

**Minutes
Selectboard Meeting
January 3, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom**

Present for the Selectboard: Phil Kantor, Chair; Bob Armstrong; Erica Goleman

Others Present: Ken Ouimette, Police Chief; Nelson Shifflet, Thad Bennett, Véronique Blanchard, Town Administrator; Louise Beckett, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Minutes **On a motion from Erica to approve the Minutes of December 20, 2021 Phil seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Warrants **On a motion from Erica to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant W22-15 for \$128,690.47, the Payroll Warrant PW22-15 for \$112,531.80 and the Payroll Deduction Warrant PDW22-15 for \$28,407.37, Bob seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**
On a motion from Phil to approve Warrant PDW22-04c for \$4.40 Bob seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Meetings Attended by Select Board Members Erica attended no meetings; Bob had wanted to have a joint meeting between the Selectboard and the Cable Advisory Committee a week ago, but didn't get the approved figures from Comcast, so the Committee met on other issues without Comcast or the Selectboard. Phil attended no meetings since the last Selectboard meeting.

Public Comments None

Old Business None

New Business

Vote to approve Agreement for Services by and between the Town of Conway and the FRCOG for accepting funds to help pay for Police training Ken noted that the Agreement was geared toward the entire Commonwealth with a million dollars for the whole state. The FRCOG was given \$75K to distribute. There is only \$2,113 given to Conway to help defer costs for training one officer. **On a motion from Erica to approve signing the agreement between FRCOG and the Town to accept funds to help pay for mandated police training, Bob seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Discussion and Vote to Approve using ARPA funds to determine revenue replacement allowance. Tony Roselli, whose firm is used by the Town as its auditor, has offered his services to the town as a consultant for this project. Of the \$559,000 we will get, there are four main categories in which it can be spent. Revenue replacement is one: if you qualify for the category, you can take out of it whatever is considered to be your revenue replacement, so the town can use it for many things, such as capital expenditures, that the town needs. Roselli's fee is somewhere in the area of \$2,000 - \$3,000. If the Town does its own calculation, the cost would be \$2,000 and the auditors would review it; if Roselli and Clark does the calculation, the cost would be \$3,000. The question came up of whether we should talk with Mike Kociela and see if it's something he can do. Tabled until the next meeting.

Nelson Shifflet: ideas on how to increase participation in Town Meetings There was discussion on how to get more people engaged in town meeting in particular and the town in general. The same people's voices are heard at every meeting but there are no young faces. A list of possibilities was presented on how to get community involvement; how to encourage attendance. Young people are needed. What about signage; notices on *NextDoor*, *Conway Currents*; *The Recorder*. Why not create an email chain – please 'forward this email' to reach

out to more people. The argument has been made as to why Saturday is now the day for Annual Town meeting? It conflicts with sports, but would it be possible to cancel athletic events on that one Saturday? How about providing child care? It was noted that Conway through the PTO has done that in the past; the school had fundraisers to pay 6th graders to provide the service. The group should talk to the school principal. Thad felt that Conway doesn't do well at marketing - getting the word out. We should look at a marketing strategy – how do you get everyone's email? How do you get information to people - more than once – verbally, in print, etc. The group feels it needs the support of Selectboard. Phil asked them to come back with a plan. Véronique will collect ideas in anticipation of the next meeting with the group.

Discussion and Vote to Approve a letter from Selectboard in response to Eversource's letter of 12/27/21

Phil noted that Eversource hasn't complied with the conditions of its permit, in particular with regard to spraying. We should ask them to come to us in person and state that they will be in compliance when they do vegetation maintenance the next time. Bob felt that spraying was the most important issue and asked if we can be advised about where and why they will be spraying. **On a motion from Phil to approve sending a letter from the Selectboard in response to Eversource's letter of 12/27/21 Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**

Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting

None

Town Administrator update 01/03/22

We have applied for and been granted a cybersecurity grant from the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) a Municipal Cybersecurity Awareness Grant, which will be a self-paced cyber security training session for all town employees this year. The Grammar School will be joining the town in this effort and can do their own accelerated schedule to fit it into the second half of this academic year.

I have ordered 180 rapid tests from the state which should be delivered 1/10/22. We will be providing the Fire, Police and Ambulance, as well as the Board of Health, with some of these tests to have on hand.

As of this afternoon, Jackie Choate has 3 Moderna booster shots to give out on Wednesday. If you would like one, please contact the Board of Health right away to reserve your booster.

Select Board member comments/concerns

None

Mail

None

Announcements

None

Next Meeting

Monday, January 10, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Adjourn

At 7:17 on a motion from Phil to adjourn, Bob seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

This meeting of the Selectboard will be held via Zoom. Members of the public are welcome to attend this virtual meeting.