

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
November 18, 2019**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Adam Munguia; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Mike Yergeau and Cody Belanger; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard; Joe Trombley was excused. Selectman Jordan was excused after the non-public.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ENTER IN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A II. (b) hire (c) personnel

Motion by Selectman Belanger to enter in to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Munguia 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 Belanger to seal the non-public minutes from November 18, 2019. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from November 4, 2019 Selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to accept the minutes from the November 4, 2019 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending 11/14/2019 in the amount of \$126,538.99 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the payroll manifest for pay period ending 11/14/2019 in the amount of 126,538.99. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifests for weeks ending 11/15/19 at \$230,134.48; \$45,538.82 is for the library addition and \$184,595.66 is the town was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the accounts payable manifests for periods ending 11/15/19 at \$230,134.48. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

BUSINESS

FIRE

Requests to Hire Hope Moore at \$7.25 on call and \$13 on a call for the position of Firefighter/EMT, Matthew Sylvester at \$7.25 on call and \$14 on a call for the position of Firefighter/EMT and Aimee Hanson at \$7.25 on call and \$13 on a call for the position of EMT was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the hiring of Hope Moore at \$7.25 on call and \$13 on a call for the position of Firefighter/EMT, Matthew Sylvester at \$7.25 on call and \$14 on a call for the position of Firefighter/EMT and Aimee Hanson at \$7.25 on call and \$13 on a call for the position of EMT pending background check. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Fire Chief Don DeAngelis will have information on the Public Safety roof and fundraising on the Fire Museum at the next meeting.

POLICE

2 - Purchase Orders to Adamson Industries to outfit and equip 2020 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$17,343.58 for each Explorer was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the 2 - purchase orders to Adamson Industries to outfit and equip 2020 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$17,343.58 for each Explorer. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Police Chief Michael Wallace reported having 2 candidates for a job offer. He will make his decision in December and come before the board.

STAR SPEEDWAY

The 2020 Star Speedway schedule was submitted for approval. The schedule is mostly the same with the addition for a few possible Wednesdays and Sunday Mornings 10 AM – 1 PM in April and May.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the 2020 Star Speedway schedule with the stipulation for review when Star Speedway comes in for their license. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

VETERAN CREDIT

All Veterans Credit Application for Colin Banitch at map and lot 020-018 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the All Veterans Credit Application for Colin Banitch at map and lot 020-018. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

TIMBER TAX

Timber Tax Levy for Southeast Land Trust at map and lot 011-013 in the amount of \$708.84 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the Timber Tax Levy for Southeast Land Trust at map and lot 011-013 in the amount of \$708.84. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

7:15 DAVID REINHOLD – CLASS VI ROAD

David Reinhold at 383 Dimond Hill Road stated he was given permission to build on a Class VI Road in 1989 as long as he maintained the road. Mr. Reinhold would like to subdivide off the Class VI road to build on another lot. This lot does have 100 feet on a Class V road. He met with the Planning Board and they were supportive of the proposed subdivision.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to proceed with the subdivision on a Class VI Road. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

LUCT

Land Use Change Tax for properties at 035-025-004 and 006 in the amount of \$3,333 each was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the Land Use Change Tax for properties at 035-025-004 and 006 in the amount of \$3,333 each. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

ABATEMENTS

Abatements for the Town of Epping at map and lot 024-018 and 024-018-001 in the amount of \$1,181.34 and \$773.32 was submitted for approval. There is no tax due for town owned properties.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to approve the abatement for the Town of Epping at map and lot 024-018 and 024-018-001 in the amount of \$1,181.34 and \$773.32. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Motion carried 3-0.

Abatement for Lincoln Properties at map and lot 036-005 in the amount of \$2.24 was submitted for approval. This abatement is due to a subdivision and change of land use and value.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to approve the abatement for Lincoln Properties at map and lot 036-005 in the amount of \$2.24. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Motion carried 3-0.

Abatement for Jeffrey Jackman at map and lot 023-039-001-C in the amount of \$500 was submitted for approval. The Veteran's credit from the previous owner was removed incorrectly.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the abatement for Jeffrey Jackman at map and lot 023-039-001-C in the amount of \$500. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Abatements for a properties on Annika Lee Drive at map and lots 035-025-3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12 and various amounts was submitted for approval. See attached.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the abatements as listed. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

UTILITLY ASSESSMENT AGREEMENT

Agreement with George Sansoucy to provide valuation consulting services to the Town of Epping from April 1, 2020-April 1, 2024 for a fixed fee of \$10,400 for 2020 and \$12,000 for years 2021-2024 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the agreement with George Sansoucy to provide valuation consulting services to the Town of Epping from April 1, 2020-April 1, 2024 for a fixed fee of \$10,400 for 2020 and \$12,000 for years 2021-2024. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

FINANCE

HRA Plan renewal that was set up to pay the second half of the deductibles on the staff health insurance was submitted for one signature.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the HRA Plan renewal giving Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge permission to sign the plan. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

Ambulance write offs for residents totaling \$32,022.46 and non-residents totaling \$1,997.03, transfers to collections for residents totaling \$2,366 and non-residents totaling \$20,944.31 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the ambulance write offs totaling \$57,329.80. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

7:30 GREGG DEMERITT – ROAD WEIGHT LIMIT

Mr. Demeritt from 17 Norris Court asked if there was anything the town could do to change the 20 ton weight limit on some of the town roads. There are trucks that need to travel on roads to deliver oil, cement,

logging trucks and etc. that are affected by the road weight limits. It is believed the weight limit ordinance was created in the late 70's to protect sand pits being created all over town.

Road Supervisor David Reinhold agreed that some of the town roads might be changed but road deterioration is a concern. Selectman Yergeau agreed that the weight limit is not feasible and still have construction and their trucks traveling through town. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge would like to further investigate the state law, town ordinances and meet with the Police Chief and Road Supervisor. Mr. Dodge's suggestion is to meet again after he has done his research. He will stay in touch with Mr. Demeritt regarding his findings. Peter Burttt spoke in favor of changing the weight limits.

CHANGE ORDER

Change Order to Steve Tessier for Drywall in the amount of \$400 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the change order to Steve Tessier for Drywall in the amount of \$400. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.

WARRANT ARTICLE REVIEW

The following warrant articles were reviewed with only one change: **Motion by Selectman Belanger to delete the article "Change Purpose of Expendable Trust Fund". Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 3-0.**

ARTICLE : ACCRUED BENEFITS EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to be placed in the previously established Accrued Benefits Expendable Trust Fund.

ARTICLE : TOWN HALL IMPROVEMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be placed in the previously established Town Hall Improvement Expendable Trust Fund.

ARTICLE : HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be placed in the previously established Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE : WATSON ACADEMY REPAIRS EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to be placed in the previously established Watson Academy Repairs Expendable Trust Fund.

ARTICLE : RECREATION FACILITIES EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to be placed in the previously established Recreation Facilities Expendable Trust Fund.

ARTICLE : LANDFILL CLOSURE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the previously established Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE : CHANGE PURPOSE OF EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to change the purpose of the Town Hall Improvement Expendable Trust Fund to General Government Buildings Expendable Trust Fund.

ARTICLE : VETERAN'S TAX CREDIT

Shall the Town of Epping increase the Veteran's Tax Credit from \$500.00 to \$750.00 as provided in R.S.A. 72:28.

ARTICLE : SERVICE CONNECTED VETERAN'S DISABILITY TAX CREDIT

Shall the Town of Epping increase the Service Connected Total Disability Tax Credit from \$2,000 to \$4,000 as provided in R.S.A. 72:35.

ARTICLE : BLIND EXEMPTION

Shall the Town of Epping increase the Blind Exemption from \$15,000 to \$30,000 as provided in R.S.A. 72:37.

ARTICLE : SAFETY COMPLEX RENOVATION

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to renovate and expand the locker room of the Police Department.

ARTICLE : ANTIQUE LIGHTS

To see if the Town of Epping will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to replace four (4) antique lights one on Main Street at the corner of Water Street, two (2) on Main Street at the base of the hill of the Community Church and one at the intersection of Main Street and St. Laurent Street and to restore power to said lights so that they are in good working order.

Selectman Belanger asked if he should do any research to change the clock tower on the Town Hall. After a short discussion the consensus was this is a want and not a need.

OTHER

Chairman Munguia has been approached about a warrant article in support or not supportive from the Board of Selectman on the LNG. As it is still at the state level no action by the board can be taken at this time.

Cody Belanger at 35 North River Road requested a letter from the Board of Selectmen to the Massachusetts Port Authority stating the town agrees to his limousine/livery service in the Town of Epping.

Motion by Chairman Munguia giving the Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge permission to write a letter in agreement for Mr. Belanger's limousine/livery service in the Town of Epping. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 2-0-1. Selectman Belanger abstained.

Selectman Yergeau explained the warrant article for closing the lagoons will not be going forward this year as the USDA funding will not be available. There will be a warrant article for the water treatment plant. It is an 8 million dollar project and with funding there will be a .30-.33 cent increase.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked for direction regarding 2 outstanding invoices for the library addition. There is an invoice for site work of \$3,798.20 and Exeter Paint of \$1,583 with no AIA contract. This will need to be resolved after checking the spreadsheets and checking the finances of the library addition.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge received a quote for the library front stairs stating the cost but there were no details included.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced next week will be a short week for the Town Hall as we will be closed Thursday and Friday, Happy Thanksgiving!

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported that at the next meeting on December 2nd there will be 3 consecutive public hearings by the state on the USDA grant for Water & Sewer.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Belanger

Selectman Belanger wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Selectman Jordan

Excused

Selectman Yergeau

No Report

Joe Trombley

Excused

Selectman Munguia

Selectman Munguia said regarding invoices to be paid from the library we know what the amount we started with, subtract what we have paid out and what is encumbered by AIA contracts. The invoices are for work done and will need to be paid.

Selectman Munguia wants everyone to have a Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURN

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Adam Munguia, Chairman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Cody Belanger, Selectman

Date 12/2/19