

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 28, 2021**

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 4:02 pm in the Meeting Room at the New Town Hall with the following present: C. David Weathers, Mary Carey Seavey, 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.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Weathers told the Board that they were adding 11a. Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 266-9.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON NH DOT'S REQUEST TO TOWN OF CONWAY TO ACQUIRE 20
OLD BARTLETT ROAD

Mr. Weathers opened the public hearing at 4:00 pm.

Mr. Colbath explained that they had received a letter regarding a family who wished to buy back the property located at 20 Old Bartlett Road.

NHDOT had taken the property by eminent domain for the construction of the bypass, and the family had been renting the property since then.

However, since the bypass did not come to fruition, the State was looking to sell the property and the Town has the first right of refusal.

Mr. Colbath stated that he did not see the Town owning the property and by having the previous owners buy it back, it would return to the tax rolls.

Mr. Weathers closed the public hearing at 4:04 pm.

DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON DISPOSITION OF 20 OLD BARTLETT ROAD

Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to accept the property located at 20 Old Bartlett Road from the State of New Hampshire. The motion failed (0-5-0).

CERTIFICATE OF VOTE AUTHORIZING TOWN ENGINEER TO SIGN DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN REGARDING RECREATION TRAIL, I.E., "BIKE-PATH"

Mr. Holmes noted that they were requesting authorization to designate Mr. DegliAngeli as the Town's representative to sign documents related to the bike-path.

Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to authorize Mr. DegliAngeli to sign documents on behalf of the Town regarding the recreation trail. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- a. \$4,165 from the State of NH for the 50/50 radar trailer grant.
- b. \$798.92 from the State of NH for dui patrols/grant.

Police Chief Mattei explained that they had a warrant article for \$8,500 in April that was for the total cost of the radar trailer. However, they had received a 50% grant towards the trailer, which ended up being \$4,165.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to accept \$4,165 from the State of NH for the 50/50 radar trailer grant. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Mattei gave an overview on the success of the radar trailer. He explained that it collects data and has been useful to the Department as it allows them to patrol certain areas of Town as the data suggests.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to \$798.92 from the State of NH for dui patrols/grant. The motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE TOWN OWNED LAND ON HENDERSON RD. MAP 272-41 AND 272-42

Mr. Holmes explained that they had received a request from an abutter to see if the Town would be interested in selling two lots on Henderson Road, Map/Lots 272-41 and 272-42.

Mr. Holmes noted that the lots are on a road that the Town had abandoned.

Mr. DegliAngeli explained that was unsure on the status of wetlands and the property's ability to support a septic system.

Mr. DegliAngeli noted that he would like to gather more information before making a recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Holmes noted that he would like to speak with Mr. Wallace to see what his plans for the property would be.

The Board directed Mr. Holmes to get more information.

DISCUSSION OF ARPA FUND PROJECTS

- a. Presentation by Conway Precinct Superintendent Vallieres on emergency sewer repair.

Superintendent of the Conway Village Fire District Bruno Vallieres appeared before the Board.

Mr. Vallieres explained that they had a study done to look at the inflow issues in the pipes in Conway Village.

The Board watched a video that described the process of relining the pipes.

It was stated that the pipes could just be relined, not replaced.

Mr. DegliAngeli stated that they had used this lining process to reline two culverts last year.

Mr. Bamsey stated that two to three years ago they lined the pipes outside on Main Street and noticed a reduction in the amount they were sending to the North Conway Water Precinct.

Mr. Vallieres stated that with the manholes included, the \$100,000 would cover approximately 1000 feet of pipe.

Mr. Colbath inquired as to when they would like to begin this project.

Mr. Vallieres stated that they were ready as soon as they had the funds.

Mr. Colbath stated that this seemed to be the most cost-effective solution to rectifying the pipes.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that he felt this was not just a Conway Village issue, it was a Town wide issue and they should participate in this.

The Board watched video footage of the pipes under Pequawket Pond.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to fund the Conway Village Fire District's request for \$100,000. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Update on Marshall gym acoustic issues.

Mr. Holmes explained that he had looking into the acoustic issues in the Marshall Gymnasium.

He noted that Northledge Technologies had used an acoustical engineering to upgrade the sound in the gymnasium in 2020.

They explained to him that installing more ceiling panels could only minimally improve the space.

However, they recommended looking into better quality microphones, curtains for the stage and windows, and a better-quality sound mixer.

It was also suggested that they have a person manning the mixing board during the meetings.

Mr. Eastman said they have shades on the windows, but do not have actually fabric curtains.

There was discussion regarding whether a change in configuration in the gymnasium would help with the sound quality in the space.

Mr. Colbath stated that he would like to have someone there adjusting the sound board during meetings.

Mr. Colbath stated that he would like to see some ARPA money go towards purchasing the curtain for the stage as the Friends of Rec had put a lot of money into the space and it would be used for Town meetings.

Ms. Seavey agreed with Mr. Colbath.

Mr. Eastman stated that the whole curtain package was about \$35,000.

It was stated that they would need a new mixer in order to have more microphones.

Mr. Holmes will be looking for specific prices for these items such as mic stands, mixers, microphones and window coverings.

Mr. Thibodeau brought up the discussion of perhaps allocating \$2,000 towards the maintenance of the Ski Museum bathrooms.

Mr. Holmes stated that he needed to see if Janice Crawford would be amenable to that contribution.

There was discussion regarding the request from CVFD to help cover the Fire Department's losses during the shutdown.

Mr. Holmes noted that he needed to check with Chief Solomon regarding the dates in which these expenses were incurred to verify that they qualify for the ARPA funds.

Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the CVFD request for up to \$50,830 as per eligibility to the ARPA guidelines. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Porter stated that he had a problem with this request as they had not been approached by any other Fire Department or ambulance service.

Mr. Thibodeau explained that many of the other entities in Town had the ability to access other Federal or State funds for assistance because they were private entities.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Colbath asked for an update on the bathrooms in North Conway.

Mr. Holmes explained that State Officials had come to view the proposed site for the bathroom. He explained that they had invited the Town to apply for the grant, however, they had a lot of suggestions and requirements such as tying the design into the aesthetic of Schouler Park, having an archeology study done, get an appraisal, and successfully negotiate the land transfer with the North Conway Community Center.

Mr. Holmes stated that he had the grant application printed out and would begin to try and see if this would be feasible by the application deadline.

It was stated that the pickleball court would be completed in the spring.

Mr. Eastman noted that a second fencing company was coming to look at the space the next day.

He noted that the first company had quoted \$22,000 for fencing of the court and that was with the help of Town staff.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 266-9.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the document listed above. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. AP Manifest dated 9/30/2021

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the AP Manifest dated 9/30/2021. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. AP Manifest dated 9/23/21
- b. Payroll dated 9/23/21
- c. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber on Map/Lot 255-5.12

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to ratify the documents listed above in a. through c. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

(none)

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- a. Regular and Non-Public Minutes from 9/14/2021

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to adopt the regular and non-public minutes from 9/14/2021 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes noted that he had been in communication with Superintendent Kevin Richard to create an ad hoc committee to develop a calendar for the school that would allow school availability for election days.

Mr. Weathers volunteered to serve on that committee.

Mr. Holmes gave an overview of the results of the parking program.

He noted that they took in approximately \$52,303.21.

However, between start up expenses and payroll, they experienced a loss of approximately \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Mr. Holmes explained that all in all this was not a horrible year considering the one-time cost of the kiosk and the horrible weather that the area experienced this year.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Colbath stated that the ZBA had met the previous week for two hearings. He noted that he would be having a legal discussion regarding this meeting during a non-public session.

Mr. Porter stated that the Planning Board met the previous Thursday for the continuation of the site plan review for the proposed hotel in Intervale.

He explained that they had given the developer a list of mitigation factors to solve.

Mr. Porter noted that he was very happy with how the Planning Board had conducted themselves.

Ms. Seavey and Mr. Colbath stated that the Planning Board had done an excellent job thus far regarding this issue.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer from the Conway Daily Sun, expressed his view that they should prepare for large crowds to attend their meetings regarding hot topic issues such as the review of the parking program. He questioned whether the Board would hold meetings strictly on these hot topic items.

The consensus of the Board was that they would continue to address agenda items as they have in the past.

At 5:45 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (L). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A :3 II (L) – LEGAL ADVICE

The Board returned to public session at 6:35 pm.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to seal the minutes from this non-public session as divulgence of the information would render the proposed action ineffective. The motion carried unanimously.

At 6:36 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (J). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A :3 II (J) – COMMERCIAL, CONFIDENTIAL, OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Board returned to public session at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to seal the minutes from this non-public session as divulgence of the information would render the proposed action ineffective. The motion carried unanimously.

At 7:00 pm, Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (A). The motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A :3 II (A) – PERSONNEL

The Board returned to public session at 7:03 pm.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to seal the minutes from this non-public session as divulgence of the information would render the proposed action ineffective. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

At 7:03 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary