

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
March 3, 2014**



ATTENDANCE

Vice Chairman James P. McGeough; Selectmen Tom Dwyer, Bob Jordan, and Karen Falcone. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Administrative Assistant Joyce Blanchard; Chairman Gauthier left after the non-public.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gauthier called the public session to order at 6:15 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 Bob Jordan Motion carried 5-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

RECONVENE

Vice Chairman McGeough called the public session to reconvene at 7:00 PM at the Epping Town Hall.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

SEAL NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – March 3, 2014

Motion by Selectman Jordan to seal the Non-Public Minutes of March 3, 2014. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from February 18, 2014 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to accept the minutes of February 18, 2014. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for week ending 2/28/2014 for \$1,059,908.85, \$750,000 for the school, \$90,000 School Impact Fees, \$33,748.58 Ambulance Lease and the town \$186,160.27 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for week ending 2/28/2014 for \$1,059,908.85. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion carried 4-0.

SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 2/27/2014 in the amount of \$94,609.80 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 2/27/2014 in the amount of \$94,609.80. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.

BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS

Purchase Order to International Salt for 200 tons of rock salt for roads in the amount of \$10,000 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the purchase order to International Salt for 200 tons of rock salt for roads in the amount of \$10,000. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works Director Dennis Koch explained that the Water and Sewer Commission has been approved for a \$15,000 matching grant from the State of NH. The plans for the grant is to update the infrastructure maps, develop an asset inventory and develop a financial strategy.

Motion by Selectman Falcone “to enter into and approve a grant agreement with DES in the amount of \$15,000 to Epping and to authorize Chair of the Board of Selectmen Tom Gauthier to sign paperwork associated with such grant on behalf of the Town”. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

7:15 APPOINTMENT - LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The Library Trustees, Michael Vose, Laurie Dudley, Charlie Goodspeed Lynn Reinhard and Paul Miliotis came in front of the Board of Selectmen asking for assistance with paying legal fees due to an employee's termination. Mr. Vose supplied budget material from 2009 to review. Selectman Jordan asked if the Library Trustees knew that they were going to have legal fees, why did they spend money from the media budget? Money should have been saved for this bill. Mr. Goodspeed explained that the trustees assumed LGC would pay the legal bill. Selectman Falcone commented that the process discussed was not followed; if it had, the burden would have been off the town. Selectman Dwyer explained his belief is that the board followed their own lawyers suggestions. Monies being transferred from non-lapsing funds to pay bills were discussed along with lapsing funds.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to pay \$3,500 from the town's legal line to pay for the legal fees of the Library Trustees with the remainder to come from the Non Lapsing Fund to pay the media bill. Seconded by Selectman Jordan for discussion.

Vice Chairman McGeough mentioned that the Auditor has made comments that the organization of the financials is not as clear as they should be from the library. Mr. McGeough also does not want the kids to suffer by changing the library schedule because the adults “screwed up”. Selectman Dwyer suggested waiting for the new board to be voted in. The Trustees can reconvene after the town vote to correct any mistakes going forward. Vice Chairman McGeough wants to make sure that the financial reports are in the town

report. The Motion was called to a vote: Motion carried 2-1-1. Selectman Falcone voted nay, Selectman McGeough abstaining.

7:45 PUBLIC HEARING - ROAD NAME CHANGE

The 911 Epping Liaison Henry Letourneau explained the reasons to change the road names of Old Hedding Road (west), Old Hedding Road (east) and Railroad Road (east) regarding duplicate road names within town. Vice Chairman McGeough opened the meeting to the public. Randy Greenwood from 16 Old Hedding Road and Doris Pond was present for the Public Hearing. Doris Pond from 54 Old Hedding Road asked for classification for the reason of the road name changes. It will be hard for her to explain to her children that the road they have lived on all their lives will be changed. She doesn't agree with the road name changes although she remembers having a house fire and the fire trucks traveling to Old Hedding Road (east). Mr. Greenwood is opposed to the road name changes. He does not want to change his deed and all the other paperwork that needs to be changed. Selectman Falcone explained that his deed does not have to be changed. Mr. Greenwood is not convinced that the road name changes will make him safer. Joyce Blanchard, 26 Elm Street explained that her address had to be changed and there wasn't that much paperwork. To her it was worth the change for safety purposes. Mrs. Blanchard had to call the ambulance for her mother in law and the ambulance went to the wrong address. Vice Chairman McGeough closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Selectman Falcone to change the road names from Old Hedding Road (west) to Fogg Road as that was the name of the original owner of the land, Old Hedding Road (east) to Coffin Road as that is the name of the family that donated the land for the transfer station and Railroad (east) to Jannell Court in memory of the old brickyard that used to be there. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer for discussion.

Selectman Dwyer asked Mr. Letourneau if Fogg Circle in Newmarket and Fogg Road in Durham would be an issue. Mr. Letourneau responded that they go through different dispatches so he doesn't believe it will be a problem. Selectman Jordan relayed his story regarding the ambulance going to the wrong address when he was sick due to the road names being similar. There was more discussion and opinions shared, basically regarding changing the information from a media standpoint such as google maps, UPS, Federal Express etc. The road name changes will happen on April 1st. The Motion was called to vote: **Motion carried 3-1. Selectman Dwyer voted nay.**

FIRE

Selectman Falcone read the resignation letter submitted by Russell Passon and Bridget Ronaghan from the Epping Fire Department.

Motion by Selectman Falcone to accept the resignations submitted by Russell Passon and Bridget Ronaghan from the Epping Fire Department. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.

ELDERLY EXEMPTION

Elderly Exemption for Reynaldo and Marjorie Doza at 34 East Delaney Road, Map and Lot 023-123 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Falcone to deny the Elderly Exemption for Reynaldo and Marjorie Doza at 34 East Delaney Road, Map and Lot 023-123 as their income exceeds the towns limit. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

DRA SALES RATIO

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained that the new DRA ratio for sales for 2013 is 101%.

CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reminded everyone that the clocks are turned forward this Saturday.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge thanked Selectman Falcone for her service in case this is her last meeting.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Dwyer reminded everyone that Tuesday is voting day.

Selectman Dwyer and Selectman McGeough offered to be present when the polls open. Chairman Gauthier, Selectman Jordan and Selectman Dwyer will be present when the polls close.

Selectman Jordan

Selectman Jordan thanked Karen for her service to the town. Serving as Chairman is a difficult job as you are on call all the time.

Selectman Jordan appealed with voters to vote yes for the land and the water. One of the Selectmen's jobs is to look out after the people and the businesses in town. The Town of Epping will have to buy water either way and this is the best solution and will have a minimal tax impact.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported that Mike King, Water Commissioner has a film on Facebook and You Tube if voters would like more information regarding Article #7.

Selectman McGeough

Selectman McGeough asked everyone to come out and vote. There are some key issues on Tuesday that needs to be voted on, it doesn't matter how you vote, just vote.

Selectman Falcone

Selectman Falcone thanked Bob and Greg for their kind words. Also, Selectman Falcone implored voters to vote. She agrees with Jim, it doesn't matter how you vote, just vote. Water and the land is critical this year, watch the video if you have any questions.

Selectman Gauthier

Absent

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Administrative Assistant**

Thomas Gauthier, Chairman

Tom Dwyer, Selectman

James P. McGeough, Selectman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Karen Falcone, Selectman

Date _____