

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
September 28, 2020**



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
IN PERSON MEETING AND VIA ZOOM FOR BUSINESS
Meeting ID: 861 7738 0751
Passcode: 694101**

ATTENDANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Jordan 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

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

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

PUBLIC SESSION

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

NON PUBLIC

Motion by Selectman Belanger to seal the non-public meeting minutes in accordance of 91:A from September 28, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from the September 21, 2020 Selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to accept the minutes from the September 21, 2020 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 3-0-1. Selectman Jordan abstained.

EOC DIRECTOR UPDATE

Excused

FIRE CHIEF UPDATE

Fire Chief Joe Lombardo gave a COVID update. There have been 8,172 cases in NH, 7,403 have recovered with 439 COVID related deaths. There are 330 current cases. 736 cases have been hospitalized with 20 currently. Total test pending results is 1,585 and 2,400 cases are being monitored.

There has been a new bulletin following the CDC guidelines addressing Trick or Treat. Mr. Lombardo will be reaching out to Pam Tibbetts this week regarding the Block Party. There will not be any Trick or Treat inside the safety complex. He will need to check with the Fire Association to see if they have any other plans.

CHIEF WALLACE UPDATE

Chief Michael Wallace had 3 purchase orders for 2 vehicles that were budgeted items. A Dodge Charger and a 2011 Ford Explorer need to be replaced.

Purchase Order #293 to PC Patrol for 2 cruiser tablets in the amount of \$8,971.43 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the purchase order #293 to PC Patrol for 2 cruiser tablets in the amount of \$8,971.43. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

7:15 Anthony Puntin, NH DOT

Wendy Johnson from the NH DOT and Anthony Puntin who is the engineer from the BETA Group for the Route 125 project updated the Board of Selectmen. The Route 125 project includes a stretch of road that is 2.9 miles long. The improvements start at the Epping town line and extend to the Route 87 intersection. Mr. Puntin explained the different steps the NH DOT takes before a project like this can start: project background and location, needs and objectives, development process, environmental study, project status, public outreach efforts, cost and project scheduling. The state is hoping to start this project in 2026-2027. Selectmen Yergeau discussed the State of NH DOT working with the W&S Department and with the town infrastructure while the roads being improved. He would like to see a cost analysis done to make sure the town will benefit from working together.

7:30 Andrew Provencher – Dragway Solar

Mr. Provencher and Dominic Lebel from Olivewood Energy came before the Board of Selectmen to explain their project on the New England Dragway property that they are leasing. They will be using 50-60 acres to develop a solar farm. The proposed farm will be equivalent to electricity use of 5,200 people. Other benefits to the town will be avoiding 290,000 tons of CO2 which equals 1,000 acres of trees, 40 jobs during construction and revenue through a PILOT program without traffic or other costs. The project will be completed 2022-2023.

POLICE CON'T

Purchase Order #291 to Irwin Automotive Group for 2 - 2020 Ford Police Utility vehicles in the amount of \$66,474.00 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the purchase order #291 to Irwin Automotive Group for 2 - 2020 Ford Police Utility vehicles in the amount of \$66,474.00. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

Purchase Order #292 to Adamson Industries for equipment for the 2 cruisers in the amount of \$30,475.80 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the purchase order #292 to Adamson Industries for equipment for the 2 cruisers in the amount of \$30,475.80. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

Chief Michael Wallace has given permission to his officers to grow beards for a fundraiser starting Oct 1st for the month. The female officers will wear pink for a Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser.

Chief Michael Wallace discussed Halloween. He would like to make a decision collectively with the EOC and the Fire Chief on how best to handle Trick or Treat. Selectman Belanger strongly voiced his opinion that Trick or Treat should move forward. Selectman Trombley would like more information from our EOC, Fire Chief and Police Chief. He would also like to know what other towns are doing and how they are handling Halloween. Fire Chief Joe Lombardo would like to follow the CDC guidelines. The decision will be made for the next Mondays Selectmen's meeting.

Police Detail write off in the amount of \$613.82 for 2019 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to approve the Police Detail write off in the amount of \$613.82 for 2019. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 3-1. Selectman Belanger voted nay.

RECREATION

Request to Hire Jalyn Grandmaison for After School Program Regular Staff at \$11.00 an hour was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve hiring Jalyn Grandmaison for After School Program Regular Staff at \$11.00 an hour pending the background check. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

FINANCE

Recreation write off balances from the 2019 Summer Recreation Program in the amount of \$167.08 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to approve the Recreation write off balances from the 2019 Summer Recreation Program in the amount of \$167.08. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Motion carried 4-0.

INTENT TO CUT

Intent to Cut for Daniel Bilodeau on 53 Meadowbrook Road, map and lot 017-043 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the Intent to Cut for Daniel Bilodeau on 53 Meadowbrook Road, map and lot 017-043. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

YIELD TAX

Timber Tax Levy for Joan & Lloyd Perkins on 216 Pleasant Street, map and lot 028-047 in the amount of \$4,101.67 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the Timber Tax Levy for Joan & Lloyd Perkins on 216 Pleasant Street, map and lot 028-047 in the amount of \$4,101.67. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

INTENT TO EXCAVATE

Intent to Excavate for John Ober at 25 Hedding Road, Map and lot 016-056 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to table the Intent to Excavate for John Ober at 25 Hedding Road, Map and lot 016-056. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0. This was tabled due to property being in Current Use.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced the 2020 Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be held on October 17th from 8 AM-1 PM. This year you have to register on-line with a 1 hour window. The user fee is a set \$10.00 with \$2.24 for the Eventbrite fee. Masks and social distancing is required although you don't need to leave your car.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Belanger

No Report

Selectman Yergeau

No Report

Selectman Trombley

No Report

Selectman Jordan

No Report

Selectman Munguia

Excused

ADJOURN

**Motion by Selectman Belanger to adjourn after 30 seconds. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau.
Motion carried 4-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Cody Belanger

Joe Trombley, Selectman

Dated: September 28, 2020