

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
April 25, 2016**



**ATTENDANCE**

Chairman Tom Gauthier; Selectmen Bob Jordan, James P. McGeough, 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 7:00 PM at the Epping Town Hall.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**MINUTES**

Minutes from April 11, 2016 as were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to accept the minutes of April 11, 2016. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

**SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST**

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 4/21/2016 in the amount of \$97,960.30 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 4/21/2016 in the amount of \$97,960.30 Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

**SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST**

Accounts payable manifest for week ending 4/22/2016 at \$127,645.98 for the town was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for week ending 4/22/2016 at \$127,645.98 for the town. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

**BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Amended purchase order to Bonneville & Sons Chrysler for the 2016 3500 red 4x4 truck by \$901.00 for a total of \$31,025.00 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the amended purchase order to Bonneville & Sons Chrysler for the 2016 3500 red 4x4 truck by \$901.00 for a total of \$31,025.00. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 5-0.**

UNH students Christopher Cook and Max George explained the sidewalk project on Elm and Main Streets. The sidewalks will cost \$20.81 per linear foot with granite curbing. The placement of the sidewalk was decided on by avoiding the telephone poles. How and what the sidewalks were made of along with questions continued regarding the sidewalk project.

Changing the intersection near 314 North River Road and Calef Highway was presented by UNH Students, Patrick Pike, Travis Panzini, Dan Lucchetti and Chris Keenan. Jerry Langdon has offered to donate a portion of his land to move the road intersection. Discussion continued but no action was taken. The UNH Students did a great job with both presentations.

May 16<sup>th</sup> will be the Public Hearing for the sidewalk project. Abutters will be notified.

## **NH SOLAR PILOT**

Representative Michael Vose and resident of 75 Olde Bridge Lane spoke on the subject of NH Solar Garden. This power electric generating facility would be installed at ERRCO (Environmental Resource Return Company) map and lot 038-26 + 27. Mr. Voss is on the Energy Commission at the state level and has 2 points to make regarding this PILOT program. First, in this agreement the landowner will be making payments in lieu of taxes, which means the local tax payers would be subsidizing the development with taxes. Second, this PILOT program has no public benefit to the town. The Electricity generated goes to ERRCO property owners. The program benefits the state as they have new energy goals to meet. The state is giving solar users grants for adding electricity into the grid. Mr. Vose would like this agreement looked at carefully as it might not necessarily be a good thing for our town as there is no public benefit.

Selectman Dwyer read the agreement and noticed that if this PILOT program is approved with NH Solar Garden then all other renewable generation facilities would have to be approved. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported that this agreement is not cost effective and does not benefit the town. Chairman Gauthier referred to the town's attorney's letter that stated the town would receive money based on the megawatts in lieu of paying taxes. Representative Voss agreed that this agreement is poorly worded. Mr. Dodge stated that the Town of Chester refused to sign the agreement for this program. Chairman Gauthier does not believe this PILOT program with NH Solar Garden would be beneficial to the town.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to deny going forward with the PILOT program with NH Solar Garden. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **FIRE**

Deputy Fire Wardens Reappointment Forms for Roger Anderson, Paul Hanley, Richard Rodier, Clifton Cray, Steve LaRoche and Amanda LaRoche were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Deputy Fire Wardens Reappointment Forms for Roger Anderson, Paul Hanley, Richard Rodier, Clifton Cray, Steve LaRoche and Amanda LaRoche. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **POLICE**

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve Beth Pierce as Full-Time starting April 1 and Jeannette Ligouri as Part-Time working 8-16 hours a week. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **LIBRARY ROOF**

Discussion regarding the library roof and bids were reviewed. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge recommended Exeter Roofing as they were the only company that responded when we needed help with a leak after a recent storm even though they were the highest bid.

**Purchase Order to Exeter Roofing to fix the library roof in the amount of \$10,600. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **NE DRAGWAY-KEEFE SITE**

New England Dragway recently requested the use of the Keefe Site for parking during their national event in June. Chairman Gauthier, Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge and Joe Lombardo visited the site. There is plenty of room for parking but DES is concerned having visitors on the site. The wells are still being monitored. Primex, the insurance company has worries about the liability. Mr. Dodge contacted our legal department and they advised not to agree to this request.

**Motion by Selectman McGeough to deny the requested use of the Keefe Site by NE Dragway. Motion by Selectman Dwyer. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **LAND USE CHANGE TAX FORM**

Land Use Change Tax for William and Cheryl Fletcher, 38 Beede Road, Map and Lot 035-001-002 in the amount of \$7,500 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Land Use Change Tax for William and Cheryl Fletcher, 38 Beede Road, Map and Lot 035-001-002. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **EXCAVATION**

Excavation Tax Assessment for Louise Beard, property off Coffin Road, Map and Lot 023-102 in the amount of \$394.66 was submitted for approval. This brings the Beard property up to date with the Excavation issues.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Excavation Tax Assessment for Louise Beard, property off Coffin Road, Map and Lot 023-102 in the amount of \$394.66. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **TAX LIEN RATE**

Memo from the Tax Collector Erika Robinson to lower the tax rate for the 2016 Tax Lien from 18% to 12%. Mrs. Robinson is requesting to abate the additional 6% interest that is charged.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to abate the additional 6% interest that is charged to the 2016 Tax Lien. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **YIELD TAX**

Timber Tax Levy to Willard McPhee on 173 Prescott Road, Map and Lot 021-029 in the amount of \$82.63 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Timber Tax Levy to Willard McPhee on 173 Prescott Road, Map and Lot 021-029 in the amount of \$82.63. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **VETERAN'S CREDIT**

Veteran's Credit for Craig Johnson, map and lot 027-163 and James Michaels, map and lot 023-128 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Veteran's Credit for Craig Johnson, map and lot 027-163 and James Michaels, map and lot 023-128. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **ELDERLY EXEMPTION**

Elderly Exemption for Frederick and Marguerite Church at map and lot 028-049 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to deny the request due to their income level exceeds the Town's current married limit. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **275<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**

The 275<sup>th</sup> Birthday Committee requested a one day waiver for local permits for vendors on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Cliff Cray explained that vendors are asking to sell their products that day at the Old Home Day Events.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to waive the large assembly permit and vendor permits as requested. Seconded by Selectman Jordan.** Chairman Gauthier didn't think that filing a Large Assembly Permit and having the vendors pay for a Peddler's Permit was a problem. The motion was not acted on. Mr. Cray also announced that the Civil War Roundtable will be hosting the musical group "The Hardtacks" on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. The Birthday Committee is selling pewter key chains for \$5.00. The parade is on August 20<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Cray hopes to have some decorated baby carriages and bikes in the parade.

## **DAR PARK**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained that the American Legion Post 51 requested adding Lebanon to the Grenada post. As Grenada is centered, Lebanon will be off centered. The Legion will be paying for all engraving.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to allow the American Legion Post 51 to add Lebanon to the Grenada post. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS**

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained that there will be a Public Hearing at the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Raymond Rotary to serve alcohol at the Mud Run on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced that on June 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a joint meeting with the School Board regarding the Recreation and Emergency addition to review the Harriman Report. This meeting will be at 7PM during the School Board meeting. Selectman McGeough would like to add the ETV position to the discussion.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated there will be a "Drug Take Back" program at the Police Station on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 9am-1pm. The drugs will be disposed of properly. This program is sponsored by the DEA.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge wanted the people at home to know the DP-8 Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief are available in the Selectmen's office and on the town website.

Representative Michael Vose spoke to the Safety and Bridge Committee in Concord regarding the bridge repair on Route 101. He is waiting to hear back soon. The Governor wants to hear about this subject also.

### **INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

#### **Selectman McGeough**

No report.

#### **Selectman Yergeau**

No report.

#### **Selectman Jordan**

Selectman Jordan would like to have the West Epping Fire Department roof fixed. He has talked with Chief DeAngelis and they have been approached by the Fire Fighters Association. They would like to create a volunteer work crew. Selectman Jordan offered to supply the debris dumpster and he is trying to get a donation for roof materials. Chairman Gauthier is concerned about the liability. Mr. Dodge said Workman's Compensation with volunteers is a "big issue". Selectman Jordan stated when volunteers were used to help the Recreation Department with trees it wasn't an issue and fell under our insurance. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge will check with the town's insurance carrier.

Selectman Jordan would like to open the old fire station during "Olde Home Days" and have the hand truck on display with other old equipment.

Selectman Jordan thanked the Fire Department as well as the surrounding Fire Departments for all the help with the recent 2 fires.

**Selectman Dwyer**

Selectman Dwyer wanted to make sure the Finance Department was taking the 10% of the LUCT for the Conservation Commission as recently voted on.

Selectman Dwyer reported there was a recent issue with abutments on Prescott Road. The road supervisor is aware the abutments are there. They need to be removable to access the stream and keep the work by the beavers cleared.

Selectman Dwyer wondered if anyone has looked at the huge beaver dam on Beniah Lane. If it breaks it will wash out the road and the new culvert.

**Selectman Gauthier**

Selectman Gauthier reminded everyone that the Progressive Dinner will be on June 11. Tickets are \$5.00 each and only 100 will be sold.

**ADJOURN**

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joyce Blanchard  
Executive Secretary**

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**Tom Gauthier, Selectman**

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**Mike Yergeau, Selectman**

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**Bob Jordan, Selectman**

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**James P. McGeough, Selectman**

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**Tom Dwyer, Selectman**  
Date \_\_\_\_\_