January 18, 2018. At this meeting his goal is to establish new roles, assignments, and create action items for moving forward.

Mr. DegliAngeli noted that the warrant article specifically says that no money will be collected from the taxpayers for this project. He will also be drafting a document with Mr. Holmes for assurance that the Rec

Path Committee will be responsible for the cost of financing. The Town will need to have all of the \$800,000 in Town accounts prior to going forward.

Mr. DegliAngeli noted that this project is just beginning and there are a lot of things to come. He believes that if all goes smoothly, the project might start in 2019.

Ms. Seavey asked if the Town is going to get an administrative fee for administering the grant.

Mr. DegliAngeli replied that it has not been discussed.

Mr. Weathers inquired as to how much time Mr. DegliAngeli was going to be involved.

Mr. DegliAngeli replied that he believed through permitting, approval, advertising for bid, and construction.

Mr. DegliAngeli confirmed that they had a private engineer who has scheduled completing the design in October 2018.

Mr. Weathers wondered how long of a project this would be.

Mr. DegliAngeli replied that it should take one season.

Mr. Weathers asked if this project would conflict with Main Street project?

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that he had never had a season with only one project, so he was not concerned. He noted that 2019, 2020, and 2021 would be a busy year for his office.

Mr. Weathers and Ms. Seavey were concerned with this project taking Mr. DegliAngeli away from his other Town duties. They were interested in getting funding back from his work on this project because they did not feel that the Conway taxpayers should be paying his salary to work on this project.

There was brief discussion regarding future projects and that compensation should be providing when the Town is providing administrative fees associated with grants.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer, of the Conway Daily Sun said that he took Mr. Thibodeau's advice and when he was down at the county he inquired about the dispatch issue; they are supposed to be getting back to him.

In regards to the industrial warrant article, did any of your thinking have to do with Airbnb and not wanting to subsidize those people who utilize property as an Airbnb.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that he did not believe that Airbnb would qualify for either industrial or commercial tax exemptions.

Mr. Holmes corrected Mr. Thibodeau in saying that if the property owner is renting to a single family, they would not fall under the tax exemption. However, if they are renting multiple rooms to multiple families, that is considered commercial because they are running a bed and breakfast. He said this was a conversation he had with Mr. Irving. Mr. Thibodeau noted that this is another reason he did not support the tax exemption for commercial properties.

Mr. Steer addressed Ms. Seavey about her statement earlier in the meeting that she did not vote on the RSA 72:80-83 the way that it was recorded. Ms. Seavey replied that she must have voted the way it was recorded but did not think she voted that way.

Mr. Steer brought up the recent tele talk that was in the Conway Daily Sun regarding Airbnb and asked what their thoughts about it were or if that would be a Planning Board issue.

Mr. Weathers stated that right now the Selectmen have no involvement in that and it is a Planning Board issue.

Mr. Porter explained that the problem is that New Hampshire has no regulatory avenues to regulate what a Town does to regulate what homeowners do in terms of renting their home. They do not want to tell a

homeowner what they can and cannot do with their home. Until the State puts regulations in place there are no ways for Towns to adopt ways to monitor Airbnbs.

Mr. Holmes noted that Planning Director, Tom Irving, is following proposed bills that address issues such as disorderly households and meeting with others to discuss whether to support these bills. They have done some research, although Conway has a great number of Airbnb properties, they are getting very few complaints.

Mr. Steer stated that the complaints he is hearing is that the Airbnbs are taking up most of the long term rental options for people in Town.

There was brief discussion on how the internet has ballooned the short term rental market.

ADJOURN

At 6:07pm, Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary