**CONWAY VILLAGE FIRE DISTRICT**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**September 25, 2014**

**Comm. Bean called the meeting to order at 12: 30: p.m.**

**Commissioners Present at Start of Meeting**:

Janine Bean

Thomas Buco

Joseph Quirk

**Others Staff Members Present at the Start of the Meeting**:

Fire Chief Stephen Solomon

Superintendent Gregg Quint

Bookkeeper Amy Snow

Office Receptionist Paula Abraham

**Others Present:** David Mercier – Underwood Engineers

Steve Smith – Underwood Engineers

Paul Degliangeli – Town of Conway (not present at start of meeting)

*Comm. Bean took the following out of order:*

**Appointment**

* David Mercier – Underwood Engineers

Mr. Mercier presented an update of the Phase III Water Improvements work to the Board as a goal to make decisions on the extent of the Phase III water work to pursue (please see agenda attached). There was a discussion about the user rate increase in the water rates for 2015/16.

*Paul Degliangeli entered the meeting at approximately 12:45 p.m.*

Paul D. provided an update at the State level regarding the water main on Main Street. The NH DOT is actively working on the pricing and has heard no answer yet. There was much discussion on the logistics between the collaboration of work, cost and timing between the State, the Town of Conway and CVFD. Paul D. stated that he is convinced that they (the State) is staying on project and advised of his 5 year plan and is willing to move things around to try to coordinate with the CVFD for West Main Street water project. Comm. Bean commented that she thought we were all in agreement to do Main Street. Mr. Mercier made the argument that it would fall under the 2006 article. Comm. Buco stated that he thinks we should keep Main Street separate so that we can get NH DOT on board.

There was a discussion regarding the District sidewalks and whether or not they would be turned over to the Town of Conway. Comm. Bean advised that this would something that the District residents would have to decide which would need to be voted on in a warrant article. Various scenarios were discussed on what type of sidewalk material would be used if the Town would take over the sidewalks. Paul D. mentioned that he heard that someone may be putting something together for the Town to take over the sidewalks and added if this is real that is OK. Comm. Buco stated that what is real is that we own the sidewalks now and you (Paul D.) are going to have to plan before March.

**Public Comment**: Mr. Furtado asked the question to Paul D. what his objection of using the EcoFlex material is. Paul D. advised that it flexes, it is not cost effective and the machines will have a problem cleaning it. Comm. Buco added that it is 3 time more expensive and it just lays there. Further discussion continued on the various types of sidewalks and their longevity.

**Appointment** *(discussion continued)*

Comm. Bean stated that we are now at a point to try to determine how far we are going to go. Comm. Buco stated that we are going to apply for the funding and stretch it to the next construction season. Mr. Mercier advised you have already pre-applied and an offer has been made. All that is needed now is to write an actual application as it is a done deal. There was discussion on whether or not it would make sense to combine the projects to be more cost effective. Mr. Mercier advised that it would not reduce the cost significantly.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Furtado asked if the timeline of 2015/16 is because of the 2006 article plus the state obligation. Comm. Bean advised yes because our obligation to use this money ends in 2015. Mr. Furtado stated that because of this expiration we can vote again in March. Comm. Bean advised that you will never get them to vote again to pass another bond. We use the money that they authorized us to get as much as we can get done and added that Main Street has to be done next year. Mr. Mercier added that the current loan needs to close and that NH DES is chomping at the bit to close it unless we can show them something in 2015. The new loan of $1.4M we can stretch out. Mr. Furtado asked if there was a way to not do Main Street until 2016. Further discussion followed. Comm. Bean asked the Board what they wanted to do. Comm. Buco stated to go ahead with the Main Street project to be coordinated with NH DOT. Comm. Bean added; and also with the West Main Street and North Road project at the same time to finish the marathon. Comm. Quirk asked if this was a motion and was advised no. Comm. Quirk stated that he was at a crossroads here and stated that if we don’t do Main Street right then he would just as soon to put a block on the whole thing. Comm. Bean asked is it because of sidewalks? You don’t want to get rid of old 1935 lead pipe in the road cause of sidewalks? In other words you want to have your Streetscape; you are going to put a kibosh on this for Streetscape. Paul D. advised that he had to leave the meeting but added that a positive vote is needed on Main Street.

*Paul D. exited the meeting at approximately 1:25 p.m.*

***Moved by Comm. Buco to move ahead with the Main Street water line replacement project, also to include West Main Street and North Road.*** Fire Chief Solomon suggested that there be separate motions made for each project. Mr. Mercier needed clarification on whether the Board wanted the projects separate. Comm. Bean advised that it would save money for the taxpayers and asked Mr. Mercier how he thinks it should be. Mr. Mercier advised that it should be done in two separate projects with Main Street by itself with NH DOT.

***Comm. Buco withdrew the motion.***

***Moved by Comm. Buco to move ahead with the Main Street project with replacing the water main in coordination with NH DOT with the remaining loan money; seconded by Comm. Bean***; further discussion; Mr. Furtado advised that he has this loose organization of 225 people that he will have to go back to and advise them that the Main Street project will look like Washington Street which looks good and is a functional upgrade but the timeline of 2015 for Main Street would not allow a window of time available to get additional money to do more of an esthetic upgrade and asked what are the alternatives when we go to the March District meeting to support to have the sidewalks turned over to the town we would have cement sidewalks at the very least over asphalt and added that the functionality and safety are important but we also want the esthetic component to it. We at least want the opportunity to have a good faith effort of trying to find money and trying to convince the other people in the District that this is a good idea. Mr. Mercier provided a possible timeline of when this project will be put out to bid. Ms. Snow asked Mr. Furtado how many of the 215 people in the group are actual District residents and was advised by Mr. Furtado that a vast majority live in the District. Chief Solomon advised to not delay this project at all. We have been trying to get NH DOT on board for a long time. Comm. Bean reiterated the conversation previously with Mr. Furtado about a month ago that if he could get money for sidewalks with no strings attached, go get it and we would look at what you can bring us but we were going to move forward with this project with sidewalks the way we can afford to do it. Comm. Buco added that up until this point in time we had given up on Main Street but now we have the funding in hand and we have NH DOT on board and believe that we should jump on doing this project right away. Comm. Bean agreed, ended the discussion and called for the vote; ***Motion passed 2-1-0.*** *(Comm. Quirk opposed)*

Ms. Snow commented that Comm. Quirk has worked on Streetscapes for 10 years and there were tons of citizen input and two years ago we said enough and stated that the public had a lot of opportunity and time for suggestions. Mr. Furtado asked the Board going forward in the project design could optional pricing for different sidewalk material be done and asked if they could keep that in mind. Sidewalk discussion continued with Mr. Furtado asking if conduit and lighting could be incorporated and was advised by Comm. Bean no, that this Board will not direct our engineers to design anything that involves lighting, and if his group wants to talk about conduit and lighting that it might be appropriate to talk with the town as they do the lighting in Conway Village. It was also decided by the voters at the annual meeting not to authorize us to borrow money despite everyone being in favor of that project except when it came down to money.

***Moved by Comm. Buco to move ahead with the engineering with the West Main Street, and North Road water main replacements, and well improvements with the new SRF loan from NH DES to a value up to $1.4M to accomplish as much as possible to the remaining of Phase III; seconded by Comm. Bean;*** Further discussion: Chief Solomon stated that the way the motion is worded that your approving only engineering. Mr. Mercier suggested adding “engineering and construction”.

***The amended motion to read:*** ***to include the engineering and construction*** ***with the West Main Street, and North Road water main replacements, and well improvements with the new SRF loan from NH DES to a value up to $1.4M; Amendment passed 3-0-0***.

***Motion passed as amended 3-0-0.***

* Mr. Mercier advised the Board that he was approached by a Lamplighter resident and is concerned with the sewer trench that has caused a dip in the road which causes cars to bottom out and is looking to the District to remedy it in some way. He mentioned that if they are willing to wait, DeFelice will be coming through next year with the Phase II project and they could improve and repair it at that time. Comm. Buco stated that he was approached by this resident as well as they had heard that we were going to come through again and trench and would we do something at that point and does not believe that they thought it would be done now. Chief Solomon added that it has been that way since 2009 and that it really hasn’t settled.
* There was a discussion on the RD National meeting that took place yesterday.
* Mr. Mercier inquired if we’ve heard anything from Sebago Technics request for the electronic files and was advised that we have not heard anything but will follow up. It will save about $10K.

*Mr. Mercier exited meeting at 2:03 p.m.*

**Administrative Business**

* Approval of A/P Manifest and checks date September 25, 2014 – ***Move by Comm. Buco; seconded by Comm. Quirk***; ***motion passed 3-0-0***.
* Approval of Weekly Payroll Manifest and checks for period ending September 21, 2014 - ***Move by Comm. Buco; seconded by Comm. Quirk***; ***motion passed 3-0-0***.
* Approval of Elected Official Manifest and check for period ending September 30, 2014. ***Moved by Comm. Buco; seconded by Comm. Quirk; motion passed 3-0-0.***
* Time sheets for Superintendent Gregg Quint and (Fire) Chief Stephen Solomon were reviewed and signed by Comm. Bean.
* Approval of the Minutes - Minutes of the September 19, 2014 Commissioner’s meeting were reviewed prior to the meeting; ***moved by Comm. Buco to accept the minutes of September 19, 2014; seconded by Comm. Quirk; motion passed 3-0-0.***

**Correspondence Items (F.Y.I)**

* None to review

**New Business**

* Comm. Buco advised that he was contacted again by Jodi Morrissette on Bridge Street. He returned her call as a State Representative and not as a Commissioner of this Board. He advised her of what his understanding was that they had to discontinue the line and wanted her to connect to it at no additional cost except for the regular quarterly payments. Comm. Bean asked if she was still turned off. Sup. Quint advised yes as the line is a hazard to the population. Comm. Buco stated that Ms. Morrissette requested this in writing. Comm. Bean advised no, and asked does she want our water? She has not been paying any usage for 3 years and has received free water during this time. She wants the water but does not want to pay for it. Comm. Bean directed Ms. Abraham to send her an invitation to attend the next Commissioners meeting.
* Comm. Bean advised that we need to start thinking about the budget.

**Public Comments**

Please refer to previous discussion under Appointment.

**Future Dates**

* The next Board of Commissioners meeting will be Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 12:30 p.m.

***Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Abraham

Office Receptionist