

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

**July 20, 2015**



**ATTENDANCE**

Chairman Tom Gauthier; Selectmen James P. McGeough, Bob Jordan, Tom Dwyer and Mike Yergeau; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard.

**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 enter to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously. Selectman McGeough arrived late.**

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

**RECONVENE**

Chairman Gauthier called the public session to reconvene at 7:10 PM at the Epping Town Hall.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**NON PUBLIC MINUTES**

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to seal the non-public minutes of July 20, 2015. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

**MINUTES**

Minutes from July 6, 2015 as were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to accept the minutes of July 6, 2015. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

**SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST**

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 7/16/2015 in the amount of \$107,621.10 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 7/16/2015 in the amount of \$107,621.10. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST**

Accounts payable manifest for week ending 7/17/2015 at \$1,095,606.22; \$1,000,000 for the school and \$95,606.22 for the town was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for week ending 7/17/2015 at \$1,095,606.22. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **BUSINESS**

### **FIRE**

Request to Hire Kevin Wunderly as a Per Diem Fire Fighter and Paramedic at \$18.50 was submitted for approval. Mr. Wunderly works Full Time in Chester and will work in Epping on weekends.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the hiring of Kevin Wunderly as a Per Diem Fire Fighter and Paramedic at \$18.50. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

Fire Chief Don DeAngelis discussed the Ambulance 2015 Rate Change. Medicare has increased their rates so adjustments need to be made on our end. The Town needs to increase the rates to what the insurance pays.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Ambulance 2015 Rate Change and have the Fire Chief sign the form. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

Fire Chief Don DeAngelis heard from David Scott from the State DOT and they have denied our request to keep a lane open during the Route 101 bridge construction. The bridge will be totally closed with an emergency lane to cross the 4 lanes of Route 101. There are 82 homes in Epping that will be affected with traveling through Raymond and Fremont. The bridge will be closed for 6 weeks.

**Motion by Chairman Gauthier directing Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge to send a letter to the State DOT stating that the Board of Selectmen does not agree with the States decision regarding closing the bridge. It will not be safe sending the Town of Epping's emergency personnel across 4 lanes on Route 101 and there will be a liability issue. Seconded by Selectman Jordan.** Discussion continued with concerns such as the Bus Route for schools. Mr. DeAngelis will try to find out the dates of construction. The vote was taken and the **motion carried 5-0.**

## **7:15 APPOINTMENT**

School Board Member Jamie Mallett introduced the new School Superintendent, Valerie McKenney and Business Administrator Bonnie Sandstrom. Ms. McKenney explained that she had been a teacher for 17 years and a principal for 14 years. She is very excited to be the new School Superintendent in Epping and hopes to be here for the rest of her career. She finds Epping to be a very small and friendly community. Bonnie Sandstrom has been involved with the School Budget process for 15 years. The last 3 ½ have been in Fremont. Ms. Sandstrom lives in Manchester but hopes to move to Epping soon. Selectman McGeough reminded them that the next Budget Committee meeting is Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **POLICE**

Request to hire Aaron Filipowicz as a Full Time Police Officer starting August 3, 2015 at \$18.91 an hour was submitted for approval. Police Chief Michael Wallace reported that Mr. Filipowicz was chosen from 100 applicants. A brief biography was read explaining Mr. Filipowicz education, interests and experience. Mr. Wallace is hoping to have Aaron in the August police academy and contingent on him passing a medical exam.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the hiring of Aaron Filipowics as a Full Time Police Officer starting August 3, 2015 at \$18.91 an hour contingent on him passing a medical exam. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **FINANCE**

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Comstar write offs for residents totaling \$60,609.90 and transferring to collections of non-residents totaling \$20,729.51. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.** Selectman Dwyer remarked that this is higher than normal.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained that due to 2015 Primex unemployment rate change, there is a credit on the Town of Epping's account. Primex would like to credit the account; Finance Director Lisa Fogg would like to request a refund from Primex. To receive a refund, Primex needs a vote of the board and a request letter.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to receive a refund instead of a credit in the amount of \$674.99. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 5-0.**

Town of Epping Capital Assets and Depreciation Policy was submitted for approval. This is a standard form that the Auditors suggested we have on file.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Capital Assets and Depreciation Policy. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **7:30 PUBLIC HEARING**

Chairman Gauthier read the Public Hearing Notice along with the abutter list regarding the Home Occupation Application for Chris Leone, 16 Mast Road, Map and Lot 031-002. Mr. Leone would like to have a firearm cleaning and repair shop in his basement. Mr. Leone stated there will not be any signs, needs for extra parking or shooting as part of the Home Occupation. Chairman Gauthier opened the Public Hearing. As no one was in the audience; the Public Hearing was closed.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Home Occupation Application for Chris Leone, 16 Mast Road, Map and Lot 031-002 for a firearm cleaning and repair shop. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **FIRE –con't**

Fire Chief Don DeAngelis added that the Epping residents that are picked up by the Raymond ambulance are billed differently than Epping. Raymond bills privately and Epping residents are responsible for their own ambulance bill.

## **7:45 HANK LETOURNEAU – 911 ADDRESS**

Hank Letourneau, the 911 Liaison proposed to name a driveway that will remain private Waterview Farm Road. The property owner has 5 buildings that need to be numbered on 43 Holt Road, Map and Lot 027-054. The town is not responsible for a private roads.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the proposed name to a private driveway to Waterview Farm Road at 43 Holt Road, Map and Lot 027-054. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer.** The town is not responsible for a Private road, just the naming of it for 911 purposes. The vote was taken and the **motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Letourneau will have a packet with maps that will need to be approved with the new names of roads and houses listed to be signed at the next meeting.

Mr. Letourneau announced his retirement and stated that Deputy Fire Chief Bruce Chapman will be taking over for him.

## **TAX DEEDS**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge clarified that the list of property owners with delinquent taxes and will be deeded to the town, is for informational purposes only. The list will be updated daily as residents pay off their taxes.

## **APPOINTMENT**

The Planning Board discussed the need for a representative from the Town of Epping to the Rockingham Planning Commission. The Planning Board unanimously chose Chairman Joe Foley to represent the Town of Epping. Per RSA 36:46-III, the Board of Selectmen must take action on the Planning Boards nomination.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to appoint Joe Foley as a representative to the Rockingham Planning Commission from the Town of Epping. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS**

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported that there was one bid for the 2009 Dodge Police Charger that doesn't run. The bid was made by 495 Truck & Auto Recyclers in the amount of \$905.00

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to awarded the bid to 495 Truck & Auto Recyclers in the amount of \$905.00. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Jordan abstained.**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge invited the Board of Selectmen to Aroma Joe's grand opening on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Taco Bell has also paid their hookup fee.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge was not impressed with the presentation at the Rockingham County Nursing Homes Hilton Auditorium regarding a new dispatch system that he and Mr. Gauthier attended. There was not much material covered and was "a waste of time". The County Commissioners were asking the guests what their towns wanted instead of relaying what their plans are going to be. Mr. Dodge would like to meet every quarter to gather more information. Discussion continued regarding cost per town as the grant did not get approved.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated that the new chairs were are set up in the meeting room.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge received 1 bid from Dennis Gagnon for the Selectmen's Office expansion. He will try to get 2 more bids. He will try to have a PO for the expansion along with the ramp lighting that needs to be completed. The Board agreed with Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge to put a hold on the air conditioning in the meeting room until next year. There is only 2 months left of hot weather and there are other improvements that need to be finished.

## **INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

### **Selectman McGeough**

Selectman McGeough complimented the Road Crew on Coffin Road, it came out great. Thank you to the residents for being patient during the construction. Striping will be going on the road soon. Road Supervisor will finish Coffin Road with filling in the shoulders of the road.

### **Selectman Yergeau**

No Report

### **Selectman Jordan**

No Report

### **Selectman Dwyer**

Selectman Dwyer has been attending the Building/Recreation/School meetings and the Committee is moving forward with plans for an addition. There needs to be a Joint Building Committee with the school and the Board of Selectmen to discuss prints, architects and create an outline of the project. Selectman Dwyer would like to have 2 Selectmen, 2 School Board members and 5 members at large. Suggested members for example could be Recreation Director Nicole Bizzaro, Elementary Principal Mark Vallone, Charles Goodspeed, George Kimball to name a few.

Selectman Dwyer reported that Charlie Goodspeed was going to pay out of pocket for the dumpster at the Watson Academy. Mr. Dwyer doesn't think this should happen and wanted the expense to come out of the Watson operating budget. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge questioned if this could be done since the town voted not to fix the building. The grant needs to be paying for the cost.

**Motion by Chairman Gauthier authorizing Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge to find out the correct way to spend the grant money versus the operating budget for the Watson Academy Project and giving him permission to make the decisions where the expense should come from. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

Selectman Dwyer also thought that the road crew did a great job on Coffin Road.

**Selectman Gauthier**

Selectman Gauthier still wants to know what the “scoop” is on the cardboard at the Transfer Station. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge will have an answer for him at the next meeting.

Selectman Gauthier noticed that there are places on the front steps that need grouting work. We need to have those fixed.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced that the granite posts will be erected at the DAR Park when Road Supervisor David Reinhold returns from vacation. Selectman McGeough will be notified of the date before they are set. Mrs. LaPierre is having Sally Plumer DAR Park inscribed on one of the post at her expense.

**ADJOURN**

**Chairman Jordan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 5-0.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joyce Blanchard  
Executive Secretary**

---

**Thomas Gauthier, Chairman**

---

**Mike Yergeau, Selectman**

---

**James P. McGeough, Selectman**

---

**Bob Jordan, Selectman**

---

**Tom Dwyer**

Date \_\_\_\_\_