

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
October 2, 2017**



**ATTENDANCE**

Chairman Tom Gauthier; Selectmen Tom Dwyer and Adam Munguia; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard; Selectman Michael Yergeau arrived late; Selectman Jordan was excused.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the September 25, 2017 Selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to accept the minutes of September 25, 2017. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 3-0.**

**BUSINESS**

**TAX RATE**

Finance Director Lisa Fogg announced the tax rate increase right now could be .50 cents. She is still waiting for the school revenue numbers. An extensive discussion occurred regarding buying down the tax rate; how much to buy down, the safety of using emergency monies and various Selectmen opinions. Selectman Michael Yergeau joined the meeting and the discussion.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to spend up to and use no more than \$360,000 of surplus monies to buy down the tax rate or to a flat tax rate status. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 3-1. Chairman Tom Gauthier voted nay.**

## **BUDGET REVIEW**

### **HIGHWAY**

Director of Public Works Dennis Koch and Road Supervisor David Reinhold reviewed the Highway Budget. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning various budget items: plowing contractors, asphalt, stone and salt has increased the budget. There won't be a large purchase this year but the backhoe will need pin work. Selectman Dwyer discussed a road bond versus adding \$100,000 to the budget every year to avoid a bond to be used for road maintenance.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to add \$100,000 to the road construction line to equal \$450,000. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Highway Budget in the amount of \$1,268,325 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

### **TRANSFER STATION**

Director of Public Works Dennis Koch and Road Supervisor David Reinhold reviewed the Transfer Station Budget. The largest impact on the budget is a power upgrade along with a new compactor. The Selectmen decided the upgrade and purchase should be done this year and take that amount out of next year's budget.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to reduce the Transfer Budget by \$22,500. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Transfer Budget in the amount of \$402,335 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

### **HIGHWAY BUILDING**

Director of Public Works Dennis Koch and Road Supervisor David Reinhold reviewed the Highway Building Budget. The difference with this budget is the addition of internet service. The need for a landline telephone was discussed.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Highway Building Budget in the amount of \$8,400. to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

### **STREET LIGHTING**

The Street Lighting Budget is the same as last year. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported he was looking into changing the lights to LED's which would be a 40% price reduction.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Street Lighting budget in the amount of \$26,500 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

## RECREATION

Recreation Director Nicole Bizzaro explained the only change in the Recreation Budget is the added amount of \$4,920 which is the insurances for the new employee.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Recreation Budget in the amount of \$105,090 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

## LIBRARY

Library Trustees Elaine Miskinis and Charlie Goodspeed reviewed the 2018 Library Budget. As the library has increased their programming and to maintain the level of programming there is a need to add another full time employee. That is why the budget is increased by \$29,340.

**Motion by Selectman Yergeau to forward the 2018 Library Budget in the amount of \$207,550 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.**

Mr. Goodspeed added there will be a library addition warrant article in the same amount of money as last year. The addition will be the same size but there will be a couple of changes to the layout.

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reduced the Board of Selectmen Budget by lowering the awards and recognition line by \$500.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Board of Selectmen Budget in the amount of \$19,610 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

## TOWN ADMINISTRATION

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Town Administration Budget in the amount of \$236,265 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

## TOWN MEETING AND BOARD & COMMISSIONS

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Town Meeting Budget in the amount of \$5,665 and Boards and Commission Budget in the amount of \$1,200 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

## ACCOUNTING & AUDITING

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Accounting and Auditing Budget in the amount of \$112,180 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

## TREASURY

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Treasury Budget in the amount of \$4,200 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

There is an increase to the General Government Buildings of \$1,500 for heating fuel.

**Motion by Selectman Munguia to forward the 2018 General Government Buildings Budget in the amount of \$47,470 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.**

## VALUATION OF PROPERTY, LEGAL EXPENSE, PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION AND CEMETERIES

All these budgets are flat budgets with no changes.

**Motion by Selectman Munguia to forward the 2018 Valuation of Property Budget in the amount of \$63,400, 2018 Legal Expense Budget in the amount of \$20,500, 2018 Personnel Administration Budget in the amount of \$300 and 2018 Cemeteries Budget in the amount of \$26,000 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 4-0.**

## INSURANCE AND BONDS, HEALTH, GENERAL ASSISTANCE AND PATRIOTIC PURPOSES

All these budgets are flat budgets with no changes.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Insurance and Bonds Budget in the amount of \$129,000, Health Budget in the amount of \$100, General Assistance in the amount of \$10,550 and Patriotic Purposes in the amount of \$2,500 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

## PRINCIPAL ON LONG TERM DEBT AND INTEREST ON LONG TERM DEPT

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Principal on Long Term Debt in the amount of \$147,500 and Interest on Long Term in the amount of \$44,255 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Munguia. Motion carried 4-0.**

## BUILDING INSPECTION

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to forward the 2018 Building Inspection Budget in the amount of \$62,185 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS**

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

#### **Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge presented an application for a Peddlers/Vendors License owned by Charles Hiltz to sell from his food truck at the Seacoast United Fields on September 7 & 8<sup>th</sup>, 7am-8pm.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Peddlers/Vendors License owned by Charles Hiltz to sell from his food truck at the Seacoast United Fields on September 7 & 8<sup>th</sup>, 7am-8pm. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge discussed the new Pine and Pond owners paying a higher price at the Transfer Station. The Cloutiers only paid \$5.00 a year for the residents. Not all residents use the trash pickup and many leave for the winter. There was a short discussion.

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to charge the mobile home park a flat fee of \$500 for a yearly Transfer Station Dump Sticker. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

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

#### **Selectman Munguia**

No report

#### **Selectman Yergeau**

No report

#### **Selectman Jordan**

Absent

#### **Selectman Dwyer**

Selectman Dwyer gave a big "Shout Out" to the Epping Police Department, State Troopers and Mutual Aid from Fremont and Brentwood during the theft of cars at Camp Hedding. The thieves were caught and all the items from Camp Hedding residents were returned.

#### **Selectman Gauthier**

Selectman Gauthier announced the next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> due to the holiday.

### **ADJOURN**

**Motion by Selectman Dwyer to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joyce Blanchard**  
**Executive Secretary**

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**Tom Gauthier, Chairman**

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**Adam Munguia, Selectman**

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**Tom Dwyer, Selectman**

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**Michael Yergeau, Selectman**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_