

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

January 6, 2014



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Thomas Gauthier; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Tom Dwyer and James P. McGeough; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Administrative Assistant Joyce Blanchard; Selectmen Karen Falcone excused.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gauthier called the public session to order at 6:30 PM at the Epping Town Hall.

ADJOURN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A:3 II. (a)(b)(c)(d)(e) Personnel; reputation (e) legal

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to adjourn to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.

RECONVENE

Chairman Gauthier called the public session to reconvene at 7:00 PM at the Epping Town Hall. Chairman Gauthier welcomed Selectman McGeough back to meetings, glad he was feeling better and great to see him.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

SEAL NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – January 6, 2014

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to accept the Non-Public Minutes of January 6, 2014. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from December 23, 2013 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to accept the minutes of December 23, 2013. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 3-1. Selectman McGeough abstained.

SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for week ending 01/17/2014, in the amount of \$71,793.69 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for week ending 12/31/2013 and 1/03/2014, in the amount of \$919,592.17. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 1/02/2014 in the amount of \$82,083.03 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 01/02/2014 in the amount of \$82,083.03. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.

BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS

Proposal from Stantex Consulting Services to conduct water quality sampling at the Epping Waste Landfill was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the proposal from Stantex Consulting Services to conduct water quality sampling at the Epping Waste Landfill. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.

Purchase Order to Stantex Consulting Services to conduct water quality sampling at the Epping Waste Landfill in the amount of \$8,000 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the purchase order to Stantex Consulting Services to conduct water quality sampling at the Epping Waste Landfill in the amount of \$8,000. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

TIMBER TAX

Timber Tax Levy for William Fletcher, 36 Depot Road, Map and Lot 035-001 & 002 in the amount of \$354.26 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Timber Tax Levy for William Fletcher, 36 Depot Road, Map and Lot 035-001 & 002 in the amount of \$354.26. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

VETERAN'S CREDIT

Veteran's Credit for Daniel Donovan at 40 Dorothy Drive Map and Lot 024-053 and James Johnson at 49 Plumer Road Map and Lot 015-011 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Veteran's Credit for Daniel Donovan at 40 Dorothy Drive Map and Lot 024-053 and James Johnson at 49 Plumer Road Map and Lot 015-011. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.

APPOINTMENT

7:15 Epping Youth Coalition

Kim Milliken, Sandy Anderson and Linda Daigle requested permission by the Board of Selectmen to form a committee to research a community center. They would like to find out if there is an interest from the public to move forward with a community center. Selectman McGeough explained the findings from the Space Needs Committee.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the forming of a committee regarding a community center with a 90 day progress report made to the board including the name of the committee and their goals. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained that the list of town officials to be voted on in March is on the town web site. The filing period for those positions is January 22 to January 31 at 5PM.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Dwyer

Selectman Dwyer thanked the town employees that worked so hard with the roads removing the snow. The employees at the dump also that came in on Thursday after Christmas, it was a busy day for them.

Selectman Jordan

Selectman Jordan wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed Jim back to the board.

Selectman Falcone

Excused

Selectman McGeough

Selectman McGeough thanked the 200 people who sent get well cards, his wife and family, the Goodrich and the McPhee family and the entire town's people for their good wishes. He is feeling better but has a long way to go. On behalf of his wife and himself thank you everyone for all the help.

Chairman Gauthier

No Report

APPOINTMENTS

7:30 ROAD NAME CHANGE

Selectman Gauthier read the abutters names on Old Hedding Road and Railroad Avenue east. Hank Letourneau spoke as the liaison to the state regarding these E911 road names changes. The suggested road name changes are as follows: Railroad Ave. east renamed Janell Road, Old Hedding Road east renamed Coffin Road, Old Hedding Road west renamed Fogg Road.

The Public Hearing was opened to the public. Jim Morrissey from Towle Road (previously High Road) explained that 911 had been used recently for the new named road and 911 did not have Towle Road in the system. Luckily there was not a life lost but it is very upsetting. Over the holidays UPS, Fed Ex, flowers and other delivery businesses did not recognize the new name change. Mr. Morrissey would like to propose a moratorium until everything is figured out at the state level. Mr. Letourneau had called his contact in Concord before the meeting and found out that there was a computer glitch do to a new system being added to 911. The problem is being addressed.

Randall Greenwood, 16 Old Hedding Road would like the changes, if they have to be made to be put on hold until the computers are changed. Then he asked for an explanation of why Old Hedding Road was being changed. Chairman Gauthier explained that is suggested by the state to change roads that sound alike. Selectman McGeough clarified that the Police and Fire Department are in favor of these road name changes for emergency call responses. He doesn't want the town to be liable. Mr. Greenwood stated that Old Hedding Road and Hedding Road doesn't even sound alike.

Kevin Grover, 14 Old Hedding Road was very angry over this proposed change of road change. His family has lived on Old Hedding Road for a long time. He doesn't think Old Hedding Road and Hedding Road sound enough alike to permit this to happen.

Chairman Gauthier closed the public meeting.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to have Mr. Letourneau notify all the commercial businesses regarding road name changes by letter. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to postpone any road name changes until confirmation from the state that 911 have all their computers fixed. Seconded by Chairman Gauthier. Motion carried 4-0.

7:45 BOND HEARING

Dennis Koch, Public Works Director discussed the LAND PURCHASE FOR TOWN WATER WELLS warrant article. The town holds the bond but the Water and Sewer Department will pay the bond amount. Mr. Koch explained the need for the 5 existing wells, the price of the land and how the bond payments will be paid. The Hoar Pond Wells are decreasing their output of water to the point that DES is concerned that the town will need a moratorium for water. That means no more businesses can come into Epping. Selectman Jordan commented that development in town is coming to a halt due to the lack of water. Mr. Koch explained that this water is very convenient to town which affects the cost of piping and the pump

station. The town has voted on this in the past. Importantly this is the town's last chance with the present Purchase and Sales Agreement.

Chairman Gauthier opened the public meeting. The public did not have any questions. Chairman Gauthier closed the public meeting.

8:00 NH DOT

Kevin Russell, John Butler and Sally Gunn from the NH DOT came to discuss the project to repave the roadway at the intersection of Route 125 and Main Street. Sally Gunn explained the plan for a section of sidewalk at that intersection. There will be a crosswalk added with a pedestrian phase added to the lights.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to sign the maintenance contract for that section of sidewalk. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

John Butler explained the center turn lane in the middle of the "gap". The 4 lanes would continue from Walmart to the Route 27 intersection. The state is asking the town to permit and take responsibility for a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon that would stop traffic on all 4 lanes allowing crossing the highway safely to the recreational trails. Chairman Gauthier pointed out that the state owns the trail and the road; they should own the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon also. Discussion continued. Ms. Gunn will return to the NH DOT with the knowledge that the town approves of the idea of the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon but will not take over the responsibility.

Town Administrator suggested that since January 14, 2014 is the last day for any petition money articles to be finalized that the Selectmen should schedule a meeting for Tuesday to accept the articles. Chairman Gauthier agreed to schedule a meeting for January 14th at 7PM only if there is a money article passed in by then.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Administrative Assistant
JB/**

Thomas Gauthier, Chairman

Tom Dwyer, Selectman

James P. McGeough, Selectman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Date _____