

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
January 29, 2018**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Tom Gauthier; Selectmen Bob Jordan and Tom Dwyer; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard; Selectman Yergeau was excused and Selectman Munguia was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Gauthier called the public session to order at 6:30 pm at the Epping Town Hall.

ENTER IN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A:3 II. (i) Emergency

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to enter in to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Gauthier. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to accept the non-public minutes from January 29, 2018. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 1/25/2018 in the amount of \$121,294.82 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 1/25/2018 in the amount of \$121,294.82. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for week ending 1/25/2018 at \$157,849.26 for the town was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the accounts payable manifest for period ending 1/25/2018 at \$157,849.26. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

BUSINESS

POLICE

Police Chief Michael Wallace requested permission to accept 2 John Deer Gators from the military through the "Disposition Law Enforcement Acquisition Program". These will be used at major events to drop off traffic cones etc. They will not be registered and will be stored at the New England Dragway.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to accept the gift of 2 John Deer Gators from the military through the "Disposition Law Enforcement Acquisition Program". Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

FINANCE

New Hampshire Department of Revenue State Form MS-60A regarding the Auditor was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the New Hampshire Department of Revenue State Form MS-60A regarding the Auditor and have Chairman Gauthier sign for the Board. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

DRA SALES

The Department of Revenue submitted DRA Sales Ratio as 82.4% for 2017.

ZONING

A supportive letter to the Legislative Committee regarding HB 1533/zoning and variance changes was submitted for approval. Planner and Code Enforcer Brittany Howard and Chairman of the Planning Board Joe Foley will be attending the hearing and hand delivering this letter. This Bill was sponsored by Representative Vose and Morrison.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the supportive letter to the Legislative Committee regarding HB 1533/zoning and variance changes giving Chairman Gauthier permission to sign the letter. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

INTENT TO CUT

Intent to Cut for Echo Farm of Epping LLC on maps and lots 002-001 and 003-001 off of French Road and Nottingham Square Road was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Intent to Cut for Echo Farm of Epping LLC on maps and lots 002-001 and 003-001 off of French Road and Nottingham Square Road. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 3-0.

TAX DEED/JACOB WELLS ROAD

Tax deed for 88 Jacob Wells Road, map and lot 018-005 transferred from Thomas St. Germain to the Town of Epping was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Tax deed for 88 Jacob Wells Road, map and lot 018-005 transferred from Thomas St. Germain to the Town of Epping. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

ABATEMENT

Abatement for Beech Hill Mobile Home, 85 Coffin Road #13, map and lot 023-141-013 in the amount of \$1,293.57 was submitted for approval. This mobile home has been removed.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve the abatement for Beech Hill Mobile Home, 85 Coffin Road #13, map and lot 023-141-013 in the amount of \$1,293.57. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

RAFFLE PERMIT

Raffle Permit for the Exeter Junior Baseball & Softball League Fundraiser at Market Basket. This will take place on March 31st and April 12th. Tickets are \$5.00 a piece or 3 for \$10.00 with drawing on June 9th. The 1st prize ticket will be for 4 Red Sox Tickets, 2nd place is 1 Suite for 20 at the Fisher Cats and 3rd place is an Ipod.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the Exeter Junior Baseball & Softball League Fundraiser at Market Basket on March 31st and April 12th. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

7:15 LIBERTY UTILITIES PRESENTATION

Community Relations Michael Licata from Liberty Utilities presented an overview of the Granite Bridge Project. Chico Dafonte will be the project manager, Hunk Montgomery also with Community Relations and Joan Fontaine and Michael Nicoloro being the environmental design consultants. The Granite Bridge Project is a natural gas pipeline and storage project that will be built in Epping. The pipeline will be linked in Stratham and follow 101 to Manchester. The storage tank will be built on a 140 acre lot with 15 acres needed for the total facility. The site off of Route 101 is an abandoned quarry. The total presentation will be on the Town Web site for more information or in the Selectmen's Office.

7:55 LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Library Trustee Chairman Lara Croft Berry and Library Trustees Michelle Wheeler, Elaine Miskinis and Jen Chapman explained their plans to make a motion to increase the budget for a new FT position at the Library during the Deliberative Session. The response from the Board of Selectmen is they support the position but the motion might put the budget in jeopardy. If there are no votes by the Budget Committee or the Board of Selectmen that will show on the ballot that might lead people to vote no on the budget causing a default budget. Next year would be a better time to add to the budget at this point. Ms. Berry spoke for the trustees saying they will meet to discuss the issue.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked the Board if they wanted to decide who would discuss which warrant article.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained the Library Trustees overspent the budget by \$1,900. There is \$3,000 in the legal line that has not been spent if the Board would like to use that to offset the expenditure.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to use the \$3,000 to offset the expenditure. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 3-0.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge described the SELT Amendment for the Denoncour Easement. Chairman Gauthier read the changes of the easement. The amendment has gone through legal review and has been approved by the Conservation Commission.

Motion by Selectman Dwyer to approve the SELT easement amendment on the Denoncour property. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reminded everyone of the Deliberative Session Tuesday, February 6th at 7PM at the Town Hall. There will be a posted meeting for the Board in case they need to meet after the Deliberative Session.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Munguia

Absent

Selectman Yergeau

Excused

Selectman Jordan

No Report

Selectman Dwyer

Selectman Dwyer sees progress coming to Epping with these two utilities potentially building a gas line.

Selectman Gauthier

Chairman Gauthier read the list of town official openings. The last day to sign up is Friday at 5 PM. Please get involved with your town Government and make a difference.

AUDIENCE

Cathy Bailey from the Exeter Newsletter asked for clarification on 3 warrant articles. She asked about the importance of the Waste water Treatment Facility, New Lane and what drives the budget. The Selectmen answered her questions to Ms. Bailey's satisfaction.

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Jordan to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Selectman Dwyer. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Tom Gauthier, Chairman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Tom Dwyer, Selectman

Date _____