

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
February 24, 2020**



ATTENDANCE

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

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. (a) promotion (b) hire (c) reputation

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

PUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Munguia called the public session to reconvene at 7:00 pm at the Epping Town Hall.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Munguia called the public session to order at 7:00 pm at the Epping Town Hall.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

NON PUBLIC

Motion by Selectman Jordan to seal the non-public meeting minutes from February 24, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to rescind the previous vote on sealing the non-public meeting minutes from February 24, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from February 4 & 10, 2020 Selectmen's meetings were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to accept the minutes from the February 4 & 10, 2020 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 3-1. Selectman Yergeau abstained.

PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for the pay period ending February 20, 2020 in the amount of \$136,805.26 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for the pay period ending February 20, 2020 in the amount of \$136,805.26. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for the week ending February 20, 2020 in the amount of \$138,733.55; \$74.07 is for the Library Addition and \$138,659.48 is for the town was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the accounts payable manifest for the week ending February 20, 2020 in the amount of \$138,733.55. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

DPW

Request to hire Mark Lafond for a laborer and truck driver for the Highway Department at \$18.00 an hour was submitted for approval. Mr. Lafond is a part time employee so his background has already been done.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the request to hire Mark Lafond for a laborer and truck driver for the Highway Department at \$18.00 an hour. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

POLICE

Request to promote Arnold Towle and Alexander McCann to the rank of Sargent was submitted for approval. Mr. Towle is a patrol officer and Alexander McCann is currently a detective. Their salary will increase to \$35.00 an hour. Both will be effective on April 1, 2020

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the request to promote Arnold Towle and Alexander McCann to the rank of Sargent with the salary of \$35.00 an hour effective on April 1, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

Terms of Employment for Beth Lee Bibeau as an Executive Administrative Assistant for the Epping Police Department was submitted for approval. Her salary will be increased 10% on April 1, 2020 and 10% in 2021 and COLA salary increase for a period of 3 years thereafter.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Terms of Employment for Beth Lee Bibeau as an Executive Administrative Assistant for the Epping Police Department receiving an increase of 10% on April 1, 2020 and 10% in 2021 and COLA salary increase for a period of 3 years. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

ADMINISTRATION

Tax map maintenance proposal with Cartographic Agreement was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the tax map maintenance proposal with Cartographic Agreement. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

FINANCE

Ambulance write offs for residents totaling \$14,998.56, non-residents totaling \$322.63, transfers to collections for residents totaling \$2,298.80 and collection for non-residents totaling \$42,849.12 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the ambulance write offs for residents totaling \$14,998.56, non-residents totaling \$322.63, transfers to collections for residents totaling \$2,298.80 and collection for non-residents totaling \$42,849.12. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

VETERAN CREDITS

Veteran Credits for Eugene Crochetiere at map and lot 033-083, John Vadeboncoeur at map and lot 028-062-006, Ralph Cleveland and map and lot 023-039-C16A and Russell Chase at map and lot 005-001 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Veteran Credits for Eugene Crochetiere at map and lot 033-083, John Vadeboncoeur at map and lot 028-062-006, Ralph Cleveland and map and lot 023-039-C16A and Russell Chase at map and lot 005-001. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

ELDERLY EXEMPTION

Elderly Exemption for Daniel Herring at map and lot 023-039-022C was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Elderly Exemption for Daniel Herring at map and lot 023-039-022C. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

RENTAL OF TOWN FACILITIES

Rental of Town Hall meeting room by Nature Conservatory on June 8th 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM was submitted for approval. Mr. Steckler requested a fee waiver due to working with the Epping Conservation Committee.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the rental of town hall meeting room by Nature Conservatory on June 8th 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM pending the waiver until we talk to Mrs. Goodspeed. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

Rental of Town Hall meeting room by South East Land Trust on May 13, 2020 from 5:30-7:00 PM in the amount of \$22.00 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the rental of town hall meeting room by South East Land Trust on May 13, 2020 from 5:30-7:00 PM in the amount of \$22.00. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

7:15 PM PUBLIC HEARING – SOLAR PILOT

Chairman Munguia read the Public Hearing Notice regarding the estimated payment in lieu of tax agreement for NE Solar to develop a renewable energy generation facility that is proposed

to be located on Map and lot 038-025, 256 Exeter Road. A lengthy discussion followed. Michael Vose from 75 Olde Bridge Lane was part of the discussion.

Motion by Chairman Munguia to table the public hearing for 2 weeks. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT UPDATE

Dave Mercier (Engineer) and Jim Pouliot gave an overview of the EPA's nitrogen discharge permit affecting Epping and twelve other communities. Also in attendance was Commissioner Thomas Gauthier. An outline of his review is attached to these minutes.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to sign the "Request for Peer Review" letter to be signed by all communities and addressed to the Governor and NH DES Commissioner. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

FIRE

Fire Chief Donald DeAngelis explained the problem with the boiler in the Safety Complex having a cracked fin. This can be removed and a new one inserted. It will take 3 days for the repairs to be done. They will work through the cold months and have the boiler fixed during warmer temperatures. Selectman Yergeau would like have an audit/facility assessment done within the Safety Complex.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained the absentee ballots are not in yet. They should be arriving soon and the clerk will mail them out as soon as she can. The delay was caused by a new security system the state implemented.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Belanger

Excused

Selectman Yergeau

Selectman Yergeau apologized for his recent absence and thanked everyone for their patience.

Selectman Trombley

No Report

Selectman Jordan

No report

Selectman Munguia

Selectman Munguia welcomed Selectman Yergeau back as the board missed him and wished Selectman Belanger a speedy recovery.

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Jordan to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Adam Munguia, Chairman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Cody Belanger, Selectman

Joe Trombley, Selectman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Dated: March 9, 2020