

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA  
MINUTES  
Sept. 8, 2009

**Meeting Open: 7:00 PM**

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

**Others Present:** Liz Braccia

**Meeting adjourns**

**7:01PM Planning Board**

**Meeting re-opens**

**Appointments**

**8:13 Summons / citations for the dog leash Bylaw and for parking violations-** Ken Ouimette  
Chuck noted that the upgrades done at the Bardwells Ferry Road bridge brought to light the need for parking citations, and that Maureen had spoken about the need for more control over loose dogs. Ken said that under several sections of MGL 140 there were provisions made for the assessment of fines of up to \$50 for each parking violation. Maureen said there was a need to enforce the leash law as she has seen many dogs without leashes walking the streets with their owners. She also noted that many others abided by the law and walked their dogs with leashes connected to the dog. It was agreed that a warrant article may be added to the next Town warrant that amended the current leash law to add fines. The issue about citations for the leash law would be discussed at the next meeting.

Ken noted that in order for the Town to enforce no parking zones, a parking clerk would have to be established to collect the fines, listen to appeals, and be responsible for tracking outstanding tickets. This would be in addition to the need for blank printing tickets, which he said would be printed by the Sheriff's Department. There was discussion about posting 'Tow Away' signs being added to the no parking signs where needed.

Ken pointed out that there is a State program that will assign individuals towns and organizations that have registered with the state to receive work hours for persons assigned by the courts to do community service. He suggested that the Town register for this program and the Board asked Tom to register the Town for this program now.

Ken gave a report on the latest Garage Committee work. He said that the land behind the salt shed was being surveyed by Reinhardt and Associates. They are scheduled to provide three conceptual drawings for the committee to review. He said that if a design is chosen, it could be brought to a vote at the next Town Meeting. Jack mentioned that this might be better achieved at a Special Town Meeting to give all town meeting attendees to review, question, and discuss the issues without time constraints of the annual town meeting. Ken would work on gathering information and create a presentation for this purpose.

**8:30 Treasurer's update – Liz Braccia**

Tom and Liz gave a report on several financial planning issues. They noted that multi-year warrant articles as well as the existence of the Capital Expenditures account was not in keeping with good accounting practices. Tom also reiterated that expenditures from the Reserve account was at the sole discretion of the Finance Committee. These points were acknowledged and it was agreed that the Reserve account may be increased for FY2011.

Liz spoke about MGL 139, Section 3A that stipulated how the Town could take or foreclose on properties in disrepair or that were a potential health and/or safety threat over time.

Liz and the Board discussed a cell phone bill submitted by the former Ambulance Director for two months of use of a cell phone in the ambulance, but also included billing for her personal phone as well. Liz was authorized to pay just the portion to cover the phone in the ambulance.

**meeting items**

- Meeting minutes for 8/31/09 were approved as amended.
- The warrant was signed.

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- Jack said that there was a 'track' in the Town Forest that was utilized by the forester during his salvage work. He told Jack that he could not work during the wet weather so he brought in some gravel to make it possible for his trucks to move in and out of the woods. He asked Jack if the Town would pay the \$1000 dollars the road improvements cost him. He cited easier access to the forest. Maureen and Chuck said that they were not in favor of this expenditure because the Board was not asked nor consulted before he took it upon himself to do the graveling and no funds were approved for such an occurrence.
- Jack gave his account of a meeting with Dr. Tanny regarding approval for the town to have access through his property at BFR slope project. Dr. Tanny was worried about the removal of trees. Jack noted that there should be a cost analysis performed, based on all of the abutter's demands, versus the cost of taking the needed land through eminent domain. Jack felt that if abutters did not give their approval soon to go ahead with construction, he felt that the work may not be completed before wintertime. The Board agreed that it would be advisable for safety reasons to get this done before winter. They also agreed that we should not be held up for any extra, unnecessary work done beyond the essentials for having the job done neatly and as unobtrusively as possible.
- The Board approved Elaine Rogers as a new member of the Cultural Council to replace Woody Papparazzo, whose term expired on 8/2/09.
- Chuck will ask Bob to fix a broken fence post near the Town ball field before the Festival of the Hills.
- Chuck wanted clarification regarding placement of the new snow blower shed and how big it should be. The Board gave approval for placement at his discretion, and suggested that it be 4x4 foot in size. Chuck will have it built and installed in the next few weeks as a donation to the town. Maureen and Jack thanked him for his generosity.
- Jack reported that he had treated half the pond at the grammar school with algaecide and would let the Board know when the rest of the pond was also treated. He was unsure of how effective it was so far but would watch the pond and retreat if needed.
- The Board agreed to have Maureen sign the Fouts Bros. Inc. contract for the purchase of a new fire truck for \$163,000.00 after verifying that the additional \$3000 was legally available from town accounts.
- The Board agreed to have Maureen sign the Melanson Heath & Company contract for auditing services for the Town's future audits.

**Mail and Other Items**

- other mail items as per agenda

**9:25 PM**

Motion to adjourn by Maureen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jack, all in favor.