

**Minutes  
Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, Date, September 26, 6:00 p.m.  
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road**

**Present of the Selectboard:** Phil Kantor, Chair; Erica Goleman; Chris Waldo

**Others Present:** Lee Whitcomb, Russell French, Roxanne Parent, Ron Sweet, Karl Dziura, Priscilla Lunch, Laurie Lucier, Kyle Dragon, Véronique Blanchard Town Administrator, Adam Reed Assistant to the town Administrator

<b>Minutes</b>	<b>On a motion from Phil to approve the minutes of September 12, 2022 and September 21, 2022, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.</b>
<b>Warrants</b>	<b>On a motion from Phil to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant W23-08 in the amount of \$101,744.27 ; the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$117,790.33, and the Payroll Deduction Warrant in the amount of \$29,733.18, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.</b>
<b>Meetings Attended by Select Board Members</b>	The Selectboard had a tour of the Charlemont Transfer Station to gather ideas for the Conway station. There was a meeting with the Planning Board discussing telecommunication bylaws. A Frontier school committee meeting was attended by Phil.
<b>Public Comments</b>	None
<b>Unfinished Business</b>	None
<b>New Business</b> <i>Joint Tax classification hearing with the Board of Assessors to set the tax rate for 2023</i>	<b>On a motion from Erica to set the tax rate at 17.15 for fiscal year 2023, Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.</b>
<i>Vote to appoint Cynthia Lawton-Singer as an Associate member of forest and trail.</i>	<b>On a motion from Phil to appoint Cynthia, Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.</b>
<i>Vote to appoint Elizabeth Huntley-Field as Assistant to the Highway Department</i>	<b>On a motion from Phil to appoint Elizabeth. Erica seconded, all said aye and the unanimous in favor.</b>
<i>A vote to hold a special town meeting on December 10 at 10:00 a.m.</i>	<b>On a motion from Phil to set the meeting. Chris seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.</b>

*Discussion to join the Franklin* Conway is looking at options for a new animal control officer. One option is to

County Animal Control division of the Sheriff's Office

join 11 other towns utilizing the Sheriff's Department program. This will be at a cost of \$5,100 for a fiscal year, prorated for FY23. The Selectboard concerns were committing to a three year contract and if another town drops out the cost could change. No decision was made and the issue will be discussed at the next meeting after further information is gathered.

Vote to approve the letter to Representative Natalie Blais against logging in Conway State Forests

After discussion and a minor change to the letter **a motion from Phil to approve signing the letter was made. 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**

**September 26, 2022 Town Administrator Update:**

- I have requested a training from Blackboard connect, which is the software the town uses for emergency notifications, as I discovered those who sign up through the online portal come to a different area in the program than the 'recipients' listed. If anyone would like to join me in the training, please let me know.
- I attended the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) webinar hosted by the state, to see what Federal funds might be coming to the town for bridge and road repair, among other things. Unfortunately it seems that the funds being allocated are channeled through a revolving loan as opposed to an outright grant. There is some loan forgiveness for municipalities meeting certain criteria; as of right now I don't believe Conway fits into any of those criteria.
- For those who are not aware, there is a sharps collection program which Conway residents may participate in, with the closest location being the Deerfield Board of Health, 8 Conway Street, from 10-4 on Wednesdays. Residents may pick up proper sharps containers there as well as drop off full containers.
- I am planning to apply for Massachusetts Office of Disability (MOD) grant for a lift for Town Hall. A representative from Garaventa, which has supplied lifts for Whately and comes highly recommended, came to do a site visit to the Town Hall last week, along with a couple of members of the Public Buildings committee. The quote came in at \$51,670.60 for a vertical wheelchair lift going from the downstairs bathroom area to the upstairs bathroom area (this would of course be separate and apart from the bathrooms) with entry doors in the hallways. This quote is for the lift and installation only; the town would need to contract out creating the shaft. See attached quote.
- Chris, Ron and I met to review the list of highway equipment and begin the process of creating an updated capital needs spreadsheet.

**Select Board member comments/concerns**

Festival of the Hills needs many more volunteers.

**Mail**

None

**Announcements**

None

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be October 11, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

**Adjourn**

**On a motion from Phil to adjourn the meeting at 7:40. Erica seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.**