

Agenda
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, September 12, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road

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

Others Present: Karl Dziura, Priscilla Lynch, Janice Warner, Sue MacDonald, Véronique Blanchard, Town Administrator; Adam Reed, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

Minutes **On a motion from Erica to approve the minutes of August 29, 2022, Phil seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Warrants **On a motion from Phil to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant W23-07 for the amount of \$533,207.86; the Payroll Warrant PW23-07 for the amount of \$112,185.05, and the Payroll Deduction Warrant PDW23-07 for the amount of \$27,680.05, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Meetings Attended by Select Board Members Phil and Véronique had several meetings on a variety of topics over the past two weeks.

Public Comments Priscilla Lynch and Karl Dziura requested to be put on the next Selectboard agenda to discuss commercial logging in the state forest area of Conway. Phil has been in contact with the state on this issue and the town has been promised a visit from the DRC Commissioner. Priscilla and Karl will be drafting a letter and submitting it to the Selectboard for the next meeting.

Unfinished Business None

Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting None

New Business.
Classification Hearing with the Assessors. The classification hearing has been delayed until the state contacts the town.

A vote to allow pickleball in the town gym. Jan talked about a group of residents that have been playing pickleball in the ballfield over the summer. The group would like to continue in the winter months and requested use of the gym in Town Hall. The group will be setting up half the gym with their court with permission to move storage items to the other side. Véronique will look into the need for any waivers for liability. **On a motion from Erica to approve a pickleball court in the Town Hall gymnasium, Phil seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Vote to appoint Jocelyn Forbush as representative at large to the Community Preservation Commission. **On a motion from Phil to appoint Jocelyn to the commission as Representative at Large, to fulfil the remainder of Dusty King's term, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.** It was also mentioned that Dusty King will still be advising on the committee as needed during the transition.

A Discussion on the Juneteenth State and Federal holiday.

Juneteenth is a Federal holiday established on June 15, 2021 that the town will have to observe for town employees. Options are to permanently add Juneteenth as a new paid holiday, have Juneteenth be an unpaid holiday, or swap the day after Thanksgiving as an unpaid holiday to replace a Juneteenth paid holiday. After discussion the Selectboard decided to save the decision for Town Meeting.

Vote for full time employees time off for donating blood.

Véronique made the request to copy the state program that allows regular full time employees to take time off 5 times a year to donate blood. **On a motion from Phil to allow Conway employees this benefit, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Vote to sign a contract with the Festival of the Hills to use the ballfield, town hall, library, commons and road race.

Sue MacDonald was present for the Festival committee, and presented the proof of liability insurance for the event. **On a motion from Erica to sign the contract with the Festival of the Hills, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Vote to create a transfer station manager.

The transfer station is in need of a manager as a liaison between the Town Administrator and the transfer station. This individual will also deal with stickers, the collection of money and dumpster pick up times. **On a motion from Phil to create the position, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Town Administrator update

September 12, 2022 Town Administrator Update:

- The members of the emergency planning team met again to discuss which building should be the primary EOC, with the shelter being the Grammar School. The recommendation is to keep the EOC and emergency shelter separate, however it was felt that the teacher's lounge would be far enough away from the rest of the shelter (kitchen, dining room, library & gym) that it could work, and will probably be easier for making use of the antenna for communications if needed. The backup EOC will be the Fireman's Auxiliary building, which already is set up with radio communications.
- The Public buildings met to discuss next steps with the Notice of Intent for the Conservation Commission, and reviewed the information provided on the survey done by Eaton & Associates. Next step is to meet with the ConCom and also get design estimates for the building. Being so late in the season and not being able to find someone to do the work to remodel the TSA shed at the transfer station, we will instead upgrade the heater in shed from the current 8,000 BTU unit to a 30-40,000 BTU unit, and put some sort of rug or covering to help keep the floor insulated as it is wide open underneath the shed.
- The values have been sent to the state to set the tax rate and the classification hearing will hopefully be held very soon.

Select Board member comments/concerns

The Selectboard is working on coordinating outfits for the Festival of the Hills parade. The town is awaiting the return of the Festival with great anticipation and excitement.

Mail

A letter was received from Margaret Willis from the Town of Charlemont. She has invited the Selectboard to tour their transfer station as they have solved many issues Conway is currently investigating. The board will have an open meeting there on an upcoming Wednesday.

Announcements

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at the Town Hall on September 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourn

On a motion from Phil at 6:58 to adjourn, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.