

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA  
MINUTES  
November 29, 2010

**Meeting Open: 7:00PM**

**Present:** Maureen Chase, Victor C. Trombley, Jim Moore, Tom Spiro

**Others present:**

**Appointments**

**7:30 Department vehicle – Bob Baker**

Bob spoke about the review of the vehicles that were seen during the day. Bob wanted the Town to buy the 2004 Chevy Tahoe for \$14,000+ and Chuck explained how much money the Selectboard felt was available for this purchase. He gave Bob the option of finding another vehicle for the \$7500 or so that the Board thought they could approve of or agree with the purchase of a 1999 vehicle similar to the one retired from the town fleet. The 2004 Tahoe had the same mileage and owner history that the 1999, but for almost twice the money. Chuck had found this vehicle and he and Bob had gone to Northampton to inspect that vehicle. This vehicle was clean and passed all tests Chuck put it through. Bob stated that he felt that he would be successful at promoting the purchase of another vehicle at Town meeting. Chuck explained that should Bob insist on bringing an article to Town meeting, that the Board would make sure that residents knew why the Board did not back the article and of the vehicle that was available for far less money. There was some discussion regarding the Board's position and that of Bob's. Bob asked if the 2004 Tahoe could be approved if he supplemented the cost with Fire Department donation funds. Maureen and the Board pointed out that departmental personnel was not completely behind this purchase and that using donation funds should be used for something the firemen fully supported. Bob noted that he was not comfortable with the 1999 Chevy but the Board said that, although they would not force him to do anything that was uncomfortable for him, they would not support any purchase that they considered an unnecessary drain on the Reserve or Town Funds. The Board offered \$7,500.00 towards the purchase of this vehicle. Bob left stating he would consider all options and notify Chuck of his decision.

**meeting items**

- warrants were signed.
- meeting minutes for 11/22/10 were approved as amended.
- (see above) There was a meeting at the Town Office building to view two potential vehicles to act as a dual purpose utility truck for the Highway and Fire Department. One was a 2004 Ford F150 extended-cab pickup truck that was priced at \$10,000.00. The other was a 2004 Chevy Tahoe SUV that cost \$14,752.00. These vehicles, out of Agawam, were seen by Bob, Chuck and Maureen. It was thought that the pickup was not in good condition and the Tahoe was in good condition but was determined as too expensive. Chuck mentioned that there was a 1999 SUV with the same mileage (74,000) miles on it as the SUV for \$14,752 with the same one owner history as looked at today that was available in Northampton at a cost of \$7,500.00. It was noted that the warrantee was the same and Northampton was closer for service. He suggested that this be presented to Bob with the hope that he will be amenable to purchasing it rather than opting for a newer or new vehicle through Town meeting vote.
- The Board voted to have Maureen sign the School Building qualification papers. Tom will overnight them to the MSBA tomorrow morning.
- The Board reviewed a letter from Gene Malloy requesting money to build a septic system. The Board asked what application form was available for them to apply for a loan from the Septic Loan Program. Tom will ascertain the status of the Malloy's Title 5 from the Board of Health and ask the Malloys to attend a future meeting to discuss the application process and discuss the details.
- Maureen said she had been questioned by someone who complained about a sign that was advertising cord wood. The Board will address changing the Protective Bylaw 33.2 to include preventing signage on Town Property. Tom will contact Kaleb Parker to ask him to remove his sign, and make sure this item is on the agenda for the next Planning Board meeting.
- There was a discussion regarding the creation of a town business only publication that would be published in adjunct to the Visitor. Chuck felt that this was unnecessary as the Visitor served well enough. Maureen agreed to table this request.
- Tom spoke about the EECBG, and explained that a new boiler could only be installed in the Town Hall. Tom will ask Ken if any of the existing boiler in the Town Hall can be used in the Town Office

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since the Town Office boiler is in need of replacement and is not included under the current grant. This makes the expense of this replacement a Town expense. Once this has been discerned then a cost for the replacement can be assessed and funding possibilities reviewed.

- Tom reported on the Mass General laws ruling service and replacement of elected officials who move out of town during their term.
- Tom reported on what actions he had taken with regard to heating fuel deliveries. Bob Baker had been notified.
- Tom reported that he had made sure there would be a vinyl fence installed on top of the new concrete wall on Bardwell's Ferry Road as part of the slope project.
- The FY2012 budget hearing schedule was distributed.
- The final audit for FY2009 was given to the Board for review.
- There was a meeting scheduled at the Firehouse building to review measures and critique steps taken to find and return the missing boy on Thanksgiving day.

**Mail and Other Items**

- Mail items were reviewed.

**9:50 PM** Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Chuck, seconded by Maureen, all in favor.