

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
February 2, 2021**



**CALL TO ORDER**

Immediately following the Town Deliberative Session the Selectmen convened for a meeting (posted). Chairman Adam Munguia called the meeting to order at 9:03 PM in the Epping Middle-High School gymnasium.

**ATTENDANCE**

Chairman Adam Munguia, Vice-Chairman Bob Jordan, Selectman Mike Yergeau, Selectman Cody Belanger, Selectman Joe Trombley and Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

A special accounts payable for the Epping School District in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to approve the Epping School District's accounts payable in the amount of \$1,000,000.00. Seconded by Selectman Bob Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

**NO IN-PERSON MEETINGS AT TOWN HALL**

**Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to reaffirm that per order of the Board of Selectmen, no boards or commissions shall conduct any in-person public meetings at the Town Hall or any Town building until further notice. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Motion carried 4-1 with Selectman Mike Yergeau voting nay.**

**RECONSIDERATION OF WARRANT ARTICLE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**ARTICLE 4 – OPERATING BUDGET**

During the Town Deliberative Session an amendment to the operating budget was offered and approved by the voter's present. The proposed budget of \$10,267,295.00 was reduced by \$5,310.00 to \$10,261,985.00. The intent was to remove the \$5,310 which was to pay the Selectmen an additional stipend plus taxes. The reduction was made knowing the Selectmen could reduce any portion of the proposed budget.

**Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to recommend the new proposed operating budget of \$10,261,985.00. Seconded by Selectman Bob Jordan.** Discussion: Selectman Belanger wanted to know if the Board would make that suggested cut to the Selectmen's stipend however that determination had not yet been made as of yet. **Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **ARTICLE 13 – EPPING YOUTH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

During the Deliberative Session Selectman Cody Belanger made an amendment to this article to increase the proposed amount for EYAA from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00. The rationale for the increase being that EYAA recently received a bill for \$4,000 that they would have difficulty paying. The amendment was passed by the voters.

**Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to recommend the EYAA article in the amount of \$10,000.00. Seconded by Chairman Adam Munguia. Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **ARTICLE 23 – BY PETITION: GREATER TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESS TO EPPING BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICES**

During the Deliberative Session Selectman Joe Trombley had offered an amendment to this petitioned article by adding a period after "24 hours" and striking the words "as required in New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated 91-A:2". That amendment was supported by the principle petitioner and passed by the voters.

**Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to recommend Article 23 as amended. Seconded by Selectman Mike Yergeau. Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **ARTICLE 24 – BY PETITION: GREATER TRANSPARENCY INTO THE TOWN OF EPPING COMMUNICATION**

During the Deliberative Session there was considerable discussion on this petitioned article. Selectman Joe Trombley made a motion to amend this article to read as such –

**To see if the Town will vote to direct the Town of Epping Selectmen to require that all written or electronic communication received by the Town of Epping Selectmen or the Town of Epping Administrator, from a resident of the Town of Epping, which in any way could be construed as a complaint, advisement, or concern, be read into the minutes of the next scheduled Selectman's meeting in synopsis form. *Such communication shall only be made if the permission to share the communication is given by the author.* Should it be that the resident has made such written request *to* share their communication, the minutes shall reflect the receipt of the communication noting the date and time it was received. This article shall be subject to any local or federal laws specifically prohibiting release of any part of said communication. This article is to ensure greater transparency into communications received by the Town of Epping Selectmen and Town Administrator.**

The amendments were supported by the voters and passed.

**Motion by Selectman Mike Yergeau to recommend Article 24 as amended. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Motion carried 5-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chairman Adam Munguia. Motion carried 5-0.**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory C. Dodge  
Town Administrator

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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: February 8, 2021