

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA
MINUTES
October 26, 2009

Meeting Open: 7:00PM

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

Others Present:

Appointments

7:00 Ron Hawkes – Snow Mobile Club

Ron requested permission to create a parking area behind the Town salt shed this winter to avoid snowmobilers from parking along the school driveway. There was discussion about who would plow and maintain the area. There was discussion about spring thaw and mud issues should they arise. Ron's request was acknowledged as a temporary solution to the parking problem but may not be a permanent one based on potential construction of a new Town garage. He also thought parking near the Conway swimming pool was another possibility. Chuck noted that the Club was being proactive. He also suggested that Bob Baker and Greg Rose be consulted on this plan and get their in-put. Ron agreed with this approach. It was agreed that Chuck would consult Bob, and also the school principal for her recognition and approval as well. Maureen will contact Greg. Ron noted that the club's website was "sledconway.com".

7:30 Sue McFarland – Art Walk

Sue noted that there had been events like this in years past, and had frequently been done in conjunction with the Cultural Council. This year, the Art Walk was being planned with support from Pages Coffee Bar, The Conwaynian and Philys Lebanowski, a local artist. The Historical Society will coordinate their fundraising efforts through a house tour that day, November 29th from noon until 5 PM. The day will be open to groups and artisans. There are 3-4 artists showcased right now with the potential for more. Sue mentioned the Town Hall was booked and several outlying artisans would be offered space there for displaying their arts. Jack suggested that the Board of Health should be consulted so they may have a display for the Board of Health illustrating health related information. It was suggested that police chief Ken Ouimette be consulted with regard to parking issues, traffic flow, pedestrian safety, especially since the Town tree lighting will take place that night as well. Maureen was concerned that foot traffic would be heavy around the tree common after dark. She thought many young excited children might be in danger of stepping into traffic on 116.

8:00 Mark & Alisa Tanny – Bardwells Ferry Road slope failure

An overview of design plans with changes that would eliminate the proposed retaining wall was shown to the Tannys. Chuck explained how the changes would affect their property. Maureen noted that the Town could construct a retaining wall with stone like facing. Mr. Tanny asked if some large trees had to be removed and Jack said they most likely would. Chuck noted that the Town could include most requested provisions to make this project more esthetically pleasing for them. Mr. Tanny asked if trees could be planted to create more privacy. Chuck said that this could be done as part of the specs in the contract. He said that the specs of the contract would include replacing tree that died within a specified time frame, most likely a year. Chuck noted that replacement trees would be installed only where specified in the engineering plans and contract specs..

Chuck noted that the other abutters were resistant to the project due to the drainage plans for the roadway and suggested changes to these plans. It was suggested that the drainage plans be dropped because the current road wash was not the cause of the erosion problem. Maureen and Jack stated that they had observed the washout when there was no water running off the road. They verified the banking was washing away in large chunks with no water running. The water was coming out of the banking itself and road was bone dry. The Tannys were assured that the current road wash was not the result of road water.

Mrs. & Mr Tanny asked if the project could be marked off on the site to illustrate what part of their land would be affected and give them a visualization of what would be affected. Mrs. Tanny mentioned erecting a privacy fence extending the current fence. It was discussed that it might not be feasible due to the need to be close to the road and snow removal might cause the fence to collapse. There was further discussion regarding the easement agreement and what would be involved in creating that document. Jack noted that the actual outcome of the construction was not guaranteed

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due to possible contractor mistakes or misinterpretation of plans. However, it was noted that the engineering company would be hired as clerk of the works to oversee the project and construction as a safeguard. This would greatly help to see that the job would be done as designed. Mr. Tanny asked what recourse he had if the contractor made an error and Maureen and Chuck told him that any company placing a bid on the project had to show proof of liability insurance. This insurance would pay for corrections and repairs if needed. He also requested that a document be drawn up as an addendum to his signing off his approval. The addendum would include property markings for land and construction boundaries, and defined work zone and "do not disturb" areas, including final area of reclamation, types of plantings and any replacement plantings etc. Their major concern was about how much of their land would actually be used for this project. It was agreed that a draft contract and updated plans would be given to all abutters before approval at a meeting with the engineer. It was agreed that a list of plant species would be given to Maureen to be included in the addendum. Maureen will prepare the addendum with the Tanny's requests.. The Tannys left the office and there was more discussion regarding what the Tanny's wanted regarding paperwork and the need for drainage. The Board agreed to send letters to Mr. Van Gelder and Baranowski concerning the exclusion of drainage. Tom will draft these letters and send them out with plans that do not include the extensive drainage plans. Jack will get the overview of these changes from the engineer.

meeting items

- Meeting minutes for 10/13/09 and 10/19/09 were approved as amended. Jack added comments regarding the Festival of the Hills information booth to the 10/13/09 minutes. There was some discussion regarding whose responsibility it was to handle this equipment. Tom noted that Ed Lareau had given his permission to cross his driveway with heavy equipment, and that Doug Baker and Lance Whitcomb had agreed to move the booth this year.
- Jack announced that he will not be seeking another term as Selectboard member and that he will make this announcement in the Visitor so that others can consider running for his seat on the Board next April.
- The job advertisement for Bob Baker's assistant was approved. The ad will be placed in the Recorder this week.
- The Board discussed Maureen's updates to the existing personnel policy.
- Tom noted that Elisa Goleman had agreed to become the new web master, and would take over free of charge. She replaces Craig Warner.
- Tom said that Bob had requested oil burner service from someone, as Burke Oil did not supply this service. Tom will get back to Bob with alternatives.
- Tom suggested that a new display case should be placed inside or outside of the front door of the Town Office building for postings, as the current system of posting was sloppy and outdated. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to place a new bulleting board outside of the door that the Assistant Administrator would take care of. Tom will research possibilities including costs.
- Tom reported that the Ricky Sumner workmen's compensation case had been settled for \$35,000.
- The Selectboard adopted the final draft of the Community Development Strategy that would be submitted as part of a block grant application to the HRA.
- There was further discussion regarding distribution of burn permits. Tom will talk to Bob to find out if this could possibly be arranged with Baker's Country Store.
- Tom will research a bidding process for repair work on Highway Department vehicles could be set for high cost repairs.

Mail and Other Items

- other mail items as per agenda

9:45 PM

Motion to adjourn by Maureen, 2nd by Jack, all in favor.