

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
March 9, 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 absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Munguia called the public session to order at 6:45 pm at the Epping Town Hall.

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

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

PUBLIC SESSION

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 March 9, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from February 24, 2020 Selectmen's meetings were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to accept the minutes from the February 24, 2020 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for the pay period ending March 5, 2020 in the amount of \$125,251.78 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for the pay period ending March 5, 2020 in the amount of \$125,251.78. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for the week ending March 5, 2020 in the amount of \$1,296,013.17; \$1,000,000 is payment to the school, \$52,288.54 is the Fire Truck Lease Payment and \$243,724.63 is for the town was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the accounts payable manifest for the week ending March 5, 2020 in the amount of \$1,296,013.17. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

SISTER CITY

Proclamation certification from the City of Presque Isle Maine to become a Sister City with the Town of Epping was presented for acceptance.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to support the proclamation certification from the City of Presque Isle Maine to become a Sister City with the Town of Epping. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

DPW

Road Supervisor requested permission to sell the 2000 International Plow Truck. The vehicle is in poor condition and does not start. The vehicle did not pass inspection.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the selling of the 2000 International Plow Truck by the sealed bid procedure. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

RECREATION

Request for approval to hire Cliff Cray as an on call bus driver at \$10.00 an hour was submitted for approval. A background check does not need to be done as he is already an employee.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the hiring of Cliff Cray as an on call bus driver at \$10.00 an hour. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

Recreation Director Nicole Bizzaro explained John Cogan offered to volunteer as a supervisor for an Adult Basketball Program. The Gym will be open Sunday night's 7-9 PM. The program will start after March 20th due to the school being closed for any extracurricular activities.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve John Cogan as a volunteer to supervise the Adult Basketball Program. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

Mrs. Bizzaro would like to present a proposal for a town preschool playground to be built on the other side of the tennis courts. She believes there is a need for young families to have an open playground locally instead of traveling out of town. She has some money in the Recreation Fund and would like to search for other funding and grants. There are very precise specifications to follow during the bid process. Mrs. Bizzaro would like to seek at least three bids for the playground.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to move forward with the bid process for a new preschool playground near the tennis courts. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

POLICE

Chairman Adam Munguia read the retirement letter from Rich McFadden. He will be stepping down from his current position of Patrol Sergeant on March 9th, 2020. Mr. McFadden would like to serve as a part-time police officer. He thanked Police Chief Wallace, retired Chief of Police Greg Dodge and the Board of Selectmen for the honor and privilege of servicing the Town of Epping.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to accept Rich McFadden's retirement as a Patrol Sergeant on March 9th, 2020 with regret. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

FIRE

Request for approval to hire Antonio Valdes as a paramedic/firefighter at \$7.25 an hour on call and \$18.00 an hour on a call was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approval to hiring of Antonio Valdes as a paramedic/firefighter at \$7.25 an hour on call and \$18.00 an hour on a call pending the background check. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

ABATEMENTS

Abatement for Sadie Fuller at 191 Pleasant Street, map and lot 021-012 in the amount for \$1,413 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the abatement for Sadie Fuller at 191 Pleasant Street, map and lot 021-012 in the amount for \$1,413. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

Abatement for Cheryl Lee at 19 Pike Street, map and lot 029-156-001 in the amount of \$360 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the abatement for Cheryl Lee at 19 Pike Street, map and lot 029-156-001 in the amount of \$360. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

INTENT TO CUT

Intent to Cut for Gatchell Land and Development on Depot Road, map and lot 027-190 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Intent to Cut for Gatchell Land and Development on Depot Road, map and lot 027-190. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

SUPPLEMENTAL INTENT

Supplemental Intent to Cut for Applehurst on Rundlett Road, maps and lots 1-001, 8-003 and 9-004 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to approve the Supplemental Intent to Cut for Applehurst on Rundlett Road, maps and lots 1-001, 8-003 and 9-004. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

REPORT OF TIMBER CUT

Report of cut for Paul Langdon on Pleasant Street, map and lot 021-008 in the amount of \$1,219.63 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Report of cut for Paul Langdon on Pleasant Street, map and lot 021-008 in the amount of \$1,219.63. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

UNSEALING – NON PUBLIC MINUTES

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated New Hampshire statutes allows for the unsealing of non-public minutes after the information has been made public. Mr. Dodge suggests unsealing the minutes from 2019 on January 28, February 11 & 25, March 25, April 8, May 6 & 20, June 3, July 15, August 26, September 23, October 21, November 18 and December 16.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to unseal the non-public minutes for the meetings from 2019 on January 28, February 11 & 25, March 25, April 8, May 6 & 20, June 3, July 15, August 26, September 23, October 21, November 18 and December 16. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

OTHER

Selectman Trombley hopes the same amount of people that voted at the Presidential Primaries come to tomorrow to vote. Tomorrows vote probably has more impact on a day to day basis.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported the roof was patched. He has 2 quotes to replace the roof already. Does the board want to do a direct bid or the RFP process? The answer was the RFP process.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge congratulated Mike Yergeau as a Selectman on the uncontested race.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge sent his sympathies to Keith and Wendy True. They are receiving a lot of neighborhood and town support.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge received a bill for library bookshelves. He wants to make sure the bill should be returned to the Library Trustees and not paid from the building fund. Selectman Trombley reviewed the remaining budget for the library project.

Motion by Chairman Munguia to return the bookshelf bill to the Library Trustees for payment. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge thanked Selectman Yergeau, Water and Sewer Commissioner Tom Gauthier and Chief Operator Jim Pouliot for holding the informational night regarding Article 5 on Sunday. There were 20-25 people in attendance.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge said there would be plenty of disinfection wipes at the polls for voting. The school has plenty of soap and water in their supplies. Please come to vote. Your votes does count and makes a difference.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge will return to work in a week.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Belanger

Absent

Selectman Yergeau

Selectman Yergeau stated how sorry he is for Wendy and Keith True and their house fire. If there is anything he can do please let him know?

Selectman Yergeau was hoping for a better turnout for the W&S meeting. He hopes people watched the meeting to be educated to make an informed decision.

Selectman Trombley

Selectman Trombley explained how important this election is for tax payers. He will be available at the polls all day if anyone has any questions.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked which Selectmen would be attending the polls. Chairman Munguia and Selectmen Trombley would be there all day. Selectmen Yergeau and Jordan will be coming for the afternoon.

Selectman Trombley stated depending on the outcome on Article #5 he will be overseeing the project as much as possible, he would like to be involved.

Selectman Jordan

Selectman Jordan is concerned with the rumor mill and mistruths on social media and with the residents of Epping. Article #5 has nothing to do with recent truck roll over on Route 101.

Selectman Jordan apologized for not being at the Sunday informational meeting on Article #5 but his neighbor's house burnt down. They lost every earthly possession they had including 5 dogs. They do have insurance but if anyone would like to donate his wife Heidi is the coordinator, so just reach out. There is not a God Fund Me page as of now but there will be a fundraiser scheduled at the Epping Legion at a later date.

Selectman Munguia

Selectman Munguia thought the informational meeting on Sunday went well regarding Article #5.

Selectman Munguia thanked Heidi Jordan for helping the True Family. He wished the True Family his very best and God Bless.

Selectman Munguia hopes everyone votes on Election Day, it is the voice of the people.

ADJOURN

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Adam Munguia, Chairman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Joe Trombley, Selectman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Dated: March 23, 2020