

**Agenda
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, August 1, 2022
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road**

Present for the Selectboard: Phil Kantor, Chair: Erica Goleman, Chris Waldo.

Others Present: Marilyn Webster; Deb Donaldson; Véronique Blanchard, Town Administrator; Adam Reed, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Minutes A motion from Phil to approve the minutes of July 18, 2022. Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Warrants On a motion from Erica to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant W23-04 in the amount of \$340,286.23; the Payroll Warrant PW23 - 04 in the amount of \$108,254.73, and the Payroll Deduction Warrant PDW23-04 in the amount of \$26,868.34. Phil seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Meetings Attended by Select Board Members Chris attended the MSA select board training workshop where he went over information regarding open meeting laws and finance.

Phil attended the Habitat for Humanity event where he was able to meet the newest Conway family that will be benefitting from the project.

Phil also attended the **FRCOG** meeting that went well.

Public Comments None

Unfinished Business None

New Business

Marilyn Webster and Deb Donaldson present some updates from the Forest and Trails Committee.

Paul Charest has resigned from the committee and will be replaced by Courtney Mayo. **On a motion from Phil to appoint Courtney, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

The side trail off to the ice pond at the Fournier property needs a foot bridge. They will be working with the Conservation Committee to get that underway. Clean-up and fencing are needed along the access road on the property by the playground. The Town Administrator and the Highway Department will meet to address this.

The committee will be pursuing grants to help fund planting projects in town.

Vote to authorize the closing of Bond Street for a block party on August 13.

On a motion from Phil to close Bond Street, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

A vote on the Primary Warrant to allow the Police Chief to attend to security for the upcoming elections.

On a motion from Phil to allow the Chief to go forward with staffing the security for the elections, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

A vote on the 1-year appointments to FRCOG. Emergency Response coordinator, Emergency Management Director and Councilor.

On a motion from Erica to appoint Phil to the FRCOG positions with Erica as the alternate, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

A vote to appoint Chris to the Franklin County Cooperative Inspections Program.

On a motion from Phil to appoint Chris to this position, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting

None

Town Administrator update

- Town Counsel and I met with the Department of Housing and Community Development representatives along with Megan McDonough from Habitat for Humanity to discuss Donna's concerns with the regulatory agreement between the state, Habitat and the town. The bottom line is that the state has templates they use for these types of agreements, which don't always mesh with a smaller town such as Conway. However, agreement was reached and we should have the final agreement document shortly from DHCD for signature. The Selectboard will have to annually verify that the homeowners still meet the criteria for owning the home, and the state will send me a sample letter which can be sent annually to the homeowners to meet this requirement.
- I'm pleased to announce the new domain name of 'conwayma.gov' for the town has been approved, and work is beginning on the website update as well. We will keep you informed as things progress and will be asking for feedback. Montague WebWorks and Roy Cohen will be doing a lot of work in the background for now.
- The Public Buildings Committee has kindly drafted a scope of work and designs for redoing the TSA shed, and I have reached out to DEP and FCSWMD about those modifications to the transfer station. Any work which is done there, and any new materials which are collected, need to be approved by DEP. Ron is also working on getting an estimate for the excavation and repair of the back lot, and Peter Jeswald has very generously offered to build the wood base for the donations shed for the cost of the materials. Jan Ameen of Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD) will be attending the selectboard meeting on the 29th to provide information and answer any questions the selectboard has about managing the transfer station, so please do plan to ask her lots of questions!
- The Public Buildings Committee have approved a contractor, Harold Eaton & Associates, to do the survey work at the old highway garage/new public safety building. Work should begin late this week or early next week.
- Ron and I met again with MEMA about the FEMA approved and granted pre-hazard mitigation project on Delabarre. After months of back and forth, the upshot is that the town cannot use GZA and expect to get reimbursed or use their services as match from this point on, due to the way federal procurement works, retroactively. Even though it was unknown at the time GZA was originally hired (2016) that this would become a federal project, and even though the contract with GZA included a provision for construction administration, because the process used to procure GZA was not done according to federal procurement law, they cannot be used going forward except on the town's dime. A very frustrating process to be sure. The town has also requested and expects to receive an

extension on the grant until 8/1/24.

**Select Board member
comments/concerns**

Phil spoke about the Municipal Vulnerability Program grant for improvements on the river in town. Conway was not given the grant in part due to increased competition in the state.

Mail

None

Announcements

Next Meeting

August 15, 2022, 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Conway.

Adjourn

At 6:42 p.m. on a motion from Phil to adjourn, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.