

Minutes
SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, September 4, 2018 6:00 p.m.
Town Office 32 Main Street

Select Board members present: John O'Rourke, Chair; Philip Kantor; Bob Armstrong

Others present: Alyssa Tan, FCAT; Tom Hutcheson, Town Administrator; Lisa Turowsky, Assistant to the Town Administrator; Ron Sweet, Highway Department

John O'Rourke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

Kantor noted that the section reporting the Select Board's vote on Article 5 should read 2-0-1, as he abstained.

- **On a motion from O'Rourke to approve the minutes of Monday, August 20, 2018, as amended, seconded by Armstrong, the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Warrants

- **On a motion from O'Rourke to approve the vendor warrant for \$157,368.22; the payroll warrant for \$85,798.37; and the payroll deduction warrant for \$21,618.99, seconded by Kantor, the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Meetings Attended by Select Board Members

Kantor and Armstrong attended a meeting with FRCOG's Joe Markarian and the Frontier renovation committee; Markarian walked participants through a ten-year program that was quite impressive. Conway's overall assessment will remain relatively unchanged for the ten-year time period.

Public Comments

None.

Old Business

Special Town Meeting: review warrant articles and recommendations

Tom Hutcheson addressed comments he received from Town Counsel re: the proposed marijuana bylaw; Town Counsel is concerned about a section of the bylaw that allows the police to prescribe lighting at facilities; he also noted that the bylaw has a couple of features that would depress the enthusiasm of businesses coming into town. Comments will be incorporated when the Planning Board has its discussion prior to the special town meeting. Based on this discussion the Planning Board may make changes and bring a motion to amend the proposed bylaw at the special town meeting.

New Business

Highway Department: request for Chapter 90 project approval: Main Poland Road, North Poland Road

Ron Sweet submitted two requests for reclamation followed by application of asphalt to Main Poland Road from North Poland Road out. There's a chance Conway could get another \$50,000 from the state supplemental budget; we'll be hearing soon about this. The \$50 thousand could be banked for future projects. Also the Highway Department applied for a grant for repairs to Shelburne Falls Road; no decision has been made on that application yet.

- **On a motion from O'Rourke to approve chapter 90 requests for paving North and Main Poland roads, seconded by Armstrong, the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Appoint to the Garage Committee for terms ending June 30, 2019: Ken Ouimette; Ron Sweet; Liv Wyatt; Tom Brogle; Walter Goodridge; Jerry Axelson

- **On a motion from O'Rourke to appoint, Ken Ouimette, Ron Sweet, Liv Wyatt, Tom Brogle, Walter Goodridge and Jerry Axelson to the Garage Committee for terms ending June 30, 2019, seconded by Armstrong, the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Sign agreement with DEP for grant award for recycling

O'Rourke noted that the agreement is something we do on a regular basis. Board of Health uses the award to run the recycling program.

- **On a motion from O'Rourke to sign the agreement with DEP for grant award for recycling, seconded by Armstrong, the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting *None.*

Town Administrator update

Committees and Boards

The Finance Committee is meeting with the Highway Supervisor and Ken Ouimette tomorrow night to review their recommendation on the special Town Meeting article on the Highway Garage. I hope they can see their way to revising their recommendation to be more favorable.

Town Counsel has come up with a short list of concerns about the marijuana by-law; the Planning Board will be considering them as part of their pre-Town Meeting review process.

Departments

The Finance team met last Monday to go over the schedule for setting the tax rate. Our intention is to have it set before the special Town Meeting September 24th. The Assessors are hoping to complete their review of valuations by Monday, Sep. 17, and will be working with the accountant to finish all the necessary work that week so that the tax rate can be set prior to the special Town Meeting. If that is not possible, we would have to amend our submission due to the special Town Meeting's transfer of stabilization funds, but we are going to try very hard to avoid any delay in the tax bill mailing schedule.

As you know, the water tank at the school was very recently relined by Mass Tank Inspection in response to recommendations in the state DEP's 5-year inspection plan. Occupants of the building reported a chemical smell primarily in the hot water; it has also been reported that there is a chemical taste in the cold (drinking) water. Frontier staff are reviewing this with both Mass Tank Inspection (who did the re-lining work) and our water quality consultant and have been advised that there is not any immediate need for concern—the odors should dissipate as water is flushed through the system. Still, school has started, and they have labeled all the water outlets as not to be used for drinking or cooking until the water is tested again (during the consultant's next visit in September). The water should be safe and usable for dishwashing and handwashing. The district has retained Headwaters Consulting, LLC to review this situation. I have pulled the invoice for Mass Tank Inspection until the issue is resolved. The school is supplying bottled water for drinking and cooking at least until we receive the results of the initial test (Wed. 9/5) and until the odor evident in the water dissipates. Our consultant does not feel that it would be prudent to attempt to reline the tank a 2nd time this coming weekend as suggested by Mass Tank.

Other

The nearest MMA Legislative Breakfast will be in Sunderland, on October 26. If any of you on the Board have not gotten an invitation, please call or e-mail Alandra Champion at 617-426-7272, ext. 121, or achampion@mma.org.

The Festival of the Hills has received their certificate of insurance for the upcoming event, with the Town as an additional insured, our accountant has signed it, and they can sign it as well.

I note that the FRCOG is going to have a workshop on succession planning, which seems to be geared to financial staff. Since Conway's needs are broader, I'm working on a plan specific to Conway which I will bring to the Board after absorbing the FRCOG's information.

Select Board Comments

In two days, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito is coming to the area for a public meeting about Comcast extending service to residents; Kantor's daughter is going to be taking a call from Polito.

Mail

Select Board members received notification of an abutter concerning her garage abutting Town land.

Announcements:

None.

Documents and Other Exhibits Used at the Meeting

DEP agreement re: recycling award

Next Meeting Scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

- **On a motion from O'Rourke to adjourn at 6:39, seconded by Armstrong, vote was unanimous in favor.**