

Minutes
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, August 9, 2021, 6 p.m.
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road

Present for the Selectboard:	Phil Kantor, Chair; Bob Armstrong. Absent: Erica Goleman
Others Present	Véronique Blanchard, Town Administrator; Louise Beckett, Assistant to the Town Administrator
Minutes	On a motion from Phil to approve the minutes of July 19, 2021, Bob seconded and the motion passed.
Warrants	On a motion from Phil to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant W22-04 for \$721,549.23; the Payroll Warrants PW22-04 for \$86,606.42 and PW22-04b for \$303.75; the Payroll Deduction Warrants PDW-22-04 for \$20,125.64 and PDW22-04b for \$27.18; and the Student Activity Fund Warrant W21-SAF 4 for \$3,776.63, Bob seconded and the motion passed.
Meetings Attended by Select Board Members	No meetings were attended by the Selectboard members present since the last meeting.
Public Comments	None
Old Business	Confirm Annual reappointments. On a motion from Phil to confirm the amended list of reappointments Bob seconded and the motion passed.
New Business	Appoint Kathy Llamas to the Board of Health for a term ending June 30, 2022. Appoint Amanda Herrmann as Assistant Emergency Management Director for a term ending June 30, 2022. Appoint Kelsey Baker as Junior Firefighter for a term ending June 30, 2022. On a motion from Phil to appoint all three positions Bob seconded and the motion passed.
Appoint three new Positions	
Mohawk Trail Woodlands Project (MTWP)	Sign contract extension to 6/30/2022 for MTWP On a motion from Phil to sign the MTWP contract Bob seconded and the motion passed.
MVP South River Flood Resiliency Project Contract	On a motion from Phil to sign the current MVP South River Flood Resiliency Project contract, Bob seconded and the motion passed.
Sign the Tighe & Bond Third Party Stormwater Monitoring contract	On a motion from Phil to sign the Tighe & Bond Third Party Stormwater Monitoring contract, Bob seconded and the motion passed.
Discussion of Eversource distribution rate increase response letter	Eversource has put in for \$1.5 million reimbursement for the past year's storm damage. Climate change is almost never considered as a part of the problem. DPU bears some responsibility. On a motion from Phil to have the Selectboard write a response to the Eversource request, Bob seconded and the motion passed.
61A RoFR Goddard Property	61A Right of First Refusal for Goddard Property, Shirkshire Road. On a motion from Phil not to exercise the right of first refusal on the Goddard Property, Bob seconded and the motion passed. Had the board exercised the RoFR, a Special Town Meeting might have had to be scheduled.

Minutes
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, August 9, 2021, 6 p.m.
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road

Request for Guilford Trust Funds

Request for Guilford Trust Fund and other Trust Fund procedures discussion. There are few requests received in a given year. However, for the future, the Town Administrator asked if there should be general guidelines as to how to proceed. Using the interest only is a good policy in general, but for a worthy cause, an exception could be made. There should be limits on how often a person could make a request. Phil said he could see an advertisement going in to the *Conway Currents* to make people aware that there are some funds available.

Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting

None

Town Administrator update

Grant work:

During the past few weeks I have been working with MassDEP and the FRCOG to update and finalize the scope of work on the South River Resiliency MVP grant project. Many thanks to Kimberly Noake MacPhee, Joe Strzegowski, Janet Chayes, Michele Turre, Ross Perry, and Tom Hutcheson for all their hard work on this important grant, which has now been awarded for a total of \$177,100 in FY22 and \$14,100 in FY23. I am also meeting with Joe Strzegowski and Janet Chayes to discuss next steps on each of the three parcels the Town wishes to purchase. The updated start date for beginning work on purchasing these properties was extended to October 1, 2021, with an end date of June 30, 2022.

I met with Nicolas Miller, the Fluvial Geomorphologist from Field Geology Services who has been working on South River issues through the FRCOG for years, to get background information on past and current projects in Conway.

I also met with David Whittier of the Field Memorial Library to discuss collaborating on an application to have the 'Museum on Main Street' exhibition of the Smithsonian displayed at the library. The applications through MassHumanities should be coming out in August or September.

Personnel:

Ron Sweet has posted the positions for the Mechanic/Operator position and Highway Clerk, and should be posting for the Building and Grounds Maintenance Technician shortly.

Lee Whitcomb has also posted for the Assessor's Clerk position as Laura Hutt has resigned effective September 2nd, 2021, and Board of Health Clerk Ginny Knowlton has turned in her resignation letter, effective September 11th, 2021.

Power Outages complaints:

Several abutters of the Nexamp solar array have reported brief power outages. I am currently seeking information from both Eversource and Nexamp, and expect each company to provide information about whether or not those power outages are related to the Nexamp project or if there is some other cause. A Nexamp representative has assured me that they will not be turning the site on again until they understand what is happening, and they may have a statement to share as early as tomorrow.

Miscellaneous:

Minutes
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, August 9, 2021, 6 p.m.
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road

Since our last meeting, I have attended the annual Senior luncheon at the Sportsman's Club, attended a Planning Board as well as an Assessors Board meeting, and had a wonderful time at the Irish Road Bowling contest, as well as the Grand Reopening of the Conway Mall. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who give their time to create these community events!

**Select Board member
comments and concerns**

None

Mail

FY17 Leverett Four Town (LIFT) Program Community Development Block Grant Activities ending 06/30/21. Conway did receive some benefit from it, in that nine homes were rehabbed in town. Phil thought it would be beneficial for Conway to join another such Block Grant
Complaint against the Transfer Station. The Board of Health has been informed.

Announcements

None

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 16, 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill.

Adjourn

6:46 p.m.