



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Conway, Massachusetts

**Special Town Meeting
 09 December 2019**

AT A LEGAL TOWN MEETING of the inhabitants of the Town of Conway qualified to vote in town affairs, convened at the time and place and for the purpose specified in the warrant, 90 voters were checked at the door and issued yellow cards for the purpose of voting. Lorraine Boyden, Aina Barten, and Sarah Newman served as checkers. The meeting was called to order by Town Clerk Laurie Lucier. James Recore was nominated to moderate, and it was unanimously voted to dispense with the formality of having the warrant read by the Town Clerk. The following action was taken by those persons in attendance:

ARTICLE 1: Voted that the Town make the following amendments to the schedule of Town Clerk Fees as authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 262, Section 34, clauses 1-79:

CLAUSE	DESCRIPTION	FEE
(11)	For entering amendment of a record of the birth of a child born out of wedlock, subsequently legitimized.....	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(13)	For furnishing certificate of birth.....	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(13A)	For furnishing abstract copy of a record of birth.....	\$2.00 <u>\$5.00</u>
(20)	For filing certificate of a person conducting business under any title other than his/her real name.....	\$10.00 <u>\$15.00</u>
(21)	For filing by a person conducting business under any title other than his/her real name of a statement of change of residence, or of discontinuance, retirement or withdrawal from, or change of location of such business.....	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(22)	For furnishing a certified copy of a certificate of a person conducting business under any title other than his/her real name or a statement by such person of his/her discontinuance, retirement or withdrawal from such business.....	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(24)	For recording the name and address, the date and number of the certificate issued to a person registered for the practice of podiatry in the Commonwealth	\$10.00 <u>\$15.00</u>
(30)	For furnishing a certificate of death.....	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(30A)	For furnishing an abstract copy of the record of death.....	\$2.00 <u>\$5.00</u>
(43)	For entering certificate of marriage filed by persons married out of the Commonwealth.....	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(44)	For issuing a certificate of marriage	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(44A)	For furnishing an abstract copy of a record of marriage.....	\$2.00 <u>\$5.00</u>
(54)	For recording power of attorney	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(57)	For recording certificate of registration granted to a person to engage in the practice of optometry, or issuing a certified copy thereof.....	\$10.00 <u>\$15.00</u>
(58)	For recording the name of the owner of a certificate of registration as a physician or osteopath in the Commonwealth.	\$10.00 <u>\$15.00</u>
(66)	For examining records or papers relating to birth, marriage, or death upon the application of any person, the actual expense thereof, but not less than.....	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>

ARTICLE 2: Voted that the Town amend dog license fees as follows, effective beginning with 2020 licenses:

Male / Spay / Neuter:	\$3.00	<u>\$5.00</u>
Male / Female:	\$6.00	<u>\$10.00</u>
Kennel, 4 or fewer:	\$10.00	<u>\$15.00</u>
Kennel, up to 10:	\$25.00	<u>\$35.00</u>
Kennel, over 10:	\$50.00	

ARTICLE 3: Voted that the Town amend the bylaws relating to dogs as follows:

DOG LEASH LAW

~~This bylaw requires the restraint of a~~Any dog within the Town of Conway shall be restrained by a chain or leash not exceeding eight feet in length, unless such dog is on the premises of the owner or keeper, or upon the premises of another person with permission of such other person. (Adopted – May 1974) If any dog owner or keeper is found to be out of compliance with the dog leash law, a fine ~~of no more than \$20.00~~ shall be assessed in accordance the “Non-Criminal Disposition” section of the General Bylaws ~~shall be assessed in accordance with this Bylaw for the first offense, and \$50.00 per offense thereafter.~~

DOG LICENSING DEADLINE AND FINES

All dogs ~~four (4)~~ six (6) months of age and older owned or kept in the Town of Conway must be licensed ~~by July 1 each year.~~ Licenses expire on March 31st of each year. A fine of ~~ten dollars (\$10.00)~~ fifteen dollars (\$15.00), in addition to the regular licensing fee, shall be assessed for every dog a dog-owner fails to properly license, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 140, by July 1 of any year. Such fine shall be increased ~~to twenty five dollars (\$25.00)~~, in addition to the regular licensing fee, for every dog a dog-owner fails to properly license, in accordance with the "Non-Criminal Disposition" section of the General Bylaws and in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 140, ~~and whose~~ for any dog that is still unlicensed at the time that a complaint is filed in Greenfield District Court against the dog-owner for keeping an unlicensed dog.

ARTICLE 4: Voted that the Town adopt M.G.L. Chapter 59, §2A(a) and **change the effective date of assessment from January 1 to July 1, beginning July 1, 2020.**

ARTICLE 5: Voted that the Town adopt M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 27 to authorize the Board of Selectmen to **appoint a Board of Cemetery Commissioners for the Town of Conway.**

ARTICLE 6: Tabled the article to see if the Town adopt M.G.L. Chapter 48, Sec. 42, **establishing the position of Fire Chief as a "strong chief."**

ARTICLE 7: Voted that the Town appropriate or to reserve for later appropriation monies from the **Community Preservation Fund** as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee as set forth herein, the following amounts for community preservation purposes with each item considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations

- A. To appropriate \$12,000 from the Community Preservation Open Space Fund to **create a pollinator field** on .57 acres of the Audubon meadow on the south side of State Route 116; and
- B. To appropriate \$45,000 from the Historic Preservation Reserve Fund for **repair of the Town Hall cupola and other Town Hall repairs.**

ARTICLE 8: Tabled the motion that the Town transfer \$5,200 from free cash to the general fund to increase the hours of the Assistant to the Town Administrator.

ARTICLE 9: Tabled the motion that the Town transfer \$1,500 from free cash to the general fund for additional administrative assistant services for boards, committees, and commissions.

ARTICLE 10: Tabled the motion that the Town transfer \$50,000 from free cash to the general fund to provide a 40% match for a state grant to construct a lift for the Town Hall.

ARTICLE 11: Voted that the Town transfer \$4,000 from free cash to the general fund for **legal assistance in negotiating a long-term contract** with Comcast for the provision of cable services.

ARTICLE 12: Voted that the Town transfer \$25,000 from free cash to the general fund for **title examinations, surveys, and related work for one or more MassDOT bridge replacement projects** on North Poland Road.

ARTICLE 13: Voted that the Town transfer \$1,374.38 from free cash for **paying two bills from a prior year** (one for \$1,326, for reverse 911 capability; one for \$48.38, for ambulance supplies).

ARTICLE 14: Voted that the Town appropriate \$988,000 for **a new Highway Department Maintenance Facility**, and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, provided, however, that any bonds issued pursuant to this vote shall mature in not more than 20 years from their date of issue, excluding the term of any notes that may be issued in anticipation of the issuance of any such bonds, such borrowing to be contingent on the passage of a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion ballot question.

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ARTICLE 15: Voted that the Town transfer \$50,000 from free cash to the general fund, and the remainder of the Highway Garage Stabilization account, \$433,243.51, to the general fund, to partially fund **a new Highway Department Maintenance Facility**.

A true record of the Meeting,
Attest:

Laurie L. Lucier, Town Clerk

