

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA  
MINUTES  
October 25, 2010

**meeting open: 7:00PM**

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

**others present:** Elizabeth Braccia - Treasurer

**Appointments**

**Open House at grammar school**

Jack Lochhead was the only resident to attend. He spoke about a conservation restriction of nine acres that he will be placing on some of his land to be attached to his rental property he is selling. He also informed the Board that he will be putting land along the South river in APR and he will request the Board sign for this action. He was open to the possibility of allotting some of this land as a possible site for a future septic system if the town should ever need such a facility provided this could be allowed in the APR assignment. It was noted that a septic treatment plant, in all probability, would eventually be needed to at least serve the center of Conway.

**meeting items**

- warrants were signed.
- Meeting minutes for 10/4/10 & 10/12/10 & 10/18/10 were not approved.
- The Board discussed the matter of a special town meeting requested by the Community Preservation Committee, and peripherally by Bob Armstrong representing Wired West. The Board decided that a special town meeting will be held. Tom said he had spoken with town clerk, Ginny Knowlton and she had said January 31, 2010 would be the best date for this. The Board approved this date for these two purposes and any other matter that may arise.
- There was some conversation about the Fire Department's request to add an additional vehicle. Jim noted that the Capital Improvements Planning Committee had talked about this issue, and that they did not feel that residents would approve of this purchase.
- Elizabeth Braccia said that there was a cash flow problem. This problem would be resolved over the next month when property taxes are paid. She explained how this happened due to the expenses of Chapter 90 projects to be paid for in anticipation of reimbursement and the delay in getting tax bills issued due to the need for State approval of the new property evaluations. Elizabeth noted that one way to pay for any short falls would be to borrow against one or more stabilization accounts. She would rather not do that, and instead requested a spending freeze for non-essential items over this period. Chuck and the other Board members stated they felt that she would have to borrow from these funds anyway, and that any expenses would likely amount to just a few thousand dollars and be routine expenses. It was reiterated that Liz's concerns were appreciated but most spending was essential and very little was non-essential. There was a short discussion about this issue. The Board voted to allow borrowing from the General Stabilization Fund in lieu of anticipated reimbursement from Chapter 90 funds as outlined in M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 20A. A memo will also be sent out to department heads requesting restriction of non-essential spending for the near future. Elizabeth listed some of the expenses due for the next month in warrant spending. The Board requested Tom write this memo and have Elizabeth review and edit it, if necessary, before it is distributed.

**Mail and Other Items**

- Mail items were reviewed.

**9:10 PM** Motion to adjourn was made by Jim, seconded by Maureen, all in favor.