

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA  
MINUTES  
November 2, 2009

**Meeting Open: 7:00PM**

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

**Others Present:**

**Appointments**

**8:00 Lorraine Boyden – Crop walk**

Mrs. Boyden noted that an annual, church sponsored, crop walk has been held annually in different towns throughout the area for many years. She stated that the goal of the Crop Walks was to work to wipe out hunger. She also said that the sponsors hoped to hold the 2010 annual crop walk in Conway. The Crop Walk had about 250 participants last year but due to inclement weather, about 125 participated this year. Jack asked if there was something that they needed from the Board. Maureen asked if there would be a need for police and emergency coverage for this event. Mrs. Boyden stated that she had already talked to Randy and he said the ambulance would be available and he would find ask EMTs if they would donate their services that day. It was determined that use of the police or other emergency services, and public roads necessitated the need for Selectboard approval. Mrs. Boyden said the sponsors hope to use the covered bridge for some part of the day's events. The Board gave their approval for this event which would be held in mid October next year.

**8:40 Elizabeth Braccia – replacement computer**

Elizabeth made a budgetary request for money to replace Jan Warner's computer that has crashed many times when it was not convenient. Many tests and trials determined that the computer itself was no longer working with the Treasurer's software package. The Board asked where she felt this money could come from. Elizabeth suggested that this money could be taken from the contingency fund. Then there was discussion about how to dispose of Jan's computer's current hard drive once private material was transferred to the new unit. It was suggested the hard drive be removed and destroyed by drilling a hole through it. It was agreed no matter how it was done once they were through with the old hard drive it is to be properly destroyed.

Elizabeth was asked for her opinion regarding the matter of a requested subordinate agreement from Kate and Thomas Winan. She noted that she had received payment of overdue taxes and that it was no longer in the way of any decision to grant or not grant the request. Chuck reviewed the previous agreement that was in place and where money was owed currently. There was some discussion of how a subordination agreement would put the Town in a bad financial position should the Winans default on the mortgage. There were some alternative suggestions proposed in place of signing the current agreement. It was suggested the Winans might make payments or that the loan be re-worked to include what was owned to the Town. Chuck noted that he knows the family personally. Liz suggested perhaps the Winans could pay off half of the septic loan (\$10K). Chuck agreed, that might be a reasonable request. The Board thought, in light of current circumstance it would be advisable to deny their request and see if a counter offer would be forthcoming. The Board unanimously agreed, reluctantly, to deny the current request as presented.

Chuck asked if notification was given to taxpayers who have applied for building permits and licenses about the Mass General Laws regarding back taxes owed. Elizabeth noted that the Town had voted to accept MGL 40, Section 57 that allows towns to withhold permits and licenses until taxes owed are collected or arrangements for payments had been made with the town tax collector. There was some discussion regarding how to notify residents of this fact. Tom will ask Jim Hawkins, the current building inspector of the FCCIP if he can do this on the permit applications.

**meeting items**

- Meeting minutes from 10/26/09 were approved as amended.
- The Board agreed to sign the Ricky Sumner Workers Compensation lump sum agreement.
- The Board signed all annual licenses after the Assistant Town Administrator said the tax status of these license holders had been checked for current tax payment status.
- Chuck noted that Bob Baker had concerns about the Snowmobile Club parking in behind the salt shed on Fournier Road. Chuck said Bob was afraid the access to the salt shed might be hindered

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when access to the approved area was difficult. The School principal was alright with the idea but was not enthusiastic about it. Greg Rose said he was ok with parking behind the salt shed. There was more discussion about parking alternatives for the club. It was noted that the club was a very proactive group and would do their best to keep things running properly but if the salt shed access was blocked for whatever reason, it was unacceptable. Chuck noted that he felt the pool location might not afford enough room for very many vehicles. The Board agreed a letter to Ron Hawkes saying that the Board would appreciate, after considering the objections stated above, that the Board would appreciate it if an alternate parking area could be found.

- Quentin Antes' request for permission to rebuild an old barn on a piece of his land in the APR program was no longer an issue and therefore his request was withdrawn.
- The Board discussed Maureen's draft addendum for the Tannys regarding the Bardwells Ferry Road slope project. Jack made one change, and it was agreed that this version would be sent to the Tannys as a draft. Further discussion was held concerning possibly removing drainage routing and other alternatives that the Conservation Commission might approve.
- Klaus Postler's letter was reviewed and noted.
- Jack made a request for information regarding the gold-headed cane that is given to the oldest Conway resident. He asked who it resided with currently. Maureen stated that the last person she knew who had it was Ali Clapp. She did not know if it had been collected and passed on to someone else. Tom noted that the Town Clerk would have access to information as to who was next in line to have the cane. Tom will research.
- After reviewing the Town warrant it was agreed that the Highway Department would be asked to fill out and submit a record of gas purchases form to correlate gas purchases with gas receipts, the same as the police department does with their gas purchase receipts.

**Mail and Other Items**

- other mail items as per agenda

**9:55 PM**

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