

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
March 20th, 2018**

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:00 pm in the Meeting Room of Conway Town Hall with the following present: C. David Weathers, Carl Thibodeau, John Colbath, Steven Porter, Town Manager, Thomas Holmes, and Executive Secretary, Krista Day.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to approve the agenda as written. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF UNANTICIPATED REVENUE LESS THAN \$10,000/RSA 31:95-B III

- a. \$50 from VRN Ventures LLC

Lieutenant Mattei stated that when VRN Ventures LLC pays their alarm fee each year, they write a check to be donated to the Police Department. Lt. Mattei asked that the Selectmen accept the donation and apply it to the police equipment line.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to accept the donation and apply it to the Police Department equipment line. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON KENO

Ms. Seavey arrived to the meeting.

Charlie McIntyre, Director of the New Hampshire Lottery, was present. He explained that the keno initiative was brought about to both introduce and allow keno in the State of New Hampshire, but also to help fund full day kindergarten. He stated that the majority of towns have voted to allow keno in establishments with an active pouring liquor license at this time, and approximately 21 have voted against it. He noted that there are still some towns like Conway that have yet to vote on the issue.

Mr. McIntyre asked for questions from the Board.

Mr. Thibodeau asked Mr. McIntyre to give a brief explanation of keno, how it operates, and who can operate it. Mr. McIntyre explained keno to be a type of electronic bingo with a monitor in establishments (Tavern and/or Bar) with active pouring licenses. He stated that every 5 minutes from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm, the system pulls a set of numbers; people bet on numbers and win various amounts if their numbers are picked. The more correct numbers, the more money is won. Mr. McIntyre said that they have noted that the establishments that have keno are seeing a 15-20% increase in sales in other things, not just with keno profits.

Mr. Weathers inquired as to whether payment was made by the establishment or the NH Lottery. Mr. McIntyre stated that anything under \$600 is paid out by the establishment and reimbursed by the NH Lottery, and anything over that amount is paid directly by the NH Lottery and taxes are take out.

Mr. Colbath asked Mr. McIntyre if he thought there was a common reason why the 21 towns had voted against keno. Mr. McIntyre answered in the negative. He stated that some towns are really against gambling, and other towns have a mentality that they do not want to be told what to do by Concord.

Mr. Thibodeau asked if they had noticed business migrating from towns without keno to towns that have approved it. Mr. McIntyre stated that most towns in New Hampshire had just voted last week, but he expects that they will. He stated that retail behavior has no geography.

Keno is not currently played in the state of Maine.

Mr. Holmes inquired as to whether the money raised in a town from keno goes directly to fund full-day kindergarten in that particular town, or if it is split between all full-day kindergarten programs in New Hampshire. Mr. McIntyre stated that it is split between all full-day kindergarten programs in the State.

Mr. Holmes asked why keno is limited to establishments with pouring licenses. Mr. McIntyre stated that they wanted to keep it within an adult environment.

Representative Umberger explained that keno dollars will only go to those schools that have full day kindergarten, which is approximately 90% of programs in the State. The hope is to take a bit of the burden off the taxpayers.

Representative Umberger stated that the owners of the establishments that have keno will get to keep 8% of the receipts from the game. She also reiterated that no one has to operate keno in their establishment, it is just an option.

Representative Umberger stated that the goal is to raise 9 million dollars through keno that will allow for \$1100 to be given to each town per pupil in full day kindergarten.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that revenue from keno seems to be running higher than expected. He inquired as to whether there was a maximum amount that can be raised through keno and put towards kindergarten. He was concerned that the excess money would be put towards other things at the state level. Mr. McIntyre said that the excess money over \$3680 (the full cost of one pupil per year), would be put into the education trust fund to be used to support schools.

Daymond Steer, from the Conway Daily Sun, asked if there had been any problems so far with people playing too much? Mr. McIntyre said that he had not discovered any issues so far.

Mr. McIntyre stated that if anyone had any questions they could visit the lottery website, www.nhlottery.com or give him a call.

CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

- a. Larry Huemmler, 2021
- b. Patrick Ferland, 2021
- c. Nat Lucy, 2020

- d. Permission to advertise for two open alternate positions

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to appoint Larry Huemmler and Patrick Ferland for 3-year terms, Nat Lucy for a 2-year term to the Conway Conservation Commission and to advertise for two open alternate positions. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING BRIDGEWORK AND PAVING OF ROUTE 16

Paul DegliAngeli, Public Works Director, explained that there are/would be multiple projects taking place.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that there would be paving maintenance from Burger King up to Intervale that was expected to be completed in June; some work will be done during the day and other work during the night hours.

Mr. DegliAngeli and the Selectmen had a discussion regarding the aesthetic, durability, and safety of options for crosswalks in North Conway Village. It was also noted by the Selectmen that they would like to see the same type of crosswalks in both Conway and North Conway villages. Mr. DegliAngeli is going to look into these options and report back to the Selectmen.

Daymond Steer, from the Conway Daily Sun, asked when this project would be starting. Mr. DegliAngeli believed it would begin in approximately 2 weeks.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that work has begun again on the bridge over the Saco River on Route 16 in Conway. There is no northbound traffic on the bridge. Detours north are either through Redstone or over the covered bridge. Mr. Weathers reminded the public that from 7 am to 7 pm there was no southbound traffic allowed over the covered bridge. This work is estimated to be complete in the middle of May.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that there would be deck rehab work beginning in April to the bridge over the outlet of Pequawket Pond that would be completed by the end of May.

Mr. DegliAngeli reminded the Selectmen that there would be work done to Seavey Street that will be completed prior to July 4th.

Mr. Holmes added that while there are no dates as of now, there would be Distric 1 paving maintenance on River Road.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE TOWN OWNED PROPERTY

Mr. Weathers referred the Selectmen to their agenda packets and explained that there was someone interested in purchasing 2 lots in Transvale; lots 80 and 81. Mr. Weathers stated that he believes if they are going to proceed, they should make the sale public.

Mr. Weathers explained that the benefit to the landowner would be access to facilitate clean up on his property from the effects of flooding.

Mr. Weathers suggested that the Selectmen go take a look at the property before making a decision.

Mr. Holmes stated that they would have three options: sell the property through live auction, sell through sealed bid, or grant this landowner permission to cross the property to access his property. Mr. Holmes

noted that option of granting access could cause issues if this person is looking to log and cross through Transvale.

Mr. Thibodeau inquired as to the status of the new law regarding how a Town may dispose of it's property. His recommendation would be to grant conditional access until more information is known regarding this law.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to table this discussion until more information can be ascertained. The motion carried unanimously.

There was a request to move up the non-public session to this point in the meeting.

At 5:00 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau to move into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) to discuss a tax matter. Motion carried unanimously.

At 5:55 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to return to public session. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter to seal the minutes from the non-public session. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF TREE DONATION BY EVERSOURCE

Mr. Holmes explained that Eversource is interested in donating a tree for Arbor day. He noted that while this is still in the informal stages, he would like to know if the Selectmen have any ideas regarding potential locations for the tree. It was determined that Mr. Holmes would see if Eversource could donate an evergreen tree for the park in Conway.

FINANCIAL REPORT

a. 2017 Expenditures

Lilli Gilligan, Finance Director, asked the Selectmen to turn to page 30 in their packets which showed the final expenditures for 2017. She noted that the audit begins in 2 weeks.

Ms. Gilligan noted that they ended 2017 with a remaining fund balance of \$214,058.52, which is within 1.98% of what they had budgeted. She noted that both the Highway Department and the Patriotic Purposes accounts went over the amount budgeted. She noted that overspending an individual line or department is permissible so long as the bottom-line budget is not overspent. John Colbath inquired how much money was donated at the July 4th celebration. Ms. Gilligan \$3,120.40 was collected in donations at Schouler Park that day.

b. 2017 Revenues

Ms. Gilligan referred the Selectmen to page 37 and 38 in their packets. 2017 ended with \$4,116,379.35 in General fund non-tax revenue collected. Ms. Gilligan noted that the original budget figure had been \$3,890,331.00, but that had been adjusted in August by the Selectmen, as required by the Department of Revenue for the purpose of setting tax rate. The adjusted revenue figure amount also exceeded the budget by \$87,930.00 and that money was transferred to fund balance

c. Fund Balance

Ms. Gilligan referred to page 39 to summarize the fiscal year for 2017 and that they began 2018 with a \$2,587,327 fund balance and that there was still 1.6 million dollars owed in taxes.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to accept the financial report from 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Permit to Sell Raffle Tickets – Friends of Conway Library (4/6 – 4/28/18)
- b. Permit to Sell Raffle Tickets – Rozzie May Animal Alliance (1/1/18 – 12/31/18)
- c. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 214-47
- d. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 219-191
- e. Notice of Intent to Excavate Map/Lot 238-1
- f. Current Use Land Use Change Tax Collector's Warrant Map/Lot 241-7
- g. Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 241-6
- h. NH Electric Co-op Petition and Pole License – 3675 Thompson Road

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign documents pending discussion

Mr. Thibodeau asked if Rozzie May Animal Alliance was having one raffle at the end of the year, or did they plan to have several. It was his recommendation that they table that specific raffle permit until this was figured out. He did not want to set a precedent that you only need a blanket application for any entire year.

Mr. Colbath withdrew the original motion.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the Permit to Sell Raffle Tickets – Friends of Conway Library (4/6 – 4/28/18), Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 214-47, Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 219-191, Notice of Intent to Excavate Map/Lot 238-1, Current Use Land Use Change Tax Collector's Warrant Map/Lot 241-7, Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 241-6, and NH Electric Co-op Petition and Pole License – 3675 Thompson Road and to table the signing of the Permit to Sell Raffle Tickets – Rozzie May Animal Alliance (1/1/18 – 12/31/18), The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- e. Accounts Payable Manifest dated 3/22/18

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest dated 3/22/18. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest Dated 3/8/18
- b. Accounts Payable Manifest Dated 3/15/18
- c. Payroll Dated 3/15/18

Mr. Thibodeau moved, second by Ms. Seavey, to ratify accounts payable manifests dated 3/8/18 and 3/15/18, and payroll dated 3/15/18. The motion carried (3-0-2) with Mr. Colbath and Ms. Seavey abstaining.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. 4 Our Kids Recycling Services (Funergy) @ North Conway Community Center (4/22/18)
- b. Vaughan Community Services, Inc. First Church of Christ Congregational Strawberry Festival (6/30/18)
- c. White Mountain Waldorf School Annual May Fair Festival @ North Conway Community Center (5/12/18)

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign and approve the special event applications for 4 Our Kids Recycling Services (Funergy) @ North Conway Community Center (4/22/18); Vaughan Community Services, Inc. First Church of Christ Congregational Strawberry Festival (6/30/18); White Mountain Waldorf School Annual May Fair Festival @ North Conway Community Center (5/12/18). The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. 2/20/18 Regular and Non-Public
- b. 2/27/18 Regular and Non-Public

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to approve the regular and non-public minutes from 2/20/18 and 2/27/18. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes stated that he believed the deliberative session of Town meeting went well and that the public tended to support the Town's positions.

Mr. Holmes stated that they had received a deed for the Lucy Hanson Homestead and it was being executed and recorded.

Mr. Holmes noted that there was a new art display case in the lobby of Town Hall. The first art being featured is a collection of three painted skateboards that were painted in support of the potential construction of a skate park in Conway.

Mr. Thibodeau asked what had happened in regards to the solar garden. Mr. Holmes stated that they have a contract stating that if they do not break ground by July 18, 2018, the deal dissolves. In his last communication with them, they were still trying to find a contractor who would work under the lease terms that the voters had approved. He noted that he had urged them to put forth another warrant article, but they declined. There has now been several weeks without communication.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Porter noted that the Historic District Committee would be meeting Wednesday, March 21 at the Conway Public Library and he encouraged interested parties to attend.

Mr. Porter noted that the planning board had not met.

Mr. Colbath stated that the ZBA was meeting Wednesday, March 21 at Town Hall at 7 pm.

Mr. Colbath noted that the Budget Committee would be meeting on Wednesday, March 28 at the middle school. He added that there are multiple openings for interested candidates to become write-ins on the April 10 voting day.

Mr. Thibodeau gave a summary of the February report for the Eastern Slopes Airport Authority including fuel sales and operations. He noted that February had been a slow month.

Mr. Thibodeau explained that the airport was gearing up for a busy spring and summer. He noted that Skydive New England would be at the airport September 26th and 27th for the Maine Powered Parachute Association Spring Fly-In; Also, the Women's Air-Race Classic would be taking place June 16th and 17th. He noted that all of the people attending these events would be contributing to the local economy through lodging, meals, etc.

Mr. Thibodeau added that from April 23rd-May 2nd, a crew of 24 men would be in Town with a large Canadian Rescue Helicopter conducting mountain rescue operations. Again, he noted that these people would be contributing to the Town economy.

Ms. Seavey stated that she would bring her notes from the Economic Council meeting to the next Selectmen meeting.

Mr. Weathers stated that the Conservation Commission met and spent a fair amount of time reviewing personnel. They also scheduled upcoming work to local trails.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

(none)

ADJOURN

At 6:25 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary