

Minutes
CONWAY SELECTBOARD
Town Office, 32 Main Street
March 21, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Select Board members present: John O'Rourke, Chair; Jim Moore, Clerk; Robert Baker

Others present: Tom Hutcheson, Town Administrator; Liz Jacobson-Carroll, Assistant to the TA; Chris Collins, Ben Tillona, Doug Finn, FCAT; Domenic Poli, The Recorder; Joe Strzegowski, Meg Burch

Minutes

- **On a motion from John O'Rourke to accept the minutes of Month 14, 2016, seconded by Jim Moore, the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Warrants

- **On a motion from John O'Rourke to sign the vendor warrant for \$407,659.54, the payroll warrant for \$96,393.54, and the payroll deduction warrant for \$25,391.20, seconded by Jim Moore, the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Meetings Attended by Selectboard Members

Jim Moore attended two anti-pipeline events in Ashfield: the building of a Thoreau-style cabin in the proposed path, and the showing of a documentary.

Citizens' Concerns

None.

Old Business

- *Town Meeting warrant: items so far*
 - Tom Hutcheson noted that the Finance Committee was meeting concurrent with the Select Board, and that it is their aim to finish reviewing Article 2; that the Capital Planning Committee would be meeting Thursday night, and that he had been asked to attend. He presented the following warrant items and changes:
 - *Animal Control – shift \$300 from training to salary.* The budget request reflects wages for all of the work that is done, including that currently done on personal time by Animal Control Officer Joe Colucci.
 - *Audit – back to \$13,000.* The cost of the audit on Town books will be \$13,000.
 - Since moving the cost of VisualGov. To the warrant article, the Town Administrator budget is down to \$88,763.
 - Frontier School District costs are down \$2,453 due to a negative five-year COLA.
 - Conway Grammar School transportation is down even more—\$9,764.
 - Insurance must be estimated; general liability is up 3.5%; an additional amount for the revalued buildings has yet to be added; worker's comp. is up 10%.
 - Regarding timing, he suggested the Select Board aim to finalize the warrant with the Finance Committee on 3/28/16; making recommendations tonight would be good.
 - Pay attention to article 7 from the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee.
 - In lieu of Article #12, a task force will be convened to study use of Town office spaces. [John O'Rourke recommended Peter Jeswald.]
 - Article 13 aims to determine whether or not townspeople want financial transparency; VisualGov will give presentation at town meeting.
 - A figure from the Community Preservation Committee is expected by 3/28/16.
 - The Board of Health is requesting funds to test water on houses along the pipeline route.
 - The Agricultural Commission does not appear to be submitting a Right to Farm bylaw.
 - *Proposed bylaw changes from the Planning Board*

Concerns of the Selectmen

Robert Baker raised concern regarding the surface of the tennis court. Tom Hutcheson said that he had declined to sign off on the contract with Weston & Sampson and MassWest, and indicated that Craig Warner has been helpful in providing information. Weston & Sampson has let MassWest know the situation.

Mail

- A flyer from FRCOG regarding a meeting with Ashfield Selectmen, on Tuesday 3/29, regarding the joint South River project.
- A letter from MBI concerning the governor's pause on the last mile broadband project indicating that it is financially responsible and sustainable; Tom Hutcheson thinks they are prepared to move forward with the work in Conway and other partial cable towns.

Announcements

None.

Documents and Other Exhibits Used at the Meeting

- Annual Town Meeting Warrant draft 03/17/16
- Additions to the Draft Town Meeting Warrant, March 14, 2016
- Projected Article 2 for the May 9, 2016 Annual Town Meeting, March 17, 2016
- General Government Positions, Proposed Classification Plan, Grade Level Characteristic Chart, DIJ consultant
- Report on Progress: March, 2012 Financial Management Review
- Town Report Dedication draft

Next Meeting

- *Scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road.*
[Tom Hutcheson indicated that Peggy Sloan would be present to talk about the woodlands project and other items, for about a ½ hour, and that it would be a long meeting with the Finance Committee and the Capital Improvements Planning Committee aimed at finalizing the warrant.]
- *On a motion from John O'Rourke, seconded by Jim Moore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM*

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Moore