

Minutes must be kept of all public meetings and must be available to the public upon request not more than five business days after the public meeting. A business day means the hours of 8 am to 5 pm on Monday through Friday, excluding national and state holidays. The minimum content of meeting minutes includes: (1) names of members present; (2) other people participating (it is not necessary to list everyone present, however); (3) a brief summary of subject matter discussed; and (4) any final decisions reached or action taken. There is no legal requirement to accept or approve the minutes. Even if minutes have not yet been approved, they still must be made available not more than five business days after the public meeting. When the five business day deadline is reached before the minutes are approved, they can be made available to the public with a notation that they are a draft version.

Taken from “*Knowing the Territory*,” a publication from the New Hampshire Municipal Association.

Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes Albany, NH August 9, 2017

Call to Order: At 5:02 p.m., Chairman Hiland called the Selectmen’s meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Attendance:

Members: Rick Hiland, Cathy Ryan and Joe Ferris

Town Administrator: Kathy Golding

Public: Carroll County Commissioners Amanda Bevard, Mark Hounsell and David Babson. County Commissioner Ken Robichaud. Conway Fire Chief Steve Solomon. White Mountain National Forest Ranger Jim Innes. Road Agent, Curtis Coleman. Dorothy Solomon, Daymond Steer and Tara Taylor.

Public Hearing: Per RSA 31:95-b, The Selectmen will hold a public hearing for the acceptance of unanticipated funds in the amount of \$32,933.31; received from the approval of Senate Bill 38, signed by Governor Sununu in June, to be used for additional highway funding and cannot be used to reduce taxes. It must be used to fund a particular road or bridge project.

At 5:03 p.m., Chairman Hiland opened the public hearing. Tara Taylor would like to see the funds go into the Drake Hill Rd. Expendable Trust Fund. Chairman Hiland noted that is on the list of considerations. At 5:07 p.m., Chairman Hiland closed the public hearing. Selectman Ferris made a motion to accept the unanticipated funds in the amount of \$32,933.31, Selectperson Ryan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Appointments: Carroll County Commissioners

5:05 p.m.

The Selectmen welcomed the County Commissioners and told them they would like to meet with them annually.

Chairman Hiland told the Commissioners about the National Forest logging operation and how it is damaging Passaconaway Rd. The Selectmen wrote a letter to the Commissioners asking them for support. He went on to say that Albany will be applying for federal funds to help fix the road and he hoped the Commissioners would consider writing a letter of support for Albany. Mark Hounsell suggested contacting the Town of Conway for support because Passaconaway Rd. goes through Conway as well. The Board discussed the increase of fire and rescue calls to the National Forest. As Albany is renegotiating their contract with Conway Village Fire District, these additional calls will surely end up as a burden to Albany taxpayers.

Commissioner Hounsell asked the Selectmen for a letter of support to the Carroll County Delegation. The Commissioners are asking for \$10,000 for an assisted living feasibility study into the future needs of Carroll County. The Board agreed it will be taken up at their August 16 meeting and a letter will be written in support to the NH Delegation.

County Administrator, Ken Robichaud informed the Selectmen that the county budget should stay level in 2018.

Jim Innes (WMNF):

5:15 p.m.

The Selectmen discussed the recent payment in lieu of taxes distributed by the Department of Interior. The amount due to Albany was decreased by \$21,000 because of a prior year timber payment. Jim replied he is unaware of payment in lieu of taxes. It is a different department than his. Chairman Hiland would like action to be taken with the two State Senators as well as the Congresswoman. Albany would like the support of the White Mountain National Forest when discussing the issues. Jim has contact information that he will forward to the Town Administrator regarding the payment in lieu of taxes.

Chairman Hiland told Jim about the damage being done to Passaconaway Rd. due to the National Forest's logging operation. Road Agent Curtis Coleman added the road cannot take the weight and they are violating bridge weight limits. Jim replied the loggers are operating under a contract. He has no control over when it will end. The contract is valid until June 30, 2018, but they hope to be complete this fall. Selectperson Ryan said the loggers want to be done this fall but they are still responsible for removing culverts and temporary bridges. That may take until June of 2018. Selectman Ferris would like to cut the load limit so the loggers

cannot carry a full load of logs. Chairman Hiland is concerned for the town's liability. He suggested signage and reduce the speed limit through the "narrows."

Chairman Hiland spoke of the significant increases of fire and rescue calls to the White Mountain National Forest over the past four or five years. If Conway Village Fire District cannot get reimbursed for the calls, the burden lies on the taxpayers of Albany. Albany cannot sustain these bills. Jim responded that he has no authority to spend money on fire and rescue. Authority comes from Congress. They have to have a law that says they can spend money for that cause. Right now they have the authority to spend for law enforcement, but not fire and rescue. Chief Solomon said he has contacted the forest service and state representatives, but there has been no action. Jim's suspicion was that when the payment in lieu of tax program began, it was meant to pay for local services. Chairman Hiland would like to keep the lines of communication open.

Chief Solomon and the Board discussed proposed legislation to have Fish and Game pay for part of the fire and rescue calls in the National Forest. Chief Solomon would like to meet with Selectmen again to start contract negotiations. Chairman Hiland would like to meet again in September.

New Business:

- **Approval of the August 2 minutes:** Selectman Ferris made a motion to approve the August 2 minutes as submitted, Selectperson Ryan seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- **Approval of consent file:** Selectman Ferris made a motion to approve the consent file as presented, Selectperson Ryan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Signed checks	\$11,111.35
Approved one intent to excavate	Map 3 Lot 42
Approved application for reimbursement to towns and cities in which federal and state forest land is situated	Map 9 Lot 147
Signed TAN promissory note	\$800,000
Reviewed NHDOT permission for Reach the Beach Relay	
Reviewed NHDES Approval for construction of septic	Map 3 Lot 38
Reviewed NHDOT FY 2018 Highway Block Grant Aid	
Reviewed NDES letter to Huttopia updating ownership for their public water system	

Town Administrator's Report:

The Tax Anticipation Note line of credit has been approved.

The Town Administrator attended the Town Clerk/Tax Collector recertification program.

Old Business:

- Albany Selectmen business roundtable – no action taken.
- State Bridge Aid – waiting on NHDOT estimate
- Semi-annual billing – no action taken.
- Fiscal year budgeting – no action taken.
- Generator purchase/grant – reviewed the list of providers.
- Planning Board appointees – 2 Board openings- no action taken.
- Discuss the establishment of a Heritage Commission – Chairman Hiland contacted town counsel. The artifacts in the museum need a value. June Johnson will take inventory. She will also submit a balance of their bank account.
- North Country Council update of Regional Transportation Improvement Program and Ten Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2019-2028 and removal of rumble strips from plan – no action taken.
- Meeting in Wonalancet – will be scheduled for the fall
- Dedication of the Annual Town Report – no action taken.
- TAN application – Approved-sign promissory note
- Mountain Meadow Riders Snowmobile Club is looking for permission from the Town to utilize that part of Passaconaway Road-no action taken.
- Town report checklist-
- Cemetery records returned to town hall-no action taken.

Other Old Business: follow-ups

- Steeple people – need them to look at any possible Chapel steeple roof leaks, structural damage and cost estimate to repair-no update.
- One Wheel Drive –update-the Health Officer will inspect the property on Saturday.
- Route 16 Moulton property/campground – Certified letter sent - junk cars, trucks and campers clean-up— a letter will be drafted.
- Bald Hill Road Munro-update –cleanup continues.

Other Business (and Board reports):

Planning Board – Rick-

Conservation Commission – Cathy

School Board – Joe

Other:

Chairman Hiland will assist Scott Whigham of Almost There to apply to expand the sewerage boundaries of the Conway Village Fire District. Chairman Hiland will attend the CVFD Commissioners meeting on August 16 at 4:45 p.m. with Scott to find out the details and process.

Chairman Hiland talked about the meeting at the Russell Colbath House today with the Forest Service, state representatives and town officials from Grafton County regarding emergency services on the Kancamagus Highway. It didn't pertain to Albany but the issue is Conway Village Fire District covering other towns and the cost is excessive and should be clarified.

Chairman Hiland noted he received a complaint regarding the speed of one of the logging trucks on Passaconaway Rd. Selectperson Ryan added that the logging company quietly checks on each of the logging truck drivers. If someone is speeding, it should be brought to the attention of the logging company.

The Board discussed the options of what to do about the liability of Passaconaway Rd. Chairman Hiland would like to invoice the logging company for the recent damage to Passaconaway Rd. Curtis recommended putting up delineators where the road was just fixed. The Board discussed putting up signage warning drivers of the narrow road ahead.

Chairman Hiland would like a meeting with a representative from Cersosimo and Curtis Coleman to discuss the road issues and deterioration of the road due to the 45 ton logging trucks.

Selectman Ferris made a motion to lower the speed limit to 10 miles per hour for the next ¼ mile +/- on the "narrows" or "Dugway" part of Passaconaway Rd., place warning signs (narrow road ahead and no shoulders next ¼ mile) and delineators along the edge of the road, Selectperson Ryan seconded the motion and all were in favor. Selectman Hiland will notify the Road Agent to get signage ordered and installed.

Chairman Hiland would like to request current road bonds from the logging company.

Correspondence: none

Public Comment:

RH____
CR____
JF____

Dorothy Solomon told the Selectmen an accident occurred across the street from her. An excavator turned over and the worker was hurt, but he is going to be okay.

Next Meeting: August 16 at 5 PM

Adjournment:

At 7:33 p.m., Selectperson Ryan made a motion to adjourn, Selectman Ferris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Golding
Town Administrator