

Commission Meeting
Minutes
March 18, 2009

The Commissioner's meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the training room at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, 104 Sawmill Lane North Conway, NH. The following were present: Chairman James Umberger, Commissioner Robert Porter, Commissioner John Santuccio, Superintendent David Bernier, Chief Patrick Preece and Recording Secretary Kristine Cluff.

Chairman Umberger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Umberger reminded everyone through Valley Vision the annual meeting is on March 25, 2009. Voting on Article I takes place from 4:00 pm. to 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Umberger stated he is taking the agenda out of order to accommodate Supervisor of the Checklist Richie Hansen. Mr. Hansen stated absentee ballots will be accepted up to 3:00 p.m. on March 25, 2009. Absentee ballots can be obtained from the Precinct Office 104 Sawmill Lane North Conway, NH. Mr. Hansen reported all the ballot clerks, ballot counters and the assistant moderator are in place for the meeting. As in the past, the voters will be using a voting card for the bond votes on Articles 2 and Article 3. Bill Hounsell reiterated that people must sign up for the Precinct Checklist as it is separate from the Town of Conway. Office Manager stated the last public filing session was last Saturday, March 14, 2009, but people can sign up at the Annual Meeting. Annual reports will be available today at the Intervale, Kearsarge and North Conway Post Offices, North Conway Fire Station and Precinct Office.

Minutes

Motion of Commissioner Porter seconded by Commissioner Santuccio to accept the public minutes of March 4, 2008 as written. Motion carried by voice vote 3-0-0.

Fire Department

Membership:

43 Members: We still have two members on leave at this time.

Personnel:

Test results from the State of New Hampshire Hazardous Materials Operations Class scored very well Justin Bellen 94, Ken Derouin 94, Brandon James 92, John Garcia 88 and Kevin Thompson 88. Josh Cleveland has been assigned to Engine Three for his primary assignment and duties.

Training:

The Department training was moving members over onto other trucks to operate them. Tower two training will be search and rescue in the fire department basement with air packs. Rescue training will be using the rescue strut system.

Department Activities:

HEB will be getting me a price for Seavey Street drawings and survey.

Emergency Calls:

The fire department has responded to 72 calls for the month of February.
The fire department has responded to 1 call for the month of March.

The fire department has responded to 174 calls year to date. Chief Preece noted calls are down due to Mother Nature. Without the snow loads, the department has not had any propane issues.

Apparatus / Trucks:

DOT Inspection is this month and will be starting them next week.

Equipment Issues:

We are in the process of obtaining prices for the air pack flow testing and the air bottles hydro testing which is due this year.

Purchase for New Equipment:

We are currently looking at pricing for a 4.5" X 6" adaptor as well as a price on a vent saw for engine four.

Chief Preece stated that school inspections must now be reported to the State Fire Marshal's Office as well as the S.A. U . Office.

Superintendent's Report

- Depot Road: Submitted change order to NHDES making more of the project eligible for SRF funding.
- Called NHDES officials about the status of Well #6 project and the review of Environmental Assessment Issues regarding the large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit. DES officials are currently looking at the Report and I remain confident that the report should address the concerns of the ground water bureau.
- Made application for NHDES Stimulus monies for eight separate projects totaling over \$17,000,000.00 in Federal Economic Recovery Projects.
- Received word from NHDES that our \$2,060,000.00 SRF Bond is now eligible for Stimulus funding which should result in savings of over \$1,000,000.00 in principal.
- Bill Hounsell attended second meeting with NHDOT in Concord regarding the Kearsarge road widening project.
- Starting working on Precinct Annual Report.
- Crew busy with improvements to Well#4&5 chemical containment and day tank system.
- Completed plan review for new restaurant adjacent to new EMS Outlet.

Annual Meeting:

Superintendent Bernier stated he was disappointed in the print quality of the Annual Reports. We had provided the printer with a hard copy and a CD. However, the numbers are readable and Precinct had added eight to ten pages for the same quote. Superintendent Bernier explained this report is for informational purposes only.

Superintendent Bernier stated Article 5 needs to be amended on the floor from \$2,044,408.00 to \$2,124,127.00 due to a error with the formula on the spreadsheet. The correct long term debt page is shown on page 35 of the annual report. This was discovered when the office manager was working on the MS36.

Superintendent Bernier explained the warrant articles will not have any effect on the 2010 tax rate. The 2010 long term bonds will be the peak of our construction projects and primarily Contract 6. Both Well # 6 and Depot Street projects will be presented on the long term debt schedule of 2010. Note 14 matures this year (2009) with a final principal payment of \$60,000.00 and final interest payment of \$3,150.00. Notes #10 & #11 mature in 2010 of over a one half million dollars and this will lower the debt by \$.85. This will be part of a power point presentation at the meeting. The Precinct will see a net decrease in long term debt for 2011 and 2012. Superintendent Bernier stated is not intending to have one tax item next year.

Article 19 will also need to be amended on the floor of the annual meeting. They asked for the same amount as the previous year and then when they presented their budget there was a \$500.00 reduction. We will amend the warrant article to match the budget.

Bill Hounsell stated it is important to rush Contract #7 before our bonds start to decline and we lose a percentage of our grants. We need to keep our bond debt and the reassessment to qualify for Rural Development grants on water.

Superintendent Bernier stated it is wise to look at the Wyman Avenue area and we placed this on the list from the 2007 Annual meeting in the \$7,982,000.00 bond. At that time, we didn't qualify for Rural Development water funding but now we just barely qualify and we should do this work concurrently. Superintendent Bernier explained if the voters' don't approve the first bond article (i.e. Article 2) then he would not move forward with the second article (i.e. Article #3).

Richie Hansen noted on the Bond Articles they have to be open for one hour each. It was suggested to talk with Moderator Cargill on voting the two bond articles together.

Commissioner Porter was curious about having an article regarding the interconnection with Conway Village Fire District. Superintendent Bernier stated the Office Manager spoke with Assistant Superintendent Shaw and she stated they did not discuss it at their annual meeting. They are waiting for the feasibility study to be completed. Superintendent Bernier intends to discuss it as part of the power point slide show. The Precinct is looking at a 4.6 -5.0 million dollar buy in from Conway Village Fire District on the interconnection. When appropriate, both entities will hold public hearings on the interconnection and each entity would be required to attend both public hearings.

Ken Cargill has pointed out he missed the filing deadline and he is looking to be a write in candidate for Moderator. Everyone felt he does a good job and allows the taxpayers to voice their opinions on the articles.

Kearsarge Street Widening:

Bill Hounsell updated the Board as to the status of the Kearsarge Road widening. Basically, Mr. Hounsell stated that every effort has been exhausted with regard to the Kearsarge Road Bike paths. This was part of the original bike path for the North /South Road and the Town of Conway has invested money in this project. It seems there should be \$100,000 to finish this project and should be a moral issue to complete this project. Mr. Hounsell stated we will keep cranking this to a discussion level.

Well #6

Well #6 will be located near Well #3 between first and second bridge on the West Side Road. The wetlands located there can withstand wetland and drought. There are no adverse conditions on the wetlands and hopefully we will receive the permitting for the large ground water withdrawal shortly.

Article #17 :

Chief Preece stated he wanted to just make sure the Board was aware that under the By-Laws Section 7 that all monies received from the sale of equipment or vehicles has to be put back into the capital reserve for like item. Even though the By-Law is in place, the money has to be voted by the taxpayers to put it in a capital reserve.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this meeting.

Sign Checks

Motioned by Commissioner Porter seconded by Commissioner Santuccio to sign checks out of session. Motion carried by voice vote 3-0-0.

Non Public Session

Motion of Commissioner Porter seconded by Commissioner Santuccio to enter non public session at 10: 50 a.m. for a personnel issue under RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) – The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or investigation of any charges against him, unless affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Motion carried by roll call vote – Umberger – aye, Porter – aye and Santuccio - aye.

Reentered public session at 1120 a..m.

Adjourn

Having no further business to conduct at this public meeting, **Commissioner Porter motioned and Commissioner Santuccio seconded to adjourn this public meeting at 11:23 a.m. Motion carried by voice vote 3-0-0.**

Respectfully,



Kristine M. Cluff
Recording Secretary