

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
August 10, 2020**



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
VIA ZOOM FOR BUSINESS  
MEETING ID # 831 9170 0800  
PASSWORD 802552**

**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 7:00 PM via Zoom.

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the August 3, 2020 Selectmen's meeting were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to approve the minutes from August 3, 2020 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

**PAYROLL MANIFEST**

Payroll manifest for the pay period ending August 6, 2020 in the amount of \$148,626.68 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for the pay period ending August 6, 2020 in the amount of \$148,626.68. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll**

**Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST**

Accounts payable manifest for the week ending August 6, 2020 in the amount of \$1,537,232.07 (\$1,000,000.00 is for the school payment, \$257,128.70 is for Wolcott Paving, \$280,103.37 is for the town portion) was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to approve the Accounts payable manifest for the week ending August 6, 2020 in the amount of \$1,537,232.07 (\$1,000,000.00 is for the school payment, \$257,128.70 is for Wolcott Paving, \$280,103.37 is for the town) pending checking on the correct price used for Wolcott Paving. Seconded by Selectman Mike Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

### **EOC DIRECTOR DEANGELIS UPDATE**

Mr. DeAngelis and Officer Jay Newman met with Pam Tibbetts to discuss the Halloween Block Party regarding safety measures. Health Inspector Dennis Pelletier will need to review the plans before a 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting is scheduled. When the plan is completed Mrs. Tibbetts will come before the board for final approval.

The EOC has quieted down. Most questions now are about quarantining after vacation and concerns about back to school. There are 3 new cases in Epping and only 349 cases statewide.

EOC Director Don DeAndgelis has been working with the school superintendent on policies to open the school. The policies are all in line with the Department of Education policies.

### **CHIEF LOMBARDO REPORT**

Chief Lombardo reported the numbers given about COVID come from Rockingham County.

The site of the gas tank roll over on Route 101 is 95% completed. The test wells are in place and the final step will be the planting of trees and blueberry bushes.

Mr. Lombardo said the safety measures at the recent school board meeting was a success. There were 2 people screening at the entrance. The room was set up for distancing for 80 people. Only 18 people came to participate in the meeting. The opening plan was reviewed with Ben Brown for the library. They have 4 air purifiers that will be used.

## **CHIEF WALLACE REPORT**

Chief Wallace reminded the public and local drivers to be patient on Route 125 while Unitil lays gas lines. Please be aware of the lane closures and lane changes.

## **PUBLIC**

Michael Vose thought tonight was the Public Hearing on the Special Warrant Article but was told this Wednesday at 6PM is an informational meeting with the Board of Selectmen and at 7PM is the Budget Public Hearing. On Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> there is a Public Bond Hearing. There will not be a Board of Selectmen Meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Civil War Round Table member Mr. Hodgman is waiting to find out when the upstairs auditorium meeting room will be opened for meetings. EOC Director Don DeAndgelis is working on a plan on how to open up safely. The safety issues to be addressed are masks, sterilization, air purifier and sanitation. The plan will be similar to what the School Board Meeting used. He will send the policy to Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge for review and to forward to the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Yergeau asked who will be paying for the extra cleaning services. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge mentioned he could check with the janitor to see if she has time to clean at night but isn't sure how to pay for it yet. Further discussion will be needed.

## **BUSINESS**

### **FIRE**

Promotions for Bill Naugle from Lieutenant to Captain and for Danielle Zukas from Fire Fighter to Lieutenant and pay increase for Gabriel Burgess-Labonte from \$13.50-\$14.00 for passing FF2 were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the promotions for Bill Naugle from Lieutenant to Captain and for Danielle Zukas from Fire Fighter to Lieutenant and pay increase for Gabriel Burgess-Labonte from \$13.50-\$14.00 for passing FF2. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

## **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated the Warrant Articles has been approved but he requested recommendations for each article. Chairman Munguia read Article 1.

## **ARTICLE 1: SEWAGE LAGOON DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PROJECT, SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT SOLAR FIELD INSTALLATION**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Million, Five Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$13,523,000.00) (gross budget) for the purpose of the engineering, design, decommissioning and closure of the Town's sewage treatment plant sewage lagoons #1 and #2. which have been ordered closed by U.S. EPA, and to prepare the closed sewerage lagoon land area for the installation of a solar energy facility that will provide electricity to the Town's adjacent sewerage treatment plant at an annual electricity cost savings estimated at \$180,000.00 per year (the "Project"); and, to authorize the issuance of Six Million Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$6,230,000.00) in bonds or notes for such purpose, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds and/or notes, and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and further, to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept Federal, State, or other aid, grants or other funds which may be available for the Project that may reduce the amount to be financed with bonds or notes, and to authorize the Selectmen to expend such monies as they become available and to comply with all laws applicable to the Project; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto, with the remaining \$7,293,000.00 to come from Federal and State grant, aid or other funding, including a possible Community Development Block Grant. Without impairing the general obligation nature of the bonds or notes, it is the intention of the Town that the bond or note repayment shall be paid for by sewer users.

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to recommend Article 1 as read. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

Chairman Munguia read Article 2:

## **ARTICLE 2: BALLOT VOTING**

Shall this town meeting be conducted by ballot voting on the warrant articles, with no debate on the articles and no proposed amendment to any warrant article?

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to recommend Article 2 as read. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained Article 3 has been added to the warrant as any lease over 25 years requires a town vote. This generates revenue and that is why W&S didn't want to wait until the March town meeting.

Chairman Munguia read Article 3.

### **ARTICLE 3: LEASE OF PLEASANT STREET WATER TOWER FOR CELL TOWER ANTENNA SERVICE USE**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement whereby the Town will lease space on the municipal water tower located at 75 Pleasant Street to a cell phone company for cellular telephone antenna service use for a term not to exceed 50 years, on such terms as the Selectmen believe are in the best interest of the Town.

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to recommend Article 3 as read. Seconded by Selectman Mike Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

### **MS-535**

New Hampshire state form MS-535 on the financial report completed by the town auditors was submitted for approval

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the New Hampshire state form MS-535 on the financial report completed by the town auditors. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan, Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

### **DISCHARGE OF LIEN**

Discharge of an Epping Community Development Block Grant Program lien in the name of Benoit and Carol Morin dated January 16, 1986. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge added the lien didn't need to be paid back as long as the residents lived at the property for 3 years after the grant was funded.

**Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to approve discharging the Epping Community Development Block Grant Program lien in the name of Benoit and Carol Morin dated January 16, 1986 as they maintained ownership for the required 3 years. Seconded by**

**Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

### **Town Administrator**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge reported Road Supervisor David Reinhold received a quote for knotweed removal behind the safety complex in the amount of \$725.

**Motion by Adam Munguia to approve the knotweed removal behind the safety complex in the amount of \$725. Seconded by Selectman Bob Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge said the absentee voter signs have been ordered and will be set up throughout the town soon.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge stated the roof project will be delayed as the roofer needs to coordinate a lift to remove the solar panels.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge informed the Board of Selectman that the Clerk and Tax office will be closed on September 8<sup>th</sup> and November 3<sup>rd</sup> for the elections. There will not be any services on those days.

## **INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN REPORTS**

### **Selectman Adam Munguia**

Chairman Munguia apologized to the board and the public for a "flippy" comment he made last week.

### **Selectman Joe Trombley**

Selectman Trombley wanted the public to be aware that the next 2 weeks the town has some very important meetings taking place. The school board meeting tomorrow will be questions and answers about school opening amid the COVID-19 Pandemic followed by a vote.

Selectman Trombley shared there will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest meteor shower tonight and this week. They have figured out that there will be one meteor a minute.

### Selectman Cody Belanger

Selectman Belanger checked the secretary of state web site for an update and it said if masks are required for voting there has to be a non-mask area to vote in. Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge replied the updates need to be approved by the Attorney General's office.

ETV employee Glen Frederick joined the meeting for a brief discussion to say that ETV cannot help with the school board meeting on Tuesday due to lack of personnel, soft wear update and Conservation Commission taking priority per town regulations. Discussion continued including the middle high school gym not being wired for live meetings, the possibility the Conservation Commission being cancelled and remote taping.

### Selectman Mike Yergeau

Selectman Yergeau clarified Article 1 will not affect the taxes town wide but will be rate user funded.

Selectman Yergeau said the water ban is still in effect.

Selectman Yergeau reported the RFPs for the Railroad Road Project were opened today. Two of the bids were on the lower end of \$70,000 and one was in the high \$100,000. We have 2 weeks to review the bids with Water and Sewer.

### Selectman Bob Jordan

Selectman Jordan talked to a resident who is on the tax deed list. This person is trying to pay his taxes every Friday.

Selectman Belanger recognized and thanked the hard working staff at the town.

Selectman Trombley further discussed ETV covering the important school board meeting. ETV could broadcast the school's meeting so the public could call into to participate.

**Motion by Selectman Trombley to broadcast the schools ZOOM meeting instead of the Conservation Commission meeting which will be recorded and played at a later date. Seconded by Selectman Mike Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

**ADJOURN**

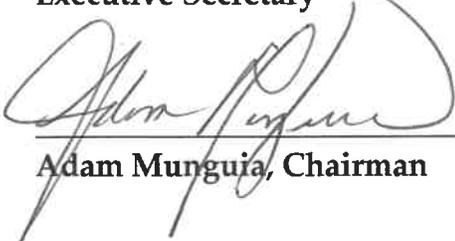
**Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Mike Yergeau. There was a 30 second pause in case a resident wanted to call in. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger and Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Joye Blanchard*

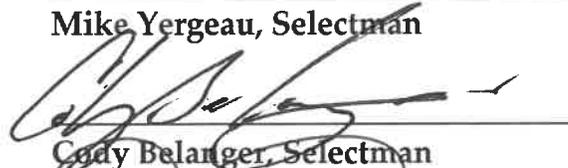
**Joye Blanchard  
Executive Secretary**



**Adam Munguia, Chairman**

**Bob Jordan, Vice-Chairman**

**Mike Yergeau, Selectman**



**Cody Belanger, Selectman**

**Joe Trombley, Selectman**

**Dated: August 18, 2020**