

~~Unapproved~~Approved
Candia's Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes
October 23RD, 2017

Attendance: Chairman Carleton Robie, Vice-Chair Susan Young, Selectman Scott Komisarek, Selectman Russ Dann, Selectman Mark Laliberte, and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen.

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

Approval of Previous Minutes: Public and Non-Public meeting minutes of 10/9/17. Selectman Komisarek moved to accept the October 9th, 2017 Selectmen's Public minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Laliberte moved to accept the October 9th Selectmen's Non-Public meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Komisarek. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Laliberte moved to seal the October 9th Selectmen's Non-Public meeting minutes. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Board to set the tax rate. Chairman Robie explained the total amount to be appropriated and the total annual budget was \$11,511,049. The total percentage to maintain in the unassigned fund balance is 11.5%. The amount to maintain in the unassigned fund balance is \$1,323,771. They have \$1,597,735 in the unassigned fund balance. This leaves \$273,964 available to reduce the tax rate. Before they applied the unassigned fund balance to that the tax rate would be \$22.67. The current tax rate is \$22.11. He would suggest that they keep that tax rate at \$22.11. If they use the whole fund balance of \$273,964 they reduce the tax rate to \$21.98. If they use \$222,000 they can leave the tax rate at \$22.11 with no change and leaving \$51,960 to add to the fund balance. Selectman Komisarek asked what the purpose was of leaving \$51,960 in the fund balance. Chairman Robie explained they maintain a fund balance of 11.5% which the DRA says you can leave between 10% and 15%. They made a policy a few years ago because the fund balance was everywhere. Some Boards would reduce it down to the minimum. They have built that up and it is a good number. His preference is to keep the tax rate the same. So if next if they need to increase and the tax rate goes up and there isn't any extra money in the fund balance (above 11.5%) it would be nice to have an extra \$50,000 there. He asked Accounting/Payroll Specialist Donna Becker if she showed any revenue sources of why they had \$273,964. Accounting/Payroll Specialist Donna Becker said she had the auditors MS-5 which is their financial report. It shows the assets, liabilities and the equity funds if anyone wanted to take a look at it. Selectman Laliberte said he was okay with this and they aren't raising the taxes which is always good. His preference is to make sure the tax rate is as low as possible, but he is also good that they are protected for a rainy day. He is fine with keeping the tax rate where it is and they will have a little extra cushion. Selectman Dann asked if they could pull from this fund balance for something unknown. Is that what it is there for? Chairman Robie said it would have to be for an emergency. It would have to be for something catastrophic. Some of this is owed to us. They don't have 1.3 million in the bank. They have \$800,000 maybe. Selectman Laliberte asked if 11.5% was a standard number around the towns. Payroll Specialist Donna Becker said she hasn't polled the other towns. Selectman Laliberte just wanted to know if it was common knowledge. Payroll Specialist Donna Becker said she could call around and find out what other

towns do. Selectman Laliberte replied if the policy was set in the past at 11.5% there was a reason why. Chairman Robie explained the minimum is 5% and the maximum is 15%. Selectman Laliberte thought 11.5% was a good number then. Chairman Robie said 10 years ago when he came on Board the 5% number was used. If you do the math there was no cash. No they have some cash in the unreserved fund balance. Selectman Young said they have school operating budget of \$8.5 million and they end in July. If they give us unencumbered funds that they return will that affect the first billing. Chairman Robie said it wouldn't. Payroll Specialist Donna Becker thought the schools rolled over into their own budget. Chairman Robie said in the amount of \$273,964 that is what the town returned. He didn't know what was unexpended last year because he wasn't on the Board. The school was 160,000 and the town was 60,000 and then unanticipated revenue makes this \$273,000. The school will show up next year. Their money is in this \$273,000 that they returned. Selectman Young asked where the state education tax was. This also goes into the tax rate. Is that lumped into the school operating budget. There is a town operating budget, school, and county tax. She asked if the state education tax was in that amount. Chairman Robie said it was. The school does the math. They take in the money and spend the money. We appropriate it and budget for it in anticipation. Selectman Young agreed with keeping the tax rate the same. Selectman Laliberte moved that they set the 2017 tax rate at \$22.11 with additional monies being returned to the unassigned fund balance. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Monday, October 23rd, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. to accept quarterly grants and donations in accordance with RSA 31:95-b, III (a). Chairman Robie opened the public hearing. Selectman Laliberte announced the grants received for the third quarter. The grants received were: State of NH – Highway Block Grant in the amount of \$34,292.03 and State of NH – Fire Department Equipment reimbursement grant in the amount of \$5,308.62. The grand total for third quarter grants is \$39,600.65. Selectman Laliberte announced a donation was received from Wal-Mart (received in 2016) for the Welfare Department in the amount of \$1,500. Selectman Young moved to accept the donation from Wal-Mart in the amount of \$1,500. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. All were in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Robie confirmed that they accepted the Highway Block grant for \$96,000. Road Agent Lewis said they accepted it as soon as they got it. There was discussion about the Highway Block grant. Chairman Robie asked if they accepted the \$96,000 for the Highway Block grant in August. Road Agent Lewis said they accepted it in August. Selectman Young asked if the Fire Department grant went back to the Fire Department because they had to pay for it. Road Agent Lewis explained the Highway Block grant goes into the general fund. Chairman Robie said with the Highway Department you could count your Highway Block grant as your revenue so if the budget is \$400,000 you can say we are going to get \$96,000 from the State of New Hampshire which is going to go into the general fund and it will offset that. Road Agent Lewis explained that it has averaged through the years 1/3 of his highway budget and it is offset by the block grants. Chairman Robie said the \$96,000 that was received that was put in a couple of years ago and the arrangement that was made is that they would give back to the towns. They received the amount that they usually receive for highway grant money. Selectman Young asked about the Fire Department equipment and did they have to pay for that. Selectman Dann noted that it say reimbursement. Selectman Young thought it went to the general fund. Fire Chief Young said it has to come back to the Fire Department budget. They can't keep going after grants. Chairman Robie explained it comes back to the town and then it goes back to the Fire Departments line.

Selectman Young moved to accept the grants received for the third quarter in the amount of \$39,600.35. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. All were in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Robie closed the public hearing.

The Board to approve the Exit 3 option agreement for Purchase and Sale. Chairman Robie explained the Option to Purchase agreement went before the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board and they've had two public hearings. They didn't have a petition against this. Selectman Young moved to approve the option to purchase agreement for Exit 3 (Map 410 Lots 161, 162, and 162-1). Seconded by Selectman Komisarek. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Al Hall to give an update on the Lamprey River Advisory Committee. It was noted that Al Hall had a previous committee. He will give an update at the November 13th meeting.

Conservation Commission Chair Susan Wilderman to discuss a potential donated easement on Chester Road. Conservation Commission Chair Susan Wilderman presented the Board with a handout of the potential donated easements. She noted it started this past spring. The Fowlers on Chester Road have been working with Bear Paw Regional Greenways to find a way to put a conservation easement on their land on Chester Road. She is happy to share with you through the efforts of Bear Paw they were able to find grants to help with this project. The first print out was a map of the property. This particular piece of land involves a bigger area. The whole area of Chester Road, Crowley Road and Patten Hill Road is the Fordway Brook Preserve and it was done about ten years ago with federal funds. It is a large portion of conservation land. This particular project is just the Fowlers but Bear Paw is also working with the Sanborn's to secure federal fund grants to preserve their large portion of land. In the next year or so there is a possibility through grant funding this large portion of land will be able to be conserved through grant funds, which is pretty impressive due to the quantity of land there. When you look at the maps of Southern New Hampshire one thing that our Conservation Commission has been trying to focus on because they know their funds are limited. One of their goals when they are looking and working with potential projects that are coming to us is how it fits within the co-occurrence quality of the land, the habitat, and the water preservation. This whole portion of Crowley Road and where the Fowler's and the Sanborn's live is the highest co-occurrence for wildlife habitat preservation that the State has. This particular land has value and she wants to share that context with them so they understand that. The land is going to be donated and you can see there is a value of that there is no price to us for the value of the land. What they are looking at doing as a Conservation Commission is what is called a transaction cost. Half of that transaction cost is going to be covered by a grant and if you look down midway through you can see the proposed project funding. The total cost of this particular project comes in at \$15,500 largely due to the fact that this is a donated easement. The Merrimack Conservation Partnership has been secured to help with \$6,666 leaving \$8,834 that we as a Conservation Commission are looking at paying from their conservation fund to help make this project come to fruition. The reason we are coming to the Selectmen is that several years ago as we were working on different projects we needed to work together because ultimately, although the Conservation Commission has a stewardship over the conservation fund, the Selectmen sign off on projects. So before they move forward any further with this project they wanted to know that the Select Board was behind us and with us on this. Selectman Young asked Susan if she knew what the fund balance was. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said it was approximately \$240,000. What they are looking at

here is a transfer cost and as they think about how to best leverage and use funds that they have this is a good situation. Especially if you look at it from conservation prospective, she wanted to share that with the Board and answer any questions they may have about it. Selectman Komisarek said he was curious about the Sanborn property and the wildlife and you see that wide open field, so is it the idea that everything will go to timber. He is just getting an idea on how it is managed. CC Chair Susan Wilderman referred to the printout and there is a piece of land that is already preserved through a farmland grant. This took place awhile ago and it is called prime agricultural soil. What the Sanborn's are working on with grants is a parcel of land that comes up and around that connects to the Fordway Brook. Selectman Komisarek said they have had the conversation about managing the timber, so over time you want to go in and harvest. How would this be managed. CC Chair Susan Wilderman explained when the Fowler's go to sell their property this particular piece of forested land; it can't be developed because the Fowler's have relinquished the right to that. If someone buys their parcel of land this land will have restrictions on how it can be used, but often an easement will be written such that the landowner that does own this has the ability to do selective cutting and so forth. It is preventing what is happening at the other end of Crowley Road from happening. It is almost like a big rectangle of space that hopefully will be preserved in its entirety. Why does that matter from a water perspective? We are the headwaters for four watersheds, meaning that land in Candia drains in four different directions. This particular area is where the Fordway area begins and it is the start to the Exeter watershed. Anything that you read about water quality, it begins in the upper watershed. This river starts on this property. This has water quality benefits for that. We as a town with Bear Paw would hold the easement. Selectman Young asked how this affects the town in general. She asked how it affects the town tax wise. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said if they go back to Cost and Community Service studies around the state they know that open space does have value for helping keep tax rates low. This would be a financial piece of the discussion. She would say as a town, as water becomes more of a challenge in Southern New Hampshire regulations on how we protect the watersheds are going to change. It is already starting to happen in the Lamprey River Watershed. The more that we as a town position ourselves as protecting the watershed, the better off we are. This is one of the hardest pieces to visualize because they all have wells and they all get water from their wells. They don't watch water go down through the ground and get purified. You can't see that so it is hard to see a value on that. In a lot of respects as a town that drains water in four different directions we actually have a pretty big responsibility as a town that would be known as having land that is protecting those waters. In a sense we are being a good neighbor by looking at how we use the watersheds around us. Selectman Young asked how many acres was this? CC Chair Susan Wilderman said there is 6 acres of field and 27 acres of forest land. Essentially she is asking permission from the Board that you'll support us if this goes forward when we bring a paper that you have to sign. She didn't want to go down the road of all the work that goes into it and then not have that. Selectman Laliberte said he sat through this during the Conservation Commission meeting and he abstained from the vote because he wanted to be able to vote on it here. He thought it was a very nice donation from the Fowler's and what the Sanborn's have going on as well. He did think that all that is going on with Crowley Woods to show that at least in certain areas of the town, in areas that we find that conservation is important, they are making that commitment. This is not scrub land. In that meeting they talked about other land that they looked at and decided it wouldn't be worth the money to be committing to that, it would be better for developing or some other use. This is the type of thing they should be conserving and the fact

that they are going to be using less than 3% of what is in the kiddy to do that is responsible on the Conservation Commission's part and be responsible on the Town's part. Selectman Komisarek thought it was good planning. Selectman Dann agreed with what they were saying. He asked what type of timber growth was on that. Has it been clear cut one time? CC Chair Susan Wilderman thought it would be wise for them to understand that they as a town wouldn't have the right to go in and harvest that. Chairman Robie thought it was just cut. CC Chair Susan Wilderman noted they have over the years cut for themselves. She would say the forest land around us is 80 to 100 years old. This whole rectangular area would fall within that 80 to 100 year old forest. Selectman Dann said when it is sold can they go in and cut for firewood. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said it will be written in the easement the acceptable uses for it. The thing about conservation isn't you can't use your land anymore. It is giving up one piece of that right which is the development rights of that parcel. Selectman Komisarek asked if it could be potentially used for agricultural purposes down the road. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said she would doubt that they would ever do that because the soils don't match and it becomes very hilly. If she was a person living there she probably wouldn't use that forested land in that way. She could forward the Board a sample easement. In essence the development of building would be given up. Road Agent Lewis said usually the only two things that are normally restricted is a subdivision or a mining pit. You can still move dirt to one part of the property to another. You just can't sell the soil, but you can log it, clear fields or build an animal barn. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said it goes back to what you are giving up; it's what is being relinquished. Chairman Robie asked if the Conservation Commission voted on this. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said that the Conservation Commission is in favor of pursuing this project. Selectman Laliberte said it was 4 to 0 with one abstention. Chairman Robie confirmed they have already turned in two appraisal bills to the Selectmen's Office. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said in order to move forward on a particular project you need to have the appraisals done. This is how they know what the appraised value is for this and they want to be able to move forward with this particular project. The reason we are making those steps forward is that both projects are pursuing grants. The only reason both project would be able to be done is through the work of grants and before grant applications can be done appraisal work had to be done. Selectman Dann asked if those bills are due now. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said those come out of the Conservation Easement. In the past they have not had to come to you for appraisal work. They have run into challenges this is why she wanted to come early and have the conversation which usually has come into the sign off stage on a project. They should be able to work together and come to a conclusion on a project. They have been challenged to be the stewards of it. There is this piece where we need to be a team because you have to sign off. This is why she is here at the meeting. Resident Joyce Bedard asked if the Sanborn's and the Fowler's were deeding their property to the town. CC Chair Susan Wilderman explained they are simply giving up their rights to develop the land. So when they sell it the person who buys it from them they are buying it because the development right has been relinquished and that is going to impact the selling price of the property. When you buy this piece of land you are buying all of those rights. If a piece has been relinquished you are not buying that piece of it. Resident Joyce Bedard asked if there was a transfer cost to the town. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said even though there is a donation of over \$100,000 piece of land there is different fees involved with that process. In light of a landowner who is giving a donation, they as a Commission felt that it is valuable to honor them for that gift in helping them pay for the transaction costs. Resident Joyce Bedard said she was confused because they are not gifting it, they are keeping it. She doesn't understand the

terminology. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said what it means is that we as a town are not buying the development rights. If they were to buy it this project would be \$120,000. Instead she is coming to this Board with this project and it is going to cost \$8,834 as opposed to the Town buying it outright that is the difference. Chairman Robie clarified they are donating hundred and something dollars as a donation. If they came to the Town for the hundred and something dollars for the development rights you would be asking us for them. CC Chair Susan Wilderman replied that is what she just said. Instead of this just costing us buying that they are helping with the transaction cost. Chairman Robie said he understood completely and it is generous of Mr. and Mrs. Fowler to donate their property and there is nothing wrong with the town paying for the cost of the easement. That is a good deal. This is as good as it gets. Selectman Young said when we get open space money the Conservation Commission gets a portion of that money. Chairman Robie clarified they get a portion of Current Use penalties. Chairman Robie stated the Board is in favor of this process. CC Chair Susan Wilderman said she will be back.

The Board to authorize payment of payroll checks and accounts payable checks. Selectman Laliberte announced the grand total for accounts payable and payroll checks for October 19th and October 26th was \$77,351.13. Selectman Dann moved to approve the accounts payable and payroll checks for October 19th and October 26th in the amount of \$77,351.13. Seconded by Selectman Komisarek. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Other Business

Eagle Scout project. Selectman Komisarek said he did talk with Trent about the Eagle Scout project and this nice weather could change at any moment. Also he turns 18 on the 17th of December. He said he was going to get right on that and that was after the last meeting. He still hasn't done anything, so he was going to call Bob Martel. He didn't know if this was our responsibility. He has about 90% of the project done, but he needs to wrap it up. He didn't know if he should leave it alone. Selectman Young said maybe he can give him a little reminder. The Town is a party to this and he would like to see him finish it. He was asked at the last meeting to touch base with Trent which he did. Selectman Laliberte didn't think it could hurt, it is town property. Selectman Komisarek said he will call Bob Martel tomorrow.

Solid Waste report (continued from 10/9). Selectman Dann read from the remainder of Facility Supervisor Whitcher's monthly report (see attached). The only reason he is bringing these forward was because they weren't available last meeting.

Recycling Center equipment: Selectman Dann mentioned that they talked about the equipment replacement at the Budget Hearing in September. They have a piece of equipment that is 19 plus years old. There 6,800 hours on it and it needs bushings which are approximately \$5,000. The right rear hub which caused a problem which got fixed and they don't have a bill yet. A full repair on that could cost \$1,000 to \$1,500. The thing he is looking at right now is should they put it in the budget or put in a warrant article to do this. He is looking at what the Board might want to do and the cost would be about \$60,000. They could do some research, but he doesn't know what a deadline to put it in the Budget would be or put it in as a warrant article. Right now the revenues at the Recycling Center brought in \$33,710 plus there is \$15,000 that is not in that at this point. This has just come to light and the hubs on that case hadn't been taken care of and

everything is so loose. Can it be taken care of and they take it easy on it and maybe it will get us through March. He felt they could do it, but something has to happen this next year. If it can keep running until next September that would be great that would give us some time, but he needs some direction on what the Board wants to do to price out equipment. He would also like a deadline on when to have this by. Selectman Laliberte asked what the estimated life on it would be if you do the repairs. Selectman Dann said that would be about \$6,000 to \$7,000. He's not sure about the life of the machine everything else is aging on it too. Do you put in 10% of the cost of a new piece of equipment? Also there are lease programs that they have for municipalities. He noted that Chuck had mentioned that it could be spread out over a period of time but we pay interest on it. There is something that has to be addressed. If this machine goes down then they have the one machine that has problems with it too. Selectman Young thought that Chuck didn't want a new machine. Chairman Robie thought if you go back and read our minutes from the Budget Committee on September 19th he thought that Mr. Whitcher was on a mission to get us prices and a leases option for the same thing. He thought his was discussed that day. Selectman Dann clarified that Chuck said he was all set. We probably cursed ourselves because we mentioned it and talked about it. This is a piece of equipment that costs a lot of money. He felt he could get another year out of it. Selectman Komisarek said he has a 1998 Chevy truck and he just crossed that line where he is not going to put another dime into it. You reach a point with an asset and you aren't going to put 10% of the value of new one into it. He thought that was what Mark was trying to get at. He thought it would be good to have some information, because if this piece of equipment is going to keep costing us over the next year. The next thing you know you put \$20,000 and that is throwing money away. He doesn't know about this piece of equipment, but it sounds like it is past the point of return. Selectman Laliberte said if they do this does it have three more years of like left. Selectman Dann said it has 6,800 hours on it, he wouldn't say they are going to get three more years of life out of that piece of equipment. This was brought to him and he thought it is something the Board should be aware of. He can tell Chuck to get us some pricing. He mentioned the bushings and if they seize up it can crack near the bushings. He asked the Board for a deadline if they wanted to put it in the budget. If he comes back next month is that a good time frame. Chairman Robie said probably by the next meeting because the process is going to start here shortly. Selectman Young said she meets with the Budget Committee on the 8th and that is when the Selectmen meet with them. Selectman Dann said if they don't put it in next year's budget when can he submit a warrant article. Chairman Robie said a couple of years ago they went through the same thing with a baler down there they keep putting in thousands and thousands of dollars into a used piece of equipment that was always broke. They bought a baler which cost \$80,000. They put \$80,000 in their budget one year and they took it out the next year. If they need to replace a 20 year old piece of equipment the Board needs to buy a new one or we are going to lease one. He asked if the Board wanted to make a decision right now to put \$65,000 in the budget for a piece of equipment that they know we are going to need. Or do they put \$15,000 in the budget and lease a piece of equipment. Selectman Young said she didn't like leasing. Chairman Robie didn't think it was feasible to lease something and have it sit there 5 days a week. If you total up the amount of hours that a piece of equipment is used down there per week it is about 16 hours. Selectman Young said how about Chuck gets some prices and if we present on the 8th that we might be adding \$60,000 in and the present it to the Budget Committee. This is a preliminary. They're going to vote on it on the 9th. They are supposed to vote on the Town budget. It doesn't have to be the 9th. If they can be honest with them and say this is what they have at this point.

Selectman Laliberte said they are talking about a piece of equipment that is going to be needed. They have a general ball park on where it is and they should put the number in right now. For some reason it was off, they can adjust accordingly. Chairman Robie said or they can take it out of the equipment and maintenance line because they won't be doing any maintenance on a new piece of equipment. It should last a long time. Selectman Laliberte said it was a good faith message to Chuck and the team that we support them. Selectman Dann said they can get some prices and he will let Chuck know tomorrow. Chairman Robie said they need a number to put in the budget. Selectman Young said he needs some time. Chairman Robie said get a number and they will move on. Selectman Komisarek asked if they need something formal from the Select Board for Selectman Young to present. Selectmen Young clarified the Budget Committee is meeting with all of the Selectmen. Selectman Komisarek said then they don't need to take any action on this tonight then. Chairman Robie said they can if they want, if the Selectmen want to add \$65,000 to the budget they can. If they don't they will just wait. Selectman Komisarek said they should wait to see what the price is and then add the right number in. Selectman Young said that is what she would do, because there are quite a few questions already. She would wait until they have some figures. Selectman Laliberte said they do place holders all of the time, this is a place holder. It is a number "x" to buy a piece of equipment that they have an approximate amount. If they want to make it \$60,000 or \$40,000, the feeling was Selectman Dann wanted a commitment from them to buy, lease, or repair. They took lease and repair off of the map. They are all supporting of buying the equipment. If they are supporting this lets put the place holder in there as a message to Chuck and a message to the Budget Committee that this is what we are intending to do. Selectman Komisarek said he didn't think that Selectman Young was disagreeing, she was saying let's take a couple of days and get the right number. Then they will have the right number when they go in on the 8th. Either way it doesn't matter they are going to achieve the same exact thing. Chairman Robie said maybe he has a cap of \$65,000 and if it goes he might not vote for it. If they are not here to have a meeting to discuss it they should probably make a decision now. Selectman Komisarek said they will make a decision up to a certain number and if the price comes in at \$61,000 then they will adjust it down. Selectman Young suggested finding the \$60,000 out of the budget they have now that they presented. They can take it out of the budget they have already given them. Chairman Robie asked where they are going to take it out of. Selectman Dann moved that they put \$65,000 in the budget for a new machine for the Recycling Center. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. Chairman Robie, Selectman Komisarek, Selectman Laliberte, Selectman Dann were in favor and Selectman Young was opposed. Motion carried on a vote of 4 to 1 (4-1-0).

Payroll line: Selectman Dann said he has been talking about payroll with other towns. They have one line item for payroll. He asked if the Board has ever thought of doing this. He thought the school does it that way. Selectman Young said theirs is separate. There was discussion about combining all of the salaries into one line. Chairman Robie said he likes to look at the budget and look at how much each department spends on wages. He thought it was good for the public to know. Selectman Dann said they would still know. Selectman Young pointed out that you would have to ask. Selectman Komisarek asked what the advantage would be. Selectman Dann said there isn't an advantage; the whole town would be in one line.

Payroll increases and COLA: Selectman Dann wanted to clarify that all raises are effective January 1st. Chairman Robie said if they are authorized by the Board. Selectman Dann asked

about COLA and when was that set and how. He asked how they came up with the COLA amount. Selectman Komisarek said it was the CPI. Chairman Robie added and Social Security. Selectman Dann asked if they ever voted on it. Chairman Robie said it was the first thing that came up at the budget meeting. Selectman Dann asked if they voted to accept that. Selectman Laliberte said they accepted the budget and that was included in all of that. Remember that 2.1% was included in every single line item, so every time they approved a department they approved the 2.1%.

Adding a line item: Selectman Dann said he would like to add a Recycling/Energy Committee line to the budget. He would like to budget \$500 in the line. It would be used for going to conferences. Most committees have a line item. Selectman Laliberte said they should have come to the budget meeting to make a pitch for their committee. Selectman Dann said it didn't happen and he is presenting it now. Selectman Young said she tried this last year with everyone's salaries and she never heard the last of it. She is definitely against this based on principal. It should have been done in September. Selectman Dann said the budget hasn't been set yet. Selectman Young said it wasn't set when she asked for the increases. Selectman Komisarek said \$500 in the grand scheme of things is really nothing, but he is trying to understand, to him it was an advisory committee. These guys wanted to do this and help the town. The \$500 isn't that much but it is more the principal. Selectman Young said if you go back in the minutes you can see. She probably brought up how much this was going to cost. At the time there were five members and there weren't associate members. They only voted on five members and it was totally volunteers. It wouldn't cost anything and now it does. She appreciates what they do, but it seems that no one volunteers for anything and everyone expects to be paid for everything. Selectman Dann said they are not being paid they just want to be reimbursed. Every committee and board is volunteers and they all have a line item. Selectman Young said she could understand what he was saying and she appreciates the work that they do. Chairman Robie didn't think this was going to move any further this evening.

Town Election at CYAA: Selectman Laliberte said he has spoken with Rob Jones and the CYAA would be happy and thrilled to host the elections. He will be getting an updated Building Use permit to Chairman Robie from the CYAA. He will make sure he gets a copy to make sure he doesn't have any questions.

Selectman Laliberte said he will not be at the November 13th Selectmen's meeting he will be on vacation in Belize.

Town Election at CYAA continued: Chairman Robie asked Selectman Laliberte if he would like to make a motion to approve the location. Selectman Laliberte moved that they have the Town and School Election on Tuesday March 13th, 2018 at the CYAA. Seconded by Selectman Young. All were in favor. Motion carried

Road Agent wages: Chairman Robie said they have done a couple of hundred thousand dollars worth of paving and it looks really good. He didn't see where Road Agent Lewis put in for wages. How do you get paid? Road Agent Lewis said with paving he usually doesn't charge or he puts in the Road Agent's wages. You'll see once a month he puts in \$200 worth of his Road Agent's wages. Chairman Robie asked how many tons do they put down. Road Agent Lewis

said about 4,000 ton. Chairman Robie said he was just curious. Road Agent Lewis said its one of those things; he doesn't have rates for a rake or a shovel. Chairman Robie said he sees the Road Agent wages and he looks at the amount of effort that goes into coordinating that.

Planning Board meeting for Crowley Woods Public Hearing: Fire Chief Young thought they needed a bigger room for the Crowley Woods meeting in November. He doesn't want to be the bad guy and make everyone leave. He hopes this can be done ahead of time and they schedule somewhere else.

Crowley Woods signs: Chairman Robie asked about the signs around town that are negative towards Crowley Woods. Selectman Young said there is a group. Chairman Robie asked if the signs are endorsed by the group. Selectman Young didn't think they put their names on it and she thought they had to. Building Inspector Murray asked if they were political signs. Chairman Robie said if they are trying to influence a Board which they are trying to do such as Town elected officials. Selectman Young said you are supposed to tell where you got the money from and who paid for it and the group that sponsored it. The sign company will usually tell you that. Resident Joyce Bedard said she didn't know about the signs, but there are petition going around. The signs look handmade to her. Chairman Robie said they are political in his opinion, because they are influencing an elected position. Selectman Young asked who enforced that. Chairman Robie said the Code Enforcement Officer. Selectman Dann thought they were informing the public. Chairman Robie asked what they are informing the public of. Selectman Dann replied read the signs, no tax relief etc. Chairman Robie said they are informing people negatively. Selectman Laliberte regardless of what they think of Crowley Woods. The fact is what they are trying to do is get some sort of vote from either the Planning Board or the Selectmen. They are looking to influence a vote and that is political. Whoever puts those up should put it in marker who it is paid for by. They don't have to take them down as long as they put something on the signs. Selectman Komisarek asked if they know who is heading up the effort. Building Inspector Murray said he didn't have a contact person. Selectman Young said when someone put up signs in front of the Courthouse, she called the LGC and they'll tell you exactly what the rules are.

Selectman Komisarek moved to adjourn 8:17 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.