

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA  
MINUTES  
July 27, 2009

**Meeting Open: 7:00 PM**

**Present:** Maureen Chase, Jack Lochhead, Chuck Trombley, Tom Spiro

**Also Present:**

**Appointments**

**7:00 Ambulance Department transition – Randy Williams**

Maureen asked Randy about problems he was still having with ambulance transition issues. Randy explained the problems, such as gaining passwords and HIPPA controlled information from the previous billing company. Randy explained the details of how he gained the information and how he now was working on getting a needed PIN number from Mass Health. He also reported that there may be 2-3 radios that were unaccounted for. It was noted that Liz was reviewing invoices to ascertain exactly what was purchased by Town monies and has not been returned. Once a list of items unaccounted for has been compiled a letter of request will be sent to the retired ambulance director requesting their return or accounting. Randy noted that there was a stock pile of equipment and supplies kept on hand in the previous director's home that may not have been turned in yet. Randy reported that the department is running well and that the personnel is working well. He is looking to increase the present roster. Maureen asked if there had been anyone beside the previous director and her husband resigning and he said no one else had left the staff. All officers will eventually be responsible for driving the ambulance and coverage will be available 24/7. Maureen also questioned the status of the Assistant Ambulance Director's moving from town and Randy assured the Board that he was still covering ambulance duties even though he lost his rented house. Randy also stated Chris is about to build a house in town within the year.

**7:30 Trust Fund request – Kate O'Shea**

Introductions were made, and Kate was reminded that confidential documents should not be disclosed in detail if she wanted to keep them that way. She gave some background about her foster child and how the pre-school 'team' recommended this child be in preschool for four full days per week. Jack noted that Kate's request was for \$3,200.00 over the next school year with the possibility that the Mass Department of Children and Families may eventually fund a portion or all of this amount, which would then be returned to the trust fund. Jack asked if she needed more money for other needs, and Kate said her family had been taken care of very well so far and didn't need other support. Kate noted that any gift or loan from the Town would go straight to the grammar school. It was determined that if approved, the Town would pay monthly invoices from the grammar school. The Board will get back to Kate after further discussion and a decision is reached. If approved, the school will be contacted and arrangements made with the preschool program.

**7:45 Elm Street – Mark Silverman, Bob Baker**

Mr. Silverman explained that there was a 30 foot rut in the pavement in front of his house that collects rain water. He showed photographs, and noted that water splashes out onto his fence when cars drive by. Mr. Silverman does not want to replace the fence due to the expense, but feels like this may end up being his only option. Chuck said that a skim coat could be added to the road. Bob said that the neighbors driveway may have added to this problem as it seemed to have been formed after the driveway was raised and repaved. Bob Baker said one option would be to install a catch basin that would direct the water under the road and across the way to an existing catch basin drain system. Bob drew sketches of possible plans. It was discussed in detail but no definite decision could be made since no monies were currently or easily available. Bob was asked if a skim coat could be added to the current paving projects seeing as how the pavers would be at the school and Bardwell's Ferry project. Bob said that this would not be covered by his budget and may not be possible with the current paving schedule. Mark was favorable to the installation of a skim coat but Bob and Chuck noted that a surveyor would be needed. Bob reiterated that a catch basin was the answer, but that cost would still be an issue. It was agreed that while the Board sympathized with Mr. Silverman's problem, there was really nothing to do until there was a more opportune moment or there was more money to pay for permanent road repairs. It was suggested that perhaps the fence could be moved back from the edge of the road or an artificial, non-porous, material be used to replace the current wood. Mr. Silverman asked if he could check back on a regular basis to "remind" the Board of the dilemma and he was told to feel free to check back on a regular basis.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA  
MINUTES  
July 27, 2009

Bob stayed on after Mr. Silverman left. Discussion centered around backup coverage for Bob should an emergency response arise and Bob not be available. Bob is the E-911 manager and is the only one who coordinates this position. He handles confidential information and performs duties in connection with this type of information. The Board did not choose a backup and will notify Bob when a selection is made. The Board felt it was essential that whoever is appointed would have to be responsible and able to keep confidential information just that, confidential and that meant the appointment would take time and careful consideration.

Bob also noted that there were beavers creating a problem on Roaring Brook Road. Bob asked the Board to approve the removal of the beavers, but Tom noted that there were alternatives to this tactic. Chuck said that the only real alternative was to trap and relocate them. Bob mentioned that there were beavers on Maple Street that also needed attention. It was agreed that Bob would be allowed to hire someone to take care of the problem in accordance to the governing regulations.

Bob asked what the fire truck inspector would be hired to analyze. Chuck said that the inspection would cover mechanical, safety, longevity and what the equipment was value.

Bob said that the stop sign on the common at the junction of Shelburne Falls and Route 116 was moved, and that a new sign that will point to Shelburne Falls would be in place soon.

**meeting items**

- meeting minutes for 7/20/09 were approved as amended.
- the warrant was signed.
- The Board read the draft report from Melanson & Heath on the Ambulance Department accounts. It was considered that additions be made to specify more details, which would entail an additional draft. Jack expressed concern that other employees might feel that it was ok to take things from the Town if this report were not addressed, but the Board felt that they had gone as far legally as was needed, and the current draft report was approved. Tom will notify Melanson & Heath that they may prepare the final report.
- The Board discussed Kate O'Shea's request for funding and discussed the qualifications and reasons for, and against this grant. Jack made a distinction between the child being a foster child, and thus, only a potential family member who would not be held under the potential parents financial qualifications. Maureen pointed out that the child was eligible because she was a current resident of Conway. It was decided that a decision will wait until the next meeting to give the Board a chance to review the request.
- Tom gave a follow up report on Mr. Van Gelder's septic system, a letter to the previous ambulance director, and a road sign, indicating the direction to Shelburne Falls.
- The Board approved Maureen to sign the State Police MOU
- The Board approved the memo to the Treasurer's office regarding the increase of Fire Department salaries.

**Mail and Other Items**

- other mail items as per agenda

**9:45 PM** Motion to adjourn by Maureen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck, all in favor.