

**Minutes of Meeting
CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
February 27th, 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, 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 to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Weathers noted that there were two corrections to the agenda. First, agenda item 4 read "ESSA" and was corrected to "ESAA". Item agenda 5 read "Letter of Support for NEMBA Grant" and was corrected to "Request for Letter of Support for NEMBA Grant".

Mr. Weathers also stated that item 17, the Non-Public Session/RSA 91 A:3 II (e) – Pending Litigation, was being removed from the agenda.

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

REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NEMBA GRANT

Rob Adair, Chairman of the Conway Conservation Commission and member of the New England Mountain Bike Association, came before the Board to request a letter of support from the Selectmen for their application towards potentially receiving the 2018 NEMBA Grant for \$10,000 to assist in the completion of the Hurricane Mountain Trail.

Mr. Weathers stated that he believes it is an asset to the Town to have this work done.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to write a letter in support of White Mountains NEMBA Grant Application. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to authorize Chairman C. David Weathers to sign the letter of support outside of session. The motion carried unanimously.

ESAA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Don Thibodeau, Chairman of the Eastern Slope Airport Authority, stated that he and the other members of the Board, Gene Bergoffen, Treasurer, and Ed Bergeron, Secretary, were before the Board of Selectmen to answer any outstanding questions they may have. Mr. Thibodeau noted the current controversy regarding the ESAA's ethics, mission, and finances. Mr. Thibodeau thanked the Town of Conway for their continued support.

Mr. Thibodeau wanted the public to also be aware of all of the things that have been done at the State level to support the airport. He noted that the NH State Government holds that there would be a need for

an airport close to Conway if the Fryeburg Airport was not in existence. He emphasized the cooperation amongst the two states and is hopeful that it will continue.

Mr. Thibodeau stated that the ESAA has no other agenda other than making sure that this mode of transportation is up to 21st century values. He said that everything the ESAA has been doing, and is continuing to do, has been laid out in their strategic plan. Mr. Thibodeau stated that the ESAA has repaired the aprons and added jetfuel availability. He noted that currently they are trying to build a heated hanger and in the future hope to expand the runway. He added that these improvements are not immediate, but will take years.

Mr. Weathers inquired as to when the audit for 2017 would be done. Mr. Thibodeau answered that it was starting right away.

Ms. Seavey thanked Mr. Thibodeau for maintaining the airport and allowing the Town of Conway to use it. She noted that it was an asset for both tourism and medical needs.

Mr. Thibodeau noted that the head of LifeFlight of Maine would be happy to speak with the Board if requested. He briefly explained the things that the airport is able to do to assist in medical transport such as real time runway conditions.

Mr. Colbath also noted the importance of having an airport close by in the case that a fixed wing plane is warranted for medical transports. He also noted that Angel Flights are something that benefit from the airport. Mr. Thibodeau agreed and explained that Angel Flights are when pilots volunteer to transport individuals or families to hospitals that they may otherwise find unaffordable to get to.

Mr. Weathers added that the airport has been a reliable and beneficial asset for the Mountain Washington Valley.

Mr. Bergeron noted that up until 3 years ago, the ESAA had been audited through the Town of Fryeburg until they received their Federal Non-Profit status. He added that they were doing their 2017 report currently and referred the Board to the current Balance Sheet and 2018 Budget that had been handed out.

Mr. Thibodeau noted that a lot of conversation had been had about a potential conflict of interest with having a Selectmen on the Board for the ESAA. However, he added that it was written in their bylaws. He also encouraged any Selectmen to attend both ESAA regular and executive meetings.

Mr. Holmes noted that both he and Town Finance Director, Lilli Gilligan, are also members of the ESAA Board. He stated his appreciation of the information that was being provided at this meeting.

Carl Thibodeau asked Don Thibodeau to invite Joe Dickson to attend the Town Deliberative Session on Wednesday, March 7, 2018.

Mr. Bergeron emphasized that while the airport is currently getting bad press, there are many positive things happening. He noted that a STEM aviation program was beginning for both Kennett High School and Fryeburg Academy. He noted a presentation occurring on March 15, 2018 at 12:00 pm. Finally, he noted that there would be an aviation camp put on during the summer for 7th and 8th graders.

Mr. Colbath inquired as to how one would go about applying to that camp. Mr. Bergeron said that it will be advertised through Joe Riddendale and encouraged early applications.

LETTER FROM DOT RE: 302/NORTH-SOUTH ROAD INTERSECTION

Mr. Weathers referred the Selectmen to a letter in their packet from NH DOT regarding the change in lane designation at the US 302 intersection with the North South Road. They stated that they will be changing the second thru lane back to a right turn only lane. Mr. Weathers did not know when this change would occur, but noted that the sooner, the better.

SPRING POSTING OF TOWN ROADS

It was noted that all roads in the Town of Conway that are not State roads are now posted for 10 tons and under until the frost comes out of the ground.

Mr. Thibodeau asked about the status of West Main Street and Hobbs Street due to the need for access to the industrial park. Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli, explained that there are certain exceptions and Hobbs Street and West Main Street are two of those exceptions.

REVIEW OF RECEIPTS

The receipts were available for review.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Current Land Use Change Tax Collector's Warrant Map/Lot 258-68.26
- b. Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 258-68.26
- c. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 203-5
- d. Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 241-7

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the Current Land Use Change Tax Collector's Warrant Map/Lot 258-68.26, Land Use Change Tax Map/Lot 258-68.26, Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 203-5, and Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions Map/Lot 241-7. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- e. Accounts Payable Manifest dated 3/1/18
- f. Payroll Dated 3/1/18

Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest dated 3/1/18 and Payroll dated 3/1/18. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

(none)

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION(S)

- a. Joyce Endee Productions Craft Shows (5/26/18 & 5/27/18, 7/21/18 & 7/22/18, 8/25/18 & 8/26/18, 10/13/18 & 10/14/18, 12/15/18 & 12/16/18).
- b. Shawn Smith Foundation Fundraiser (5/5/18)
- c. White Mountain Milers/Feeling Good 5K (4/7/18)

Mr. Porter moved, seconded by Mr. Colbath, to sign the special event applications for Joyce Endee Productions Craft Shows (5/26/18 & 5/27/18, 7/21/18 & 7/22/18, 8/25/18 & 8/26/18, 10/13/18 & 10/14/18, 12/15/18 & 12/16/18), Shawn Smith Foundation Fundraiser (5/5/18), and White Mountain Milers/Feeling Good 5K (4/7/18). The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

(none)

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Holmes noted that he spoke to the Rotary Club on Thursday, February 22, 2018, regarding the Town and the Town Warrant. He believed that it went very well.

Mr. Holmes stated that the Town Warrants have been posted at the Town offices, Kennett High School, and the local post offices.

Mr. Holmes explained that he and Mr. DegliAngeli have opened discussions with NH COOP regarding LED lighting. They believe that it is going to take some time, but Mr. Holmes noted that they would begin to pursue it more aggressively.

Mr. Holmes stated that David Smolen has resigned from Historic District Commission. After noting that another member, John Cannell, had recently passed away, it was decided that they would need to advertise for two positions.

Mr. Holmes stated that Town Meeting packets were now available at Town Hall, Conway Recreation Center, and the Conway Public Library.

Mr. Holmes noted that the deadline to file to run for Town office is Friday, March 2nd, at 5:00 pm with the Town Clerk; He encouraged people to run.

Mr. Holmes stated that they have received a letter from Spectrum Cable regarding renewing their franchise agreement with the Town. He noted that the Board has two options. They can keep the agreement the same as it is, or they can create a committee to bring it up for discussion. He noted that there is at least one community member who has expressed interest on being on the committee. He also added that Bill Edmunds of Valley Vision has some things he would like changed as well. Mr. Holmes stated that the Town has 6 months to decide. Ms. Seavey expressed her interest on being on the committee as well. Mr. Holmes was going to inquire with the Cable Company regarding how things could be changed or improved upon in the agreement.

Mr. Holmes stated that the deliberative meeting for the School was March 5, 2018 and for the Town on March 7, 2018; both meetings are at 7:00 pm at Kennett High School.

Mr. Colbath inquired as to where the disorderly household bill stood. Mr. Holmes stated that he believed it was most likely gone. He added that Planning Director, Tom Irving, was currently working on alternative options.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Porter said that the Historical Committee met, however, they did not have a quorum due to Mr. Smolen's resignation and Mr. Cannell's passing. Mr. Holmes stated he would put a notice in the paper for applications for new members.

Mr. Porter said that the Planning Board met regarding the adult daycare. He stated that things went well, there was just concern by some of the residents of Saco Woods regarding noise during construction.

Mr. Colbath noted that the Budget Committee met last Wednesday to vote on the school default budget. He was unable to attend so Ms. Seavey took his place.

Mr. Colbath said that he was also unable to attend the Zoning Board meeting and they did not have enough people to vote.

Ms. Seavey stated that the Economic Council would meet February, 28, 2018 and that Valley Vision had not met.

Ms. Seavey noted that she would not be in attendance for the Town Deliberative or the next two Selectmen meetings.

Mr. Thibodeau wanted to emphasize the importance of the ESAA in regards to LifeFlight. He read out loud a portion of a letter from Joe Dickson from LifeFlight of Maine. He read:

“In the previous 3 years alone, LifeFlight has used emergent helicopter and airplane transport to touch the lives of 151 patients out of the North Conway area. Of those patients, 11 were under the age of 14 and half of those were under the age of 2.”

Mr. Thibodeau stated that if you cannot find any other reason to support the airport, the ability to help save lives is it.

Mr. Weathers noted that he attended the New England Ski Museum's ribbon cutting ceremony. He stated that it was very well attended and believes that the museum will operate free of charge with donations appreciated

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer from The Conway Daily Sun asked if the events at the airport were open to the public. Mr. Thibodeau answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Steer inquired as to whether a need study had been done regarding the transient hanger. Mr. Thibodeau stated that their engineer was working on putting that information together now. He said that while the need to use the transient hanger is not common, it is not uncommon.

Mr. Steer asked if the ESAA would be looking to put current hanger leasers on their Board. Mr. Thibodeau answered in the negative.

Mr. Steer inquired as to whether or not the airport hanger would help with LifeFlights. There was brief discussion and it was determined that while not usually, there are some situations that would warrant the use of the hanger.

John Greenleaf Whittier, member of the Conway Budget Committee addressed the Board and said that if the Budget Committee had had the numbers that had been discussed today regarding the number of people that through the airport LifeFlight was aided in saving, it could have positively affected the vote. Mr. Thibodeau replied that the letter containing those numbers had not arrived before the Budget Committee's vote.

Mr. Whittier inquired as to whether the ESAA would be requesting more than the \$10,000 from the Town voters in the future. Mr. Thibodeau explained that right now he cannot answer that; they are taking things one step at a time. He did add that he believes for at least the next 2-4 years, the ESAA would not request any more than they have for the last 5 years.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION/RSA 91-A:3 II(d) CONSIDERATION OF ACQUISITION SALE OR LEASE OF REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

At 4:50 pm, Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (D) to discuss the consideration of acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property. The motion carried unanimously.

At 5:43 pm, the Board returned to public session.

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

ADJOURN

At 5:44 pm, the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Day
Executive Secretary