

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
July 6, 2020**



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
VIA ZOOM FOR BUSINESS  
MEETING ID #830 5962 7004  
PASSWORD 926084**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Adam Munguia called the public meeting to order at 6:30 PM via Zoom.

**ENTER IN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A II. (c) Reputation**

**Motion by Selectman Belanger to enter in to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Chairman Munguia called the public session to reconvene at 7:15 pm at the Epping Town Hall.

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the June 29, 2020 Selectmen's meeting were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Mike Yergeau to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2020 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

## **BUSINESS**

### **ENERGY PROPOSAL**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained the energy proposal with Constellation NewEnergy Inc. is a 3 year contract starting October 2021. The rates are lower than now and will be an \$8,000 savings to the town. Selectmen Yergeau had questions regarding the list of service accounts that Mr. Dodge will look into.

**Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to move forward executing the new rate contract agreement with Constellation NewEnergy Inc. giving Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge permission to sign the document on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

## **DPW**

Purchase Order to Liberty International for a 2008 International 7400 Dump Trunk in the amount of \$32,900 was submitted for approval. This is coming from the revolving equipment fund.

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the purchase order to Liberty International for a 2008 International 7400 Dump Trunk in the amount of \$32,900 using monies from the Capital Reserve Fund. Seconded by Mike Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

## **BIDS**

The roof bids for the town hall and Watson Academy were discussed. A list of questions needs to be to created for the contractors. The bid for the library stairs is incomplete. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge is waiting for a response from one of the contractors.

**Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to table the bid decisions until Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

## OTHER

Library Project Manager Charlie Goodspeed requested a motion from the Board of Selectmen giving him authorization to spend the remaining library project money of \$17,000 so he may complete the landscaping at the library. Mr. Goodspeed will be working with Lorax Landscaping, the Library Trustees and the Epping Flower Committee.

Mr. Goodspeed reported the painting, windows and all the bullet items have been accomplished at the library. Engraved bricks are being ordered as a fund raiser for the library. All the curtains and blinds are 100% complete. Selectman Joe Trombley has concerns about the screening on the gable ends and a window on the second floor not being caulked.

Discussion continued regarding the remaining \$17,000 and landscaping. Mr. Goodspeed was updated regarding the \$7,000 that had already been allocated to landscaping. The next meeting of the Library Trustees is July 21. Selectman Trombley will notify Chairman John Clarke asking if could have any earlier meeting.

**Motion by Bob Jordan to table the landscaping for a week or 2 until we hear back from the Library Trustees. Seconded by Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

## ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

### Town Administrator

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge commented the USDA has committed to certain funds for the decommissioning of the sewer lagoons. He would ask the Selectmen to authorize him to sign the non-binding loan package when it arrives. There needs to be a town meeting, warrant article drafted for DRA approval with dates to be met. There are a lot of moving parts that need to be kept in a time line.

**Motion by Bob Jordan to authorize Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge permission to sign the USDA loan agreement for the sewer decommissioning. Seconded by Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported the employees are back to work and had an orientation with Epping Fire Department Mike Nickerson this morning at 9 AM. Mr. Nickerson did a wonderful job and was very informative.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge discussed the “draft employee protection plan” for reopening on July 13<sup>th</sup>. Fire Chief Joe Lombardo and Health Officer Dennis Pelletier reviewed the plan and both agreed this was a solid proposal. Mr. Lombardo would like to know if a screener would be needed as he would need to schedule employees for that. The Selectmen would like more time to review the plan.

**Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to postpone the decision to open on July 13<sup>th</sup>, voting at next Mondays meeting on when to open the Town Hall. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

Chairman Munguia feels very strongly that the employees are safe at work and the public should wear masks when entering the town hall. Selectman Belanger recommended to follow what the state is doing and that is “strongly suggesting” masks to be worn. Discussion continued.

**Motion by Chairman Munguia wearing a mask will be mandatory for a visitor or the public in the Town Hall. Seconded by Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Selectman Cody Belanger voting nay.**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced the revaluation letters will be sent to residents this week. He will send a sample to the board tomorrow.

## **INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN’S REPORTS**

### **Selectman Cody Belanger**

Selectman Belanger thinks it is a poor decision not following the state regarding wearing face masks.

### **Selectman Mike Yergeau**

Selectman Mike Yergeau said the USDA likes this project of closing the lagoons. The Water and Sewer Department will be putting a solar field on top of them to help offset energy cost. There is a W&S meeting tomorrow night with more information.

### **Selectman Joe Trombley**

Selectman Trombley asked Selectman Yergeau how the W&S project was progressing. He would like to come over to see the footings etc.

Selectman Trombley is very happy with the Library Trustees and the steps they are taking to reopen the library.

Selectman Trombley would like to recognize the Police Officer on Blake Road that helped a resident change a tire. He was so happy to see that.

### **Selectman Bob Jordan**

Selectman Jordan was glad everyone had a good time on July 4<sup>th</sup> but maybe some people got carried away; 3 AM is not appropriate for fireworks. Chief Wallace had 4 complains and all were addressed. Thankfully there were no injuries or fires. For next year the public should know that the town has a noise ordinance of 10 PM during the week and 11 PM on weekends.

Selectman Jordan asked Fire Chief Joe Lombardo for a COVID update. Mr. Lombardo reported in NH there have been 5,897 diagnosed COVID cases, 4,684 recovered, 381 deaths, 832 current cases, 570 have been in the hospital, 25 currently in the hospital, 125,235 have been tested and 388 pending tests. There is 2 active COVID cases in Epping presently.

### **Selectman Adam Munguia**

Chairman Munguia agreed July 4<sup>th</sup> was noisy. He will be sure to share the noise ordinance information with his neighbors.

Chairman Munguia sent condolences to the family of Howard Payne. He was a resident of Epping, a Master Sargent in the United States Air Force and a family friend.

Chairman Munguia told the board members that next week in non-public there is a personnel change to discuss. He will update them this week.

Chairman Munguia spoke of the "precautionary posture" that the town hall will be following. It is his priority to keep the employees of the town hall as safe and protected as possible.

Selectman Jordan added the news of a firefighter/EMT that has enlisted into the United States Air Force. Chief Lombardo added Channel 9 was at the sendoff drive by to wish her well as she starts medical training.

**ADJOURN**

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley.** There was a 45 second pause in case a resident wanted to call in. **Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Joyce Blanchard  
Executive Secretary**

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**Adam Munguia, Chairman**

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**Bob Jordan, Vice-Chairman**

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**Mike Yergeau, Selectman**

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**Cody Belanger, Selectman**

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**Joe Trombley, Selectman**

**Dated: July 13, 2020**