

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
September 2, 2014**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Tom Gauthier; Selectmen James P. McGeough, Bob Jordan, and Mike Yergeau. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard. Selectman Tom Dwyer was 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 McGeough. 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 McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

RECONVENE

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

MINUTES

Minutes from August 18, 2014 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to accept the minutes of August 18, 2014. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-1. Selectmen McGeough abstained.

SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 8/28/2014 in the amount of \$90,941.59 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 8/28/2014 in the amount of \$90,941.59. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for week ending 8/29/2014 at \$252,784.85; Nortrax Backhoe is \$85,500, Dodge Police car is \$25,363 and the town is \$141,921.85 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for week ending 8/29/2014 for \$252,784.85. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

BUSINESS

FINANCE

Finance Director Lisa Fogg described the State Form MS 434 with the revised revenues. The total revenue to be used to set the tax rate will be \$4,482,600.00. Mrs. Fogg's recommendation is to set aside \$50,000 for overlay.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to agree with the recommendations for the MS 434 and the overlay. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

POLICE

Police Captain Jay Newman explained the Route 125 Signage. When the state widened the section on Route 125 near the Shell Station the DOT removed the signs that prohibit left turns from the southbound lane. There have been several motor vehicle crashes involving injuries as they try to make a left turn though 2 lanes of traffic to enter into the Shell Station. Mr. Newman has contacted the NHDOT to request the signs be replaced and he was told the request had to be made from the Board of Selectmen.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to have Police Captain Jay Newman draft a letter to the NHDOT requesting the "No Left Turn" signs be replaced and giving permission to Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge to sign the letter. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Captain Jay Newman reviewed the Highway Safety grant for the Town of Epping in the amount of \$5,335.20. The grant is called "Operation Safe Commute" which will provide more patrols to react to aggressive driving behavior and driver inattention and or distractions.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to agree to the Highway Safety grant for the Town of Epping in the amount of \$5,335.20. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Selectman McGeough requested information regarding prices for camera's installed in the police vehicles and little buddies (electronic signs) in time for the next meeting. Selectman McGeough would like to know if there is a grant available to apply for or maybe put the money into the budget for these items.

Police Captain Jay Newman announced that there will be a Drug Take Back program on September 27th, 10 AM – 2 PM at the Police Station. The DEA will destroy any unused or expired drugs safely with no questions asked.

DAR PARK

Selectman McGeough discussed the DAR Park. Conservation has agreed to donate \$5,000 to refurbish the brick walkway; a copy of those minutes will be attached. A drawing by Bob Goodrich of the park was supplied to the board showing the fence and where the granite posts need to be placed. The Legion Post #51 in Epping has agreed to pay for the inscription of wars that effected Epping. The post will start from the oldest wars to present from right to left starting at the historical society; American Revolution, War of 1812,

US Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I & II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Grenada, Persian Gulf War, Invasion of Afghanistan and the Invasion of Iraq.

Epping Garden Club member Eunice Miller reported on her meeting with Stratham Hill Nursery and the DAR Park. The Christmas tree needs to be removed and replaced, maybe with a smaller dwarf variety. The Oaks need to be taken out or trimmed and maybe replaced. An additional walkway to the monument was discussed that would be surrounded by plants. Selectman McGeough suggested selling bricks that are inscribed in memory of Veterans of Epping families to be part of the walkway. Ms. Miller will create a list of suggested plants and trees with prices for the next meeting. Selectman McGeough would like to see this project finished this fall. Selectman Yergeau offered to volunteer his time and work with Road Supervisor David Reinhold on the DAR Park.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to get 3 bids for the next meeting, estimates for the 2 walkways separately and a bid added together. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Selectman McGeough is concerned about the dumping of snow in the DAR Park which is what the road crew has done in the past. He is worried that could harm or break the granite posts. A new plan with Road Supervisor David Reinhold for snow removal downtown will be discussed.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to stop dumping snow or anything at the DAR Park. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Virginia LaPierre offered to look into a sign that designates the park as being the Sally Plumer Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She will look into a small granite stone and report back with the price.

PRIMARY ELECTION COVERAGE

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked the Selectmen about the election coverage on Sept 9th, 8AM-7PM at the Middle School Gym. Town Moderator Robert Goodrich reported to Mr. Dodge that the state is requesting 3 Selectmen all day. Selectmen Dwyer and Selectmen Yergeau can be available all day. Selectman Jordan offered to be at the poles from noon to close. Selectman McGeough will try to be available for a couple of hours in the morning. Chairman Gauthier will be out of town for the day. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge and Virginia LaPierre will be available if needed.

LARGE ASSEMBLY PERMIT

Large Assembly Permit for a road race on Camp Lee Road by Michael St. Laurent from Loco Sports on October 26th from 8AM-10:30AM was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Large Assembly Permit for a road race on Camp Lee Road by Michael St. Laurent from Loco Sports on October 26th from 8AM-10:30AM. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION

Appointment to the Rockingham Planning Commission for Brittany Howard with Dennis Koch to be the alternate as the Town of Epping representatives to the Rockingham MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) Technical Advisory Committee for the period of 3 years July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Appointment to the Rockingham Planning Commission for Brittany Howard with Dennis Koch to be the alternate as the Town of Epping representatives to the Rockingham MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) Technical Advisory Committee for the period of 3 years July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 giving permission to Chairman Gauthier to sign Appointment Slip for the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge presented the appointment slip for Jennifer Guenard to the office of Deputy Town Clerk and Tax Collector for approval. Compensation to be determined at a later date.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the appointment for Jennifer Guenard to the office of Deputy Town Clerk and Tax Collector. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced that there is a police contract negotiations meeting tomorrow night.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated that the budgets will start being reviewed on Sept. 22nd. The Police Department has offered to go first. He will make a schedule for budget reviews for the departments.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated that the electricity in the Town Hall will be shut off completely on September 20th and 27th. The electrical work will be completed on the 28th.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman McGeough

Selectman McGeough would like everyone to get out and vote, your vote does count.

Selectman McGeough asked about ETV moving upstairs. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge has a list of items that still need to be worked on with ETV. Selectman McGeough would like to have a meeting and see that list. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge assured Selectman McGeough that the sound system is wireless and seamless.

Selectman Jordan

Selectman Jordan welcomed Selectman McGeough back to the board and glad he is feeling better.

Selectman Jordan asked everyone home to vote, your vote does count.

Selectman Yergeau

Selectman Yergeau inquired about the tax deeding, any feedback? Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge answered that he hasn't heard anything.

Selectman Dwyer

Excused

Chairman Gauthier

Chairman Gauthier requested everyone on town water and sewer to conserve their use of water. The town wells are still low and we need to conserve; no outside watering. The new well should be on line next summer. The Water and Sewer Department should have an insert with an explanation for the next billing.

Chairman Gauthier would like to have a Holiday Schedule for the Transfer Station posted.

AUDIENCE

Walter Manter, Dearborn Road welcomed Selectman McGeough back. His comfort level increases knowing we have a full board.

Motion by Selectman Jordon to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Thomas Gauthier, Chairman

James P McGeough, Selectman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Bob Jordan

Date _____