

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**CONWAY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
September 16, 2014

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 (Vice Chair), Michael DiGregorio, Stacy Sand, and Carl Thibodeau, 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

**Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Ms. Sand, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATION BY WHITE MOUNTAIN AQUATIC FOUNDATION

Present from the White Mountain Aquatic Foundation were Susan Viets, President, Bob Magg, Chair of the Facilities Committee, and Ed Alkalay, legal support.

Ms. Viets reviewed a drawing of the proposed facility and gave an overview of the floor plan, possible uses for space at the center, land needs for the facility, the need for the center in the community, and benefits to the town. Mr. Alkalay spoke about the benefits of having this facility and advised that they are here today to ask for a gauge of support from the Selectmen.

Mr. DiGregorio questioned if they are looking for taxpayer dollars. Ms. Viets advised that are looking for support from the Board of Selectmen at this time. Mr. Alkalay stated that one issue is going to be taxes and to make sure the organization is sustainable for the future. They would like to open up for discussion the possibility of easing the tax burden on the facility. There was a brief discussion regarding tax exempt status. Mr. Weathers explained that if the land is taken off the tax rolls, then the town loses revenue. Mr. Magg stated that they would propose to pay whatever is being paid in taxes now on the property in the future. Mr. Alkalay stated they are not asking the town to take this over and that this is not on the table now but they are looking for support from this Board. This is introductory now and they hope that the Board of Selectmen would be open to further discussion on this matter in the future. Mr. Weathers suggested that they come back with more information in the future. Ms. Viets agreed.

REQUEST FOR FOUR WAY STOP OR RED LIGHT AT INTERSECTION  
OF NORTH-SOUTH ROAD AND GROVE STREET

Donald Scialla and Debra Scialla appeared before the Board. Also present was Lt. George Walker of the Conway Police Department and Public Works Director, Paul DegliAngeli.

Mr. Scialla advised that they live at the corner of North-South Road and Grove Street and feel there is a fault with this intersection. When you are going toward the post office you are below grade and not eye level with the road you are crossing. Also, there is a green chain link fence that acts like a wall and you can't see through it. There have been several accidents recently and there are also issues for people crossing the street. They are asking that the

Board of Selectmen look at the intersection and add two more stop signs. They feel the Board should look at this to make it a safer intersection.

Lt. Walker advised that he pulled the data on the area and there have been seven accidents at North-South Road and Grove Street from January 2012 until August 26, 2014. Also, data was reviewed for the intersection of North-South Road and Seavey Street and there was even more accidents. Lt. Walker stated that in looking at the accidents it is driver inattention or distraction. Putting up other signs is certainly a possibility but he couldn't say that this would work. It is a proactive means to attempt to minimize the accidents but it won't completely stop the accidents because you can't predict human behavior. Mr. DiGregorio asked if the accidents were from people inching out on the road or from running the stop signs. Lt. Walker stated the accidents were from running stop signs. Mr. DiGregorio suggested a solar blinking light on the stop signs. Mr. DegliAngeli asked about demographics – were the drivers local or not and also where the drivers younger or older. Lt. Walker stated they were local and older drivers. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that this is the same as what we saw with accidents when the intersection first opened. It is still the same demographic and this is why we talked about something before to catch people's attention. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that he did not think that stop signs at all four corners would be the solution and short of a roundabout, which we do not have room for, he is not sure what else to do about this. Mr. DegliAngeli next asked which direction people were traveling when they were involved in the accidents. Chief Preece stated they were going eastbound toward the mountain. Lt. Walker advised that for 2014 two were eastbound and one was westbound. Mr. Sires stated that there has been discussion on this previously and a four way stop sign doesn't work. He has seen blinking lights in other communities that are solar run and we can take a look at this. Mr. DegliAngeli advised that when we looked at the blinking lights in the past they were approximately \$800 and they may have come down in price. If the Board would like to pursue this we can look into this option further. Mr. DegliAngeli suggested the blinking light on the stop sign for both east and west. Mr. DegliAngeli next stated that we do have more accidents at Seavey Street than we do on Grove and he doesn't believe that sight is an issue at that intersection. Ms. Sand brought up that flashing lights could be an issue for any houses in the area. There was further discussion on the accidents in the area, etc. The Board agreed to look into flashing lights for the stop signs at Grove Street.

#### REQUEST FOR SECOND DRIVE ON ODELL HILL ROAD (TAX MAP/LOT 266-8)

Tom Fadden and Katy Fadden appeared before the Board. Ms. Fadden advised that they are here today to ask for a second driveway for their property on Odell Hill Road. Ms. Fadden explained the layout of the property and where they would like to have the second driveway. Ms. Fadden also brought photos of the property and reviewed same with the Board. The Board questioned if they would be paving the driveway. Ms. Fadden stated she doesn't know that they would pave it in the future but right now it will be gravel. The Board questioned if this is their primary residence or a rental. Ms. Fadden stated it is their primary residence. Mr. DegliAngeli stated that right now gravel won't be an issue for the driveway but if they want to pave it in the future it may be an issue but right now he does not see any problems. The Board held a brief discussion regarding the property. **Mr. DiGregorio moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to grant the second driveway permit for Tax Map/Lot 266-8. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### REVIEW OF LETTER FROM NHDOT OF 7/22/14 REGARDING SIGN SAFETY EFFORTS

Mr. Sires reviewed a letter from the NHDOT dated 7/22/14 regarding the upgrading of signs to improve safety in the area.

### UPDATE ON TAP GRANT APPLICATION – WHITAKER WOODS RECREATION TRAIL

Mr. Sires distributed information that will be included in the TAP grant application for a recreation trail in Whitaker Woods and reviewed same with the Board. Mr. Sires reviewed that this would be a 10' wide paved trail from Intervale Crossroad to the School. The grant amount is \$800,000 and the folks involved are making good progress for the match amount required by the grant. This is to create safe non motorized trails. Mr. Sires next advised that the information presented tonight is for review by the Board and that the actual grant application will be before the Board next week.

### DISCUSSION OF LETTERS RECEIVED FROM PRECINCTS REGARDING CONSOLIDATION OF FIRE SERVICES

Mr. Sires reported that the town received letters from North Conway Water Precinct, Redstone Fire District, Center Conway Fire Precinct, Conway Village Fire District and East Conway Fire Precinct regarding consolidation of services. Mr. Sires reviewed that North Conway was not interested, Redstone was not interested but would send someone to the meeting, Center Conway is not interested, Conway Village was interested in discussing and East Conway said they would be interested.

Mr. DiGregorio stated that a concerned citizen is drafting a warrant article in this regard

Janine Bean, Commissioner of the Conway Village Fire District stated that she has copies of the minutes from the Conway Village Fire District Annual Meeting where this was discussed for this Board's review. This was brought up by the District voters that they were interested in doing town wide fire. She is disappointed that other precincts are not interested in having this discussion. This will probably take time to get people to see that it would be better if we worked together. She is here today talking about this so that the public can see this on tv and think this and also talk with the Commissioners from their district or precinct. Ms. Bean thanked the Board of Selectmen for doing what the taxpayers had asked regarding this matter.

There was a brief discussion next regarding ambulance service. There was also discussion regarding precinct and non precinct fire costs. Mr. Sires stated that we can review the contract and figures and bring information back to a future meeting of this Board.

### SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

- a. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 225-37
- b. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 255-5.12
- c. Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment Tax Map/Lot 239-3, 257-11,12 & 13

**Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to sign the Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 225-37, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 255-5.12 and Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment Tax Map/Lot 239-3, 257- 11,12 & 13. The motion carried**

### CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- a. Manifest dated 9/18/14
- b. Payroll dated 9/18/14

**Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. Thibodeau, to sign the Manifest dated 9/18/14 and Payroll dated 9/18/14. The motion carried unanimously.**

RATIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED OUT OF SESSION

- a. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 280-43.1
- b. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 214.32
- c. Manifest dated 8/28/14
- d. Manifest dated 9/4/14
- e. Payroll dated 9/4/14
- f. Manifest dated 9/11/14

**Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to ratify the Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 280-43.1, Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Tax Map/Lot 214.32, Manifest dated 8/28/14, Manifest dated 9/4/14, and Payroll dated 9/4/14. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Ms. Seavey moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to ratify the Manifest dated 9/11/14. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Thibodeau abstaining.**

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION

- a. North Conway Library/Bike for Books – 9/27/14

**Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Ms. Seavey, to approve the Special Events Application for North Conway Library/Bike for Books – 9/27/14. The motion carried**

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: 8/19/14

**Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. DiGregorio, to approve the 8/19/14 Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Water System – Mr. Sires reviewed the Town of Conway currently provides water to Town Hall and six area properties. A meeting was held with the area owners and Selectmen Weathers and DiGregorio attended. Mr. Sires next advised that the town has an obligation to make sure we have clean water but we are not obliged to give it for free. Mr. Sires next advised that he has reviewed paperwork that does state that the town could discontinue this at any time. We have spoken with some of the neighbors about this matter and will bring a budget to the next meeting for a capital investment and costs to run the system and will build money in for future needs. Also, we need to look at what the cost will be per household and talk with them about it. Mr. Sires next advised that area property owner Dr. Rose was not in attendance at the meeting but he will be at the next meeting.

NHDOL Safety Inspection – Mr. Sires reviewed that the NH DOL does random inspections throughout the state. In June there were some items noted for the town and we have addressed the items. The NH DOL came back to town to review this and confirmed that same were done.

Marshall Property/West Side Road – Mr. Sires reviewed that the Conservation Commission is looking at buying the 400+ acre Marshall Property on West Side Road. The Commission has held their public hearing on this matter and has approved a proposed purchase. The town attorney is drawing up a purchase and sales agreement for same. The next step is for the Commission to come before the Board of Selectmen to ask for approval for the purchase.

Meeting with NHDOT Commissioner – Mr. Sires reviewed a meeting was held a few weeks ago with the NHDOT Commissioner. Another meeting was also held recently with the Town Engineer to talk about Conway village improvements. There was also discussion about sidewalks and curbing, the water main, etc.

Proposed Donation of Property on East Conway Road – Mr. Sires reviewed a potential donation of property on East Conway Road to the town for a recreation facility. The Board of Selectmen have indicated that they want involvement with the committee that is overseeing this process. Mr. Sires advised that a strategy sheet has been created and is being presented to the Friends of Conway Rec and they will be considering same regarding the feasibility study. The suggested makeup of the committee is two Board of Selectmen members, himself, the Recreation Director and a community member. Hopefully the committee will have a recommendation by the year end. If the Board is okay with this, we will proceed along these lines. There were no objections raised by the Board.

Ms. Sand questioned if a meeting of Friends of Conway Rec has been scheduled. Mr. Sires stated the meeting may be tomorrow night.

The Board next agreed that the two Board of Selectmen representatives would be Mike DiGregorio and Mary Seavey.

Washington Street – Mr. Thibodeau noted that the Washington Street project is not complete and nothing is going on down there. Mr. Sires advised this is a government contract and they are within their schedule but have chosen to not complete this project yet and have moved to another project in town. We do not know the finish date for this project yet but they are still within their timeframe. Ms. Seavey noted that it looks like there is damage to the stone wall across from the monument. Mr. Sires advised that if they damaged it during construction they will have to repair it. Mr. DiGregorio stated that he has heard concerns with regard to the width of the road in the area of Lindsey Paint and parking in the area. Mr. Sires stated that he doesn't believe there was a change in the width or parking and striping but he would ask Paul DegliAngeli to check.

Schedule – Mr. Sires reported that we would be out of town tomorrow night through Monday.

### BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Planning Board – Mr. Thibodeau reported the Planning Board meets next Thursday.

Budget Committee – Ms. Sand reported the Budget Committee met recently and reviewed the school year end budget and the town mid-year budget. Also, at that meeting, one Budget Committee member accused the town of doing the budget wrong and is contacting the Secretary of State. The rest of the Committee felt that the town was doing it legally. Mr. Sires stated he did get a call from the DRA which oversees communities and advised that he had been contacted with the concern. Mr. Sires advised that he explained to the DRA

representative how we do things and he seemed satisfied and he would be conveying this information to the person who inquired. We haven't heard anything else from them. Mr. DiGregorio stated that the person on the Budget Committee was Frank McCarthy and he has been told and shown that the way we are doing the budget is legal but he won't just accept this.

LMWVSWD – Ms. Sand reported the LMWVSWD has not met recently.

Health Care Study Committee – Ms. Sand reported the Health Care Study Committee is scheduled to meet next week.

MWVEC – Ms. Seavey reported the MWVEC has not met recently.

Valley Vision – Mr. DiGregorio reported that the Valley Vision Board met the other day and are going over budget issues regarding funds from Albany.

Health Care Study Committee – Mr. DiGregorio reported that topics for the next Health Care Study Committee include reviewing data from the school and, also, a presentation on single payer plans and MERPS. Mr. DiGregorio further reported that he and Stacy also had a meeting with Memorial Hospital recently and they will be coming to a meeting in November to discuss a direct pay option.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Weathers reported the Conservation Commission met last week and heard a presentation on the rail trail. There was also discussion at that meeting with the USVLT regarding land on West Side Road. The Commission felt it would be best to handle the land as we handle other lands in town and it is not in the interest of the town to partner on this land. After a lengthy discussion, a decision was made to stay with the way we handle land management now.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND MEDIA QUESTIONS

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked if the land proposed for donation on East Conway Road could work for the aquatic people. Mr. DiGregorio stated that the parcel is not big enough for them.

Mr. Steer next asked about the traffic from Reach the Beach Relay Race. Mr. Sires reported we did get a few complaints as traffic was bogged down with the event coming through town. Once the police had traffic control in place it cleared up. The Chief has talked with the race organizers. Also, our Recreation Department and the Police will have further discussion with them for the future as well. We don't know why there was such an impact this year but it may be because the race started earlier than in the past. There was a brief discussion next regarding the organization running the race, fundraising, etc.

Mr. Steer next questioned if this Board should ask for Larry Martin's resignation from the Police Commission. Mr. Weathers stated that we have no right to ask for his resignation and he was elected by the public. Mr. DiGregorio stated that he should make the right decision as to whatever he thinks is best.

Mr. Steer next asked if there has been any more information from Golden Eagle Railway. The Board advised that we haven't heard anything new since they were at the meeting.

NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 91-A:3,II(c) – TAX MATTERS

At 6:17 p.m. **Mr. Thibodeau moved, seconded by Ms. Sand, to go into non public session under NH RSA 91-A:3,II (c) to discuss tax matters.** The non public session included Town Manager, Earl Sires, Tax Collector, Rhoda Quint, Recording Secretary, Karen Hallowell, and property owners. **The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

The Board returned to public session at 6:45 p.m.

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

NON PUBLIC SESSION / NH RSA 91-A:,II(A) - TOWN MANAGER EVALUATION

This agenda item was canceled.

ADJOURN

At 6:47 p.m. the meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J Hallowell  
Executive Secretary