

~~Unapproved~~Approved
Candia Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes
Monday September 26, 2011

Attendance: Chairman Fred Kelley, Vice-Chair Carleton Robie, Selectman Joe Duarte, Selectman Amanda Soares, Selectman Richard Snow, and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen.

7:00 p.m. Chairman Kelley called the Public Meeting to order and immediately followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mark Hebsch to present Eagle Scout project to the Board. Mark Hebsch was present. He would like to put up a sign in front of the Town Offices. Along the bottom of the sign would be a message board. The sign would come with a 250 piece letter set. He's not sure if it would be lit yet, but it would be best if it was. Selectman Snow asked about the size. It will be 72 inches wide and 65 inches high. It will have 7 x 7 granite posts as supports. There will be a Plexiglas sheet over the letters with a pad lock on the bottom. The actual sign will be made of high density urethane, which is maintenance free. The only maintenance that would have to be done is the mowing around it. The estimate is approximately \$4,800. The sign would be done by Sarra Signs. The fundraising will completely be done by the Scouts. It will be handed over to the Town once the project is complete. Selectman Duarte thought it was a well thought out project and thanked Mark for his efforts. Selectman Robie asked if it would be the same size as the sign at Moore Park. Mark replied roughly the same size. Selectman Robie said they will look really nice together and he did an excellent job. Selectman Snow motioned to approved Mark Hebsch Eagle Scout Project. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were on favor. Motion carried. Mark informed the Selectmen that he needed a liaison to the Board and would anyone like to volunteer. Selectman Snow offered to be the liaison.

Selectman Snow to discuss ARM Grant application. Selectman Snow explained this isn't specifically an ARM grant it's a watershed protection grant. Its 3 million dollars that the DES has available to mitigate things that are being done in the widening of Route 93. One of the priorities of DES is that they want to protect the water supply in the City of Manchester. The grant is only applicable to the Manchester watershed. Holly Green from DES came to the Conservation Commission in July and presented us with the opportunity. He mentioned that Dick Fitz was interested in putting a conservation easement on his property or selling it. Selectman Snow met with Mr. Fitz and walked his property. He looked at the possibility of getting a grant so the Town could purchase that property. DES will want a conservation easement on the property to protect the water shed. The land was assessed at \$22,000. They will have to do a parameter survey and pay the purchaser the cost of the property. He thought maybe they could get from the DES the 25% which would be a match for the 75% that CCC would be paying to purchase the property and put a conservation easement on it. When he started looking

at the map he realized Kunnicum Pond is one of the Town properties the CCC has the management and control of. They have wanted to put a conservation easement on this so it would be permanently protected. If they were to put a conservation easement on the Kunnicum Pond property that would mean they would be able to get some money from the State for the value of the conservation property. He mentioned another piece on the end of Donovan Road. He started looking at what else is in the watershed. He thought they could do the forest on Hemlock Drive and there are two properties there. The conservation easements for those properties would have value. They could use the money from the conservation easement to match the grant and purchase those properties. The piece on High Street (behind the Chasse Store), this is a 30 acre piece that has value. The Town Forest has value as well. There is money that will go for the surveys and other costs associated with it. We are giving up the development rights for seven properties in the Town and putting conservation easements on them. They would purchase two additional pieces and put a conservation easement on them. This will be at no cost to the Town. You have to do two things to get the grant. First you have to put in an application to see if you're eligible. He will go to the State to see if they are qualified to get the grant. It doesn't bind the Town to anything. He started working on this at the end of August. They want to see the entire application. He got to the point where he had to sign the grant as a member of the Board of Selectman to put this application in. He is reasonably certain that they can get a grant of \$90,000. He brought the application to the CCC and they had some concerns. They are very valid concerns, but he wanted to bring this to the Board. They will be receiving a letter this week from DES letting them know if they are eligible for the grant. Selectman Soares asked why are we hearing about this now after you submitted the application without talking to us beforehand. Selectman Snow said he did talk to the Board about this. He gave the Board information about the Fitz properties and the possibility of getting a grant. He didn't talk to the Board about the grant, but he did put the information in the folder. He didn't talk to the Board because there wasn't a meeting between the end of August and the beginning of September. He had intended on leaving a copy of the application in the sign folder, unfortunately the copier died when he was making all of the copies. All he had was the original which he took up to Holly Green at DES. The next week he was getting ready for Old Home Day and he couldn't get it to the Board before that. It was something that just happened. Selectman Soares said you have email and you could have emailed the Board on what you were doing. Conservation Commission Member Rick Lazott stated he had a bunch of problems on the way this went down. First he was never authorized by the Board to do this and he should have signed this as a member of the CCC. He should have never have done this without the Board's knowledge. We shouldn't be putting easements on town owned property, because this will tie future Board's from ever being able to use the property. He added that Selectman Snow told the CCC it wouldn't cost any money and now it is. Selectman Snow replied he didn't say that. CCC Member Rick Lazott replied you said we would have to put up money up front. Selectman Snow replied the he did not. CCC Member Rick Lazott stated whether it comes out of Candia's pocket or the federal pocket we are still holding our hand out for federal tax dollars. Just because it's

there doesn't mean we have to go out and grab it. You also made a comment that you wanted to protect the Town properties so they couldn't sell it or do anything else with it. Selectman Snow said he was the one who put in the warrant article under 41:14-a. He wanted the Board to come before the people of the Town and say we have an agreement from the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board. It's letting the people of Candia know that property is for sale. He noted the process that is going to need to happen is they will have two hearings under 41:14-a. Anyone can come forward who think this is a good idea or a bad idea. He hopes he can convince the residents that this is a good deal and something of significant value. This is a once in a lifetime offer. This money is never going to become available again. We are using the value of the properties to mitigate. This is also going to protect the water quality for the City of Manchester. The 3 million dollars is going to go somewhere. CCC Member Rick Lazott replied it doesn't mean we have to put our hand out. Selectman Snow agreed but it is a decision the Town should make. CCC Member Rick Lazott noted the mitigation should be coming from Candia property not out of town property. Chairman Kelley said he has a problem with putting an easement on Town owned land. Selectman Snow said it was a legitimate argument and he is arguing from the prospective of the people in Town who would prefer to have large amounts of open space to prevent development. There is no way we can prevent development everywhere in Town. This is what the Planning Board does in their Master Plan which the Town agrees to. He agreed with Chairman Kelley's perspective, but the process is going to bring that out. The citizens are going to be the ones that say yes or no. Selectman Robie said it's up to the Chairman if he wants to let you sign the documents and send them to the state. All Selectman Snow did was see if we could get some money. Road Agent Lewis said they had the exact same discussion at the CCC meeting. They didn't know Selectman Snow was going to apply for this grant. He agrees with private easements, but not on Town land and there should be a Town meeting vote before it happens. The whole governing body should make the decision because it belongs to everybody. CCC Member Rick Lazott mentioned that grant that was put in has info on it and it states we are liable for the 75% match. They might want to double check the paperwork sometimes there is underlying issues. This is pretty in depth. Selectman Snow stated this application doesn't bind the Board to anything. The Board should be receiving a letter saying if we are eligible or not. Selectman Robie felt Selectman Snow has explained himself to the best of his ability. He recommends they see what comes back on this. Selectman Snow said he would email the Board on all of the updates. Road Agent Lewis pointed out this has to be in by November 1st and it wouldn't give any time to go to a Town meeting. This isn't much time. Selectman Snow replied we aren't going to get any money until February or March of next year. The Board could go through 41:14-a and the Board could make a decision to put this on the ballot for next March. Selectman Robie thought they should wait and see what comes back. He is not in favor of this. Chairman Kelley asked if the application is in will DES notify us that we apply for the grant. Selectman Snow replied yes. Selectman Robie said please don't do this to the Board again. Selectman Soares agreed and pointed out he wouldn't like it if anyone else did it.

The Board to accept Building Inspector John Ciardi's resignation letter. Selectman Robie motioned to accept John Ciardi's resignation letter with regrets. Seconded by Selectman Duarte. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Public meeting minutes of 9/12/11 & 09/19/11. Selectman Soares motioned to accept the public meeting minutes of September 12th, 2011 and the September 19th, 2011 as presented. Seconded by Chairman Kelley. All were in favor. Motion carried.

School Generator: Selectman Robie noted the Town has been reimbursed \$70,000 on the grant.

Any Other Business

The Board to authorize payment of payroll checks and accounts payable checks. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of payroll manifest number 000645-02, checks to be dated 09/22/2011, with a total gross payroll amount of \$15,576.25. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of accounts payable manifest number 090411 checks to be dated 09/22/2011, with a total amount of \$22,824.81. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of payroll manifest number 000646-03, checks to be dated 09/29/2011, with a total gross payroll amount of \$17,410.24. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of accounts payable manifest number 090511 checks to be dated 09/29/2011, with a total amount of \$14,006.39. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Announce Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting Date. The next Selectmen's meeting will be October 10th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Kelley motioned to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andria Hansen
Recording Secretary