

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
March 16, 2015**



ATTENDANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gauthier called the public session to order at 6:00 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 Jordan 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 McGeough to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Selectman Jordan left the meeting.

RECONVENE

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Chairman Gauthier read the Public Hearing Notice.

Attorney Katherine Miller from Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella Law Office explained the content of the amendment to the Cable Television Franchise Agreement and the reasoning for an amendment versus a new agreement. The modifications in the agreement within the amendment includes an extension to year 2020 along with three changes. The first change is Comcast will pay tax on public right of ways as it is a state law for them to do so. The second change gives the Board of Selectmen flexibility with increasing the franchise fees up to 5%. The third item is a cash payment of \$10,000 in lieu of the Fire Station having a live programming hookup over the past years. It would cost more to have that added at the Fire Station at this time. Ms. Miller reviewed the original agreement and feels it is a strong agreement. Having an amendment is also cheaper for the town as there is less attorney fees.

Chairman Gauthier opened the Public Hearing, as no one was in attendance, the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to agree to the Cable Television Franchise Agreement, amendment and settlement. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

SEAL NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – March 16, 2015

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to accept the Non-Public Minutes of March 16, 2015. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from March 2, 2015 as were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to accept the minutes of March 2, 2015. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 3-0.

SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 3/12/2015 in the amount of \$91,231.55 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 3/12/2015 in the amount of \$91,231.55. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for week ending 3/13/2015 at \$968,954.33; \$750,000.00 for the school, \$90,000 School Impact Fee and \$128,954.33 for the town was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for week ending 3/13/2015 at \$968,954.33. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director, Dennis Koch discussed and updated the Board of Selectmen regarding Single Stream. Road Supervisor David Reinhold and Mr. Koch have met with NNRA (Northeast Resource Recovery Association) who handles recycling for municipalities around the state. They process paper and plastic for the town now. They did an analysis of different tonnages and reviewed what we use now for revenue versus what we pay to get rid of. We don't pay for transportation at present because of the agreement with Errco for mixed metal and glass. The other company that they met with is Eco Maine out of South Portland. They offer 2 different contracts for 3 years. One contract takes the recyclable items for no payment and they don't pay us anything. We have to transport everything to their facilities that is 75 miles one way. The other contract is when they can sell the items the town would get a check but when items didn't sell the town would get an invoice along with paying transportation cost. Most towns are using the first contract. Between the costs to ship glass, steel cans and losing revenue on paper, aluminum and steel cans this would cost the town \$25,000. Discussion continued regarding other changes that would occur if the town went to single stream;

reduction of personal, purchasing a 100 yard trailer, reconfiguring the Transfer Station and keeping the Stump Dump.

Chairman Gauthier commented that he thought the information would be about curbside pick-up. Selectman Yergeau remarked that a decision should be made before more money is spent on the containers at the Transfer Station. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge said there are pro's and con's with all the plans.

Motion by Chairman Gauthier to have Dennis Koch contact companies regarding curb side pick-up for trash and for single stream. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Works Director, Dennis Koch will have the information at the next meeting. Selectman Yergeau asked how much money is in the Capital Reserve fund. Mr. Koch thought that there was \$30,000-40,000, but he will check with the Finance Director to get the correct number. Mr. Koch explained that the town sent in a closure plan to the state 2010 but never heard back from the state.

Selectman McGeough asked about the snowplow budget and how much was left. Mr. Koch reported that there is 45% left on the contractor line. The salt budget is a little tight but they should get through the year.

Public Works Director, Dennis Koch gave a brief update on the new wells. Emery and Garrett has send out letters to 75 property owners asking to let them monitor their wells. That would help to develop a base line on the private wells while watching for any changes in the water. There is no date for the 7 day pump test. DES decides when the date is and won't do it in a wet spring. They will push the date to the dryer weather. After the test, water samples will be taken for analysis by the state. Once the approval comes from the state, construction can start.

The sidewalk plow was demonstrated and a tape was made of that. The next step is to meet with the manufacturer. Mr. Koch should have a purchase price for the next meeting. The machine has a snowplow, sander and a 14 foot arm for a side mower without modifying the machine.

POLICE

Purchase order to Body Armor Outlet for 17 outer carry vest carriers and 4 ballistic vests in the amount of \$5,125 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve purchase order #1314 to Body Armor Outlet for 17 outer carry vest carriers and 4 ballistic vests in the amount of \$5,125. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Purchase order to Body Armor Outlet for 18 sets of Police Explorer uniforms in the amount of \$1,737 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve purchase order #1313 to Body Armor Outlet for 18 sets of Police Explorer uniforms in the amount of \$1,737. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0. Selectman McGeough reported that the Explorers stood outside of Market Basket for 12 hours collecting money.

POLICE UNION CONTRACT

The Collective Bargaining Agreement 3 year contract that the town accepted was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement 3 year contract that the town accepted. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

FIRE

Request to hire Victoria Klink as an EMT at \$7.25 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the request to hire Victoria Klink as an EMT at \$7.25 pending the background check. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

FINANCE

State Form MS 232, 2015 Voted Appropriations in the amount of \$7,972,443 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to accept the State Form MS 232, 2015 Voted Appropriations in the amount of \$7,972,443. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau Motion carried 3-0.

ELDERLY EXEMPTION

Elderly Exemption for Frederick and Marguerite Church at Map and Lot 028-049 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to deny the Elderly Exemption for Frederick and Marguerite Church at Map and Lot 028-049. Seconded by Selectman Gauthier. Motion carried 3-0.

VETERAN'S CREDIT

Veteran's Credits for Arnold J. Towle at 106 Olde Bridge Lane, Map and Lot 020-015-026-006 and Madison Chamberlain at 61 Woodlands Drive, Map and Lot 024-074 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Veteran's Credits for Arnold J. Towle at 106 Olde Bridge Lane, Map and Lot 020-015-026-006 and Madison Chamberlain at 61 Woodlands Drive, Map and Lot 024-074. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

RAFFLE PERMIT

Raffle Permit for the 275th Birthday Committee to sell tickets for a Duck Race to be held April 25th that will raise money for the Town Parade; the fastest swimming duck will win an eleven foot kayak was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to approve the Raffle Permit for the 275th Birthday Committee to sell tickets for a Duck Race to be held April 25th that will raise money for the Town Parade; the fastest swimming duck will win an eleven foot kayak. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 3-0.

TAX DEFERRAL

Elderly Tax Deferral Application for Gladys Parker, 47 Water Street, Map and Lot 029-212 for 2014 taxes in the amount of \$1,611.75 was submitted for approval

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Elderly Tax Deferral Application for Gladys Parker, 47 Water Street, Map and Lot 029-212 for 2014 taxes in the amount of \$1,611.75. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

RENTAL OF TOWN FACILITIES

Rental of Town Facilities for the Epping Democratic Party on April 29 to meet in the Kendall Chase Auditorium from 7 PM-10 PM in the amount of \$45.00 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Rental of Town Facilities for the Epping Democratic Party on April 29 to meet in the Kendall Chase Auditorium from 7 PM-10 PM in the amount of \$45.00. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Rental of Town Facilities for the Woodlands Association on April 21st to meet in the Court Room from 6 PM – 8 PM was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Rental of Town Facilities for the Woodlands Association on April 21st to meet in the Court Room from 6 PM – 8 PM. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

AMERICAN LEGION FUNDING

Every year the Town of Epping gives money to the American Legion Post 51 to help with expenses for the Memorial Day Parade. Due to the growth of Epping, the Legion is requesting an additional \$200.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the additional \$200 for the American Legion Post 51 to help with expenses for the Memorial Day Parade. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge met with the vendors of the security cameras; they will begin to install them in 2 weeks.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge received a letter from Hank Letourneau the liaison for the Fire Department and 911 addresses with the State of NH. The developer of the Goodrich property suggested Nashes Folly Road or Graham Road for the driveway into the development. Different names were discussed and the Board felt the name should honor the brickyard in some way.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to name the driveway into the Goodrich property development Beehive Drive. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge went to a meeting with NH DOT, attending with Representative Jeff Harris and Police Chief Michael Wallace regarding the list of lights the state wants to stop payment on resulting in them being shut off. Discussion continued regard the cost being turned over to the town, number and where the lights are located and safety issues if these lights are turned off.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier authorizing Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge to write the NH DOT a letter explaining how displeased the Board is regarding lights being shut off especially in the Park and Ride. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 3-0.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced the fundraiser dance at the American Legion put on by the 275th Birthday Bash Committee. The dance will be held on March 21st 7-11 PM.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge clarified that the Budget Committee had 3 positions on the ballot and there should have been 4 posted. The State has been notified along with Town Council. Both offices agreed to declare Jeff Leombruno as the winner for the 1 year seat.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated that there will be a recount Wednesday night at 6 PM for the position of Library Trustee for the 3 year term.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman McGeough

Selectman McGeough thanked everyone for voting and representing the town.

Selectman McGeough thanked everyone who is helping with the 275th Birthday for 2016. He would also like to buy pins to sell that has the town hall and the dates on it along with "Home of Three Governors" on them.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to order 100 pins to sell for \$3.00 each. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Selectman Yergeau

No Report

Selectman Jordan

Excused

Selectman Dwyer

Excused

Selectman Gauthier

Selectman Gauthier thanked everyone who voted for him, he has been a Selectman for 16 years and he is honored people voted for him again.

Selectman Gauthier asked if the Transfer Station would be closed Easter Sunday.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to close the Transfer Station on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Thomas Gauthier, Chairman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

James P. McGeough, Selectman

Date _____