

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
February 23, 2016

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 Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell.

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. Porter, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

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

a. \$5,070 to the Town of Conway for the Damon O'Neal Scholarship Trust Fund from various donors

Ms. Gilligan reviewed these monies were collected on behalf of the Damon O'Neal Scholarship Trust Fund from various donors and requested the Board accept the money for the Trustees of the Trust Funds. **Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to accept the unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$5,070 to the Town of Conway for the Damon O'Neal Scholarship Trust Fund from various donors. The motion carried unanimously.**

PROPOSED LETTER TO SCHOOL REGARDING FORMING A  
COMMITTEE TO STUDY RECREATION CENTER RELOCATION

Mr. Sires reported that there was recently a walkthrough of middle school. There were three Selectmen, town staff and school staff at the tour. The school has now requested a letter from the Board as to whether we would like to pursue looking at relocating the recreation center to the middle school and if we want a committee and, also, who will be on the committee. There was discussion by the Board as to which member of the Selectmen would like to be on the committee. All Board members expressed interest in being on the committee but agreed it should be only two members of the Selectmen. The Board also agreed that there should be two members from the general public, two members from the Friends of Conway Recreation, two members of the School Board and John Eastman on the committee. The Board suggested that from the Friends of Conway Recreation that Sut Marshall and Tom Deans would be a good choice for committee members. Mr. Weathers suggested that a notice be put in the paper for members of the public to be on the committee. The Board next agreed that a letter be sent to the school suggesting a committee of nine members – 2 Selectmen, 2 School Board members, 2 Friends of Conway Recreation, 2 members of the public, and John Eastman.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF 2016 WARRANT

Mr. Sires reviewed that the warrant needs to be posted no later than the last Monday of February. Mr. Sires next reviewed that the Board needs to vote on the operating budget article and, also, to post the warrant.

Mr. Sires next reported that the Budget Committee met and made reductions to the Selectmen's proposed budget. The Budget Committee reduced gasoline by \$4,000, diesel by \$6,000 and, also, reduced fireworks by \$8,925 from the patriotic purposes budget. The Budget Committee proposed budget total is \$10,481,920. Mr. Sires stated that staff feels that the gas and diesel reductions are okay but we would have to make adjustments for the Fourth of July if this budget is reduced. Mr. Sires next reported that the Budget Committee reviewed the amount that the Patriotic Purposes budget has increased in the past few years and they also pointed out that he had said that the 2015 budget for patriotic purposes was going to spike because of the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration due to police, fireworks, etc. Mr. Sires next reviewed that the budget did go up and now since planning for the 250<sup>th</sup> realize it is needed to keep people safe, etc. Further, in the past we counted on donations from the public but, at this point, we don't know what that amount would be. If there is a shortfall we will have to see if the community donates same and we may or may not get this amount in donations. So, in short, if you want the level of celebration and fireworks that we had in the past, this is what it costs. If you want it scaled down, such as no band and not having \$10,000 in fireworks, then this can be done as well. Mr. Sires next stated that at this point, the Board has two options –the Board could not support the budget approved by the Budget Committee or you can support the budget as is. There can be further discussion on this matter at the Deliberative Session of Town Meeting. If there is no support for this at town meeting then the Fourth of July will be scaled down. The Board's task tonight is to decide whether or not to support the Budget Committee budget at this point. If there are changes at the deliberative meeting to the budget, the Board can decide whether to support the budget figure or not. Mr. Weathers advised that he will stand up at the deliberative meeting and speak about the patriotic purposes budget at town meeting. There was a brief discussion by the Board as to whether or not they would support the budget committee figure at this point in time. Mr. Weathers next discussed the preparation and logistics that went into the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fourth of July celebration and stated that it was far better than what we have had in the past and he would like to see the same preparations in place in the future. There was further brief discussion of the Fourth of July celebration by the Board. **Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to support the Budget Committee recommended budget amount of \$10,481,920.** Mr. Sires confirmed that this is according to the line items suggested by the Budget Committee. The Board agreed. **The motion carried 3-2-0 with Messrs. Colbath and Thibodeau and Ms. Seavey voting in the affirmative and Messrs. Porter and Weathers voting in the negative.**

Mr. Sires next asked for a motion to sign the warrant out of session and to post the warrant.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that in looking at Article 4 (Zoning article) he feels the amendments should have been separated out and he would like to see this as three separate articles. Mr. Sires pointed out that this is how the Planning Board specified that the article be prepared. Mr. Porter stated this is how it was presented to the Planning Board and they had hearings on same. Planning Directors, Tom Irving, next joined the meeting. Mr. Thibodeau explained his concerns regarding Article 4. Mr. Irving gave an explanation of the warrant article and advised that the Planning Board's reason for having it this way is that without having the elements together it doesn't function properly. People can vote to support the changes or not. If you only adopt part of the amendments it would create more issues. Mr. Weathers clarified that one part of this doesn't work without the other. Mr. Irving stated this is correct. Mr. Thibodeau stated that he understands what Mr. Irving is saying but doesn't agree with it as he does not see the relativity between amendment 3 and 4 of Article 4. Mr. Irving stated that it was the Planning Board's position that these three amendments need to go together as one article and he concurs with their opinion.

**Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to sign the Warrant out of session and to post the Warrant. The motion carried unanimously.**

REVIEW OF MONTHLY RECEIPTS

The monthly receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 214-75.013
- b. Abatement Tax Map/Lot 219-40
- c. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Tax Map/Lot 203-137
- d. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Tax Map/Lot 254-29-085
- e. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Tax Map/Lot 264-24

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to sign the Abatement for Tax Map/Lot 214-75.013, Abatement for Tax Map/Lot 219-40, Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions for Tax Map/Lot 203-137, Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions for Tax Map/Lot 254-29-085, and the Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions for Tax Map/Lot 264-24. The motion carried unanimously.**

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest 2/25/16

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest dated 2/25/16. The motion carried unanimously.**

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. Accounts Payable Manifest 2/18/16
- b. Payroll 2/18/16

**Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to ratify the Accounts Payable Manifest dated 2/18/16 and the Payroll dated 2/18/16. The motion carried unanimously.**

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. Shawn Sean Foundation Fund Fundraiser/Merlino's Steak House – 4/21/16
- b. 5K Walk/Run with a Veteran/American Legion – 4/30/16 (pending insurance)

**Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to approve the Shawn Sean Foundation Fund Fundraiser/Merlino's Steak House – 4/21/16 and the 5K Walk/Run with a Veteran/American Legion – 4/30/16 pending insurance. The motion carried unanimously.**

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: 1/26/16 AND 2/2/16

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to approve the minutes of 1/26/16 and 2/2/16 as written. The motion carried unanimously.**

### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Skating Rink – Mr. Sires stated that he and the Recreation Director spoke about the skating rink and given the winter pattern this year we are not going to try and invigorate the rink again this year. There is grass and sand there now.

Emergency Management Director – Mr. Sires reported that the Emergency Management Director, Steve Solomon, has resigned. We appreciate his service to the Town. Mr. Sires next advised that we do have a Deputy Emergency Management Director who will be functioning as the Director in the interim. The Board of Selectmen are responsible for appointing a new Emergency Management Director and this will be on the next Board of Selectmen agenda.

Cable Agreement/Town of Madison – Mr. Sires distributed and reviewed correspondence between the Town of Conway and the Town of Madison regarding the Cable Channel 3 Agreement. Mr. Sires further reviewed that this Board decides who shares the channel and we have agreements with area towns regarding same. Mr. Sires next reviewed that Madison was getting a discount and we had an agreement for certain services to be provided by them and they weren't provided. That deal is now done. Mr. Sires next reviewed that Madison has the channel all day on Monday. Madison, for \$5,000, does enjoy a greater service and access than other community's with agreements. Mr. Sires next stated that his email to Madison in November was due to him seeing one of their meetings on TV where they had discussion that they would still be able to have programming aired even if they didn't contribute to Valley Vision. He wrote to them to explain that if Madison does not contribute like other towns, they won't be able to view the channel any longer. He has tried to make it clear to them that this is the case. He has now heard that they are putting this on their warrant and he is bringing it up tonight so that Madison voters can hear about this and, if they don't pass the article, they won't continue to get channel 3 in Madison. Mr. Porter stated that they have to pay their fair share and we need to reiterate that everyone needs to pay their fair share. The Board agreed. Ms. Seavey asked about what conditions they had in the past. Mr. Sires stated they were supposed to put internet content on the web and this didn't happen.

Joint Loss Management Committee – Mr. Sires reported that the Joint Loss Management Committee is scheduled to meet this Thursday. The Committee will review facilities to address safety issues and facility needs.

LMWVSWD – Mr. Sires reported the Lower Mount Washington Valley Solid Waste District is scheduled to meet on March 26, 2016. Mr. Colbath advised that he would not be able to attend, however, Stacy Sand, who is the alternate will be there.

Drywall – Mr. Sires reviewed that this Board previously discussed disposal of drywall and had scheduled a public hearing. Since that discussion we reread the ordinance and it stated that we can change the amount according to what is needed. We plan to change the fee to \$100 per ton unless the Board wants to do something else instead. There was brief discussion. **Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, that we up our tipping fees from \$80 to \$100 for drywall. The motion carried unanimously.**

### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Planning Board – Mr. Porter reported that the Planning Board is scheduled to meet on Thursday night.

Budget Committee – Mr. Colbath reported he Budget Committee wrapped up their meetings for the season. They will have one meeting on March 30, 2016 to wrap up loose ends such as approving minutes, etc.

ESAA – Mr. Thibodeau reported the Airport Executive Board met recently and they are moving forward with paving the apron. Mr. Thibodeau next stated that the Budget Committee voted to not recommend the warrant article for the airport by a vote of 7-7. Mr. Colbath stated some Budget Committee members talked in favor of the article, some discussed that it is in Maine and there was also discussion and some voted against it because it may become part of the budget in the future. Mr. Thibodeau stated that the State of New Hampshire is now looking at declaring this airport to be part of the New Hampshire airport system. Mr. Thibodeau stated he feels there needs to be an amendment by \$1 at the Deliberative Session and hopefully this will be re-voted on after the meeting. Mr. Thibodeau next stated that even if it were to become part of the budget in the future, the Budget Committee would still have the opportunity to vote for or against it.

MWVEC – Ms. Seavey reported that the Mount Washington Valley Economic Council met recently and talked about the development of the land. Mr. Thibodeau stated that with the rising cost of water and sewer in Conway Village this may stifle what the Economic Council is trying to do out back. He is still trying to work with the congressional delegation to see what can be done to provide some relief.

Tour of Junior High – Mr. Weathers reviewed there was a tour of the Junior High. His personal observation is that there is a lot of space that can be switched over for recreation use. There may be some issues about where to drop kids off and, also, another issue may be parking for the Recreation Department at this site. Also, there will also need to be discussion about the use of the recreation fields at this location. Mr. Weathers next stated that the old gym is pretty much intact except for one wall and this will have costs but the air and ventilation system seem to be up to date.

Deliberative Portion of Town Meeting – Mr. Weathers reviewed that the town portion of town meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2016 and the school is Monday, March 7, 2016. Ms. Seavey advised that she will not be present at the meetings as she will be away.

Candidate Filing – Mr. Weathers reviewed the candidate filing period opens tomorrow. Mr. Weathers next reviewed position that are available.

CVFD Meeting – Mr. Colbath questioned when the CVFD will be holding their annual meeting. Mr. Weathers advised that it is March 8, 2016.

Election Day – Mr. Colbath reviewed that voting day is scheduled for April 12, 2016.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked who will be on the committee to look at the school for recreation. Mr. Weathers advised it will be two members of the Board of Selectmen, two people from the School, two people from the public, two from Friends of Conway Recreation and John Eastman. We will be sending a letter to the school with the suggestion of a nine person committee.

Mr. Steer asked about the vote on the budget and fireworks earlier in the meeting and if this can be changed. Mr. Sires explained that the operating budget can be changed by a vote

at the deliberative session and, if so, the Board of Selectmen can vote to support it or not. If it is not amended then the votes stand and this is what will go on the ballot.

NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 98-A:3,II(d) CONSIDERATION  
OF ACQUISITION, SALE OR LEASE OF REAL ESTATE

At 5:11 p.m., **Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non public session.** Included in the non public session was Town Manager, Earl Sires, Realtor, Greydon Turner, and Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell. **The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

The Board returned to public session at 5:34 pm

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

ADJOURN

At 6:35 pm the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hallowell  
Executive Secretary