

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
January 25, 2021**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Adam Munguia; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau 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. (a) promotion (b) hire

Motion by Selectman Belanger 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 Trombley. Motion carried -0.

Selectmen Bob Jordan arrived after the Non-Public meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Adam Munguia reconvened public session at 7:00 pm via ZOOM. He thanked the School Board, Chairman of the School Board Debbie Brooks and the School Superintendent Bill Furbush for holding a special joint meeting with Board of Selectmen. It was a very productive meeting. Mrs. Brooks said there were a lot of elements and lists for Bonnie and Lisa (both Finance Directors) to discuss. Mr. Furbush looks forward to developing new ideas. They both attended the ZOOM Meeting tonight to discuss the following Executive Order from the Governor.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained the Emergency Order #83 by Governor Sununu. This Executive Order will allow towns the option to postpone 2021 town meetings and elections if necessary due to COVID concerns. Town Moderator Katherine Cooper discussed changing the date with the Board of Selectmen who have the final say. The town moderator and

the town clerk both get to consult with the governing body but they can't decide on postponing the dates. After looking into the effects this would take on the town, Mrs. Cooper suggested keeping the date as is. Both Mrs. Brooks and Mr. Furbush thought that the change would cause scheduling issues in the schools. They would also need to post the meeting in the newspaper which would affect the budget.

Consensus of the Board of Selectmen was not to change the dates of the Deliberative Sessions from February 2 & 4th and the town March 9th voting to June. There are contracts and warrant articles that need to be budgeted for and the budget needs to be voted on.

Selectman Belanger asked if there would be remote options to vote during the deliberative session. As registered voters and guests need to be checked in by the Supervisors of the Checklist, the meeting will need to be held in person. The Fire Department will be conducting a safe check in procedure and masks will be mandatory. Holding the Deliberative Session on ZOOM wouldn't work for the sound issues and call in questions either. Both the Town and School have important warrants to discuss and only in person works best.

Motion by Bob Jordan to keep the original scheduled voting day in March and the Deliberative Sessions next week. Seconded by Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to hold the Deliberative Session in person with no ZOOM available. Seconded by Bob Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Moderator Katherine Cooper stated ZOOM will work for Candidates Nights. Selectman Belanger would like to see a panel of candidates.

Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to hold Candidates Night on ZOOM February 17, 2021. Seconded by Bob Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

NON-PUBLIC

Motion by Selectman Belanger to seal the non-public meeting minutes in accordance of 91:A from January 25, 2021. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Jordan abstained.

GREAT BAY PERMIT

Dave Mercier from Underwood Engineering came before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the "New Total Nitrogen Discharge Permit" and the effects of the Great Bay Area. Mr. Mercier had a power point presentation that covered information regarding the high nitrogen level that is emptying into Great Bay and various ways how that happens. Discussion continued regarding the permit, EPA expectations and the communities involved. W&S Commissioners Tom Gautier suggested letting the permit expire. Mr. Mercier and the Board of Selectman agreed.

MINUTES

Minutes from the January 12, 2021 selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2021 selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes from the January 13, 2021 selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Joe Trombley to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2021 selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Mike Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 3-0-2. Selectmen Jordan and Cody Belanger abstained.

Minutes from the January 21, 2021 meeting with the school board and selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2021 meeting with the school board and selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Jordan abstained.

PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for the pay period ending January 21, 2021 in the amount of \$127,648.42 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to approve the payroll manifest for the pay period ending January 21, 2021 in the amount of \$127,648.42. Seconded by Selectman Bob Jordan. Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifests for the week ending January 21 + 22, 2021 in the amounts of \$462,906.12 and \$131,000.00 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the accounts payable manifest for the week ending January 21 + 22, 2021 in the amounts of \$462,906.12 and \$131,000.00; \$187,174.99 is for the Water Treatment Plant, \$82,578.63 is for WWTF Membranes, \$131,000.00 is for HW Excavator and \$193,152.50 is for the town. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

EOC CHIEF DON DEANGELIS

Chief Don DeAngelis reported the numbers of COVID-19 cases are going down in NH. Only 534 are newly positive statewide, 90 in Rockingham County. The state reports 29 cases active in town but Mr. DeAngelis believes there are more. There are 5,627 active cases at present in NH.

There are 10 methods of quarantine reported. Vaccines for 1b, 65 or older and with medical issues are being distributed now. Residents can contact vaccine.nh.gov for any vaccine questions. There are 2 Fire Department staff members helping with vaccines at Exeter Hospital. The state will reimburse all cost.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked if those employees in the town hall who have had COVID can travel? He understood they will not need to quarantine for 90 days since they have had COVID. Chief DeAngelis agreed from 90 days of testing positive there will not be any quarantine necessary. Although masks and social distancing will still need to be in place to stop the spread. Due to the conversation and the current information changing all the time, Chief DeAngelis will review the safety of COVID recovered and/or vaccinated with both shots quarantining requirements. Selectman Trombley asked that we table this discussion until the Chief has an opportunity to get more information regarding the risk of COVID recovered and/or vaccinated individuals' ability to spread the virus to employees. Selectman Belanger responded if these are the new guidelines set by the state the town should follow them. The SOP will need to be modified first and further discussed at the next meeting.

FIRE CHIEF LOMBARDO

Chief Lombardo reported even though the state reported 29 cases of COVID in Epping he believes there are more cases.

Chief Lombardo explained the recent boiler room heating oil leak. The recovery company has been at the Fire Station and Primex has been contacted. The ceiling tile, light and boiler are all being fixed. Most damage was confined to the Police Department.

POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL WALLACE

Police Chief Wallace said there was some water leakage in the juvenile cell and they had to move some files due to the boiler oil spill.

Police Chief Wallace reported the fatality at the intersection of Route 87 and Route 125. Everyone should use extra caution at that intersection. The NHDOT is aware of the dangerous intersection and upgrades are in the 10-year plan.

BUSINESS

POLICE

Purchase Order to Power DMS for 1 training in the amount of \$4,700 was submitted by the Police Department for approval. This will be paid with impact funds.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the purchase order to Power DMS for the Police Department for 1 training in the amount of \$4,700 with the money to come from impact fees. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

FIRE

Requests to Hire Trevor Hayes and Alexander Hodosi for part-time FF/EMT at \$8.25 on call and \$13.00 on a call, \$14.50 for Mr. Hodosi as he is enrolled in FF2 pending background checks was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the Requests to Hire Trevor Hayes and Alexander Hodosi for part-time FF/EMT at \$8.25 on call and \$13.00 on a call, \$14.50 for Mr. Hodosi pending background checks. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote;

Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0. Selectman Cody Belanger lost connection and didn't vote.

Promotion for Brenda Silva to be the Administrative Assistant and Deputy Emergency Management Director increasing her hourly rate from \$17.50 to \$19.50 per hour was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the promotion for Brenda Silva to be the Administrative Assistant and Deputy Emergency Management Director increasing her hourly rate from \$17.50 to \$19.50 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0. Selectman Cody Belanger lost connection and didn't vote.

ABATEMENTS

Abatements to Prescott Orchards Land Development for 31 Apple Way, map and lot 008-014-116 and 30 Apple Way map and lot 008-014-079 both for current use interest in the amount of \$714.08 each was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the abatements to Prescott Orchards Land Development for 31 Apple Way, map and lot 008-014-116 and 30 Apple Way map and lot 008-014-079 both for current use interest in the amount of \$714.08. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Selectman Mike Yergeau voted nay. Motion carried 3-1-0. Selectman Cody Belanger lost connection and didn't vote.

Abatement to Pearson 03833 LLC on 84 Exeter Road, map and lot 030-080 for interest in the amount of 25.11 on taxes was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Mike Yergeau to approve the abatement to Pearson 03833 LLC on 84 Exeter Road, map and lot 030-080 for interest in the amount of 25.11 on taxes. Seconded by Chairman Adam Munguia. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Cody Belanger abstained but rejoined the meeting.

Abatement to Echo Farms of Epping LLC on 28 French Road, map and lot 002-001 in the amount of \$10,453.61 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the abatement to Echo Farms of Epping LLC on 28 French Road, map and lot 002-001 in the amount of \$10,453.61. Seconded by Selectman

Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

INTENT TO CUT

Intent to Cut for Nancy and Steven Mathes on Dimond Hill Road, maps and lots 017-044 + 011-017 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the Intent to Cut for Nancy and Steven Mathes on Dimond Hill Road, maps and lots 017-044 + 011-017. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Intent to Cut for Kevin King at 84 Pleasant Street, map and lot 029-041 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the Intent to Cut for Kevin King at 84 Pleasant Street, map and lot 029-041. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

VETERANS CREDIT

Veterans Tax Credits for Mark Johnson at map and lot 014-014-084 and Paula Callahan at map and lot 023-039-020-A were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the Veterans Credits for Mark Johnson at map and lot 014-014-084 and Paula Callahan at map and lot 023-039-020-A. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

TAX MAP CONTRACT

Tax Map Maintenance proposal to Cartographic Associates Inc. in Littleton NH in the amount of \$2,200.00 was submitted for approval. This is \$100.00 more than last year.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the Tax Map Maintenance proposal to Cartographic Associates Inc. in Littleton NH in the amount of \$2,200.00. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

TAX LIEN SEARCHES CONTRACT

Contract with Sanders Searches, LLC to search 106 parcels for setting tax liens at \$15.00 per parcel was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to approve the contract with Sanders Searches, LLC to search 106 parcels for setting tax liens at \$15.00 per parcel. Seconded by Selectman Joe Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced there will not be a meeting next Monday on February 1st. The next meeting is February 8th. The Town Deliberative meeting is on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 7 PM as previously publicized at the Middle School Gym.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Cody Belanger

No Report

Selectman Mike Yergeau

No Report

Selectman Joe Trombley

No Report

Selectman Bob Jordan

Selectman Jordan congratulated Brenda Silva on a job well done and her promotion. She is an extremely hard worker and great things will come her way.

Selectman Adam Munguia

Chairman Munguia spoke of his gratitude to this board and all the work they do. Congratulations was shared with Brenda Silver on her promotion.

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Cody Belanger to adjourn after 30 seconds. Seconded by Selectman Bob Jordan. Motion carried 5-0. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Adam Munguia, Chairman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Cody Belanger, Selectman

Joe Trombley, Selectman

Dated: February 8, 2021