

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
November 1, 2021**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Mike Yergeau; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Tom Gauthier and John Cody; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Yergeau called the public meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

ENTER IN TO NON-PUBLIC 91-A:3 II. (a) promotion

Motion by Chairman Yergeau to enter in to Non-Public Session in accordance with 91-A:3 II. (a) promotion. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Cody. Motion carried 5-0.

RECONVENE

Chairman Mike Yergeau reconvened the public meeting at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall meeting room and via ZOOM.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes from the October 18 & 25, 2021 Selectmen meeting was submitted for approval.

Payroll Manifest for the pay period ending October 28, 2021 in the amount of \$144,829.52 was submitted for approval.

Accounts payable manifest for the week ending October 28, 2021 in the amount of \$431,271.04, (\$104,190.53 if for paving and \$327,080.51 is for the town) were submitted for approval.

Raffle Permit for United Sports Foundation for December 1-31st raffle calendars was submitted for approval.

Intent to Cut for Fred LeClair on Mast and Birch Roads map and lots 032-26+27 was submitted for approval. This is a timber harvest for the state.

Yield tax (bond payment) for Fred LeClair on Mast and Birch Roads map and lots 032-26+27 in the amount of \$3,394.50 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to remove the minutes of October 25, 2021 from the Consent Calendar. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the minutes of October 25, 2025 as submitted. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Gauthier abstained.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve the Consent Calendar items as amended. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 5-0.

BUSINESS

POLICE

Resignation from Jeremy Heinrich from the Epping Police Department effective November 5, 2021 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Trombley to accept the resignation from Jeremy Heinrich with regret from Epping Police Department effective November 5, 2021. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

FIRE

Resignation from John M. Cody from the Epping Fire Department effective December 1, 2021 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to accept the resignation from John M. Cody from the Epping Fire Department effective December 1, 2021. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Cody abstained.

CONSERVATION

Appointment to the Conservation Commission for Jeff Leombruno was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the appointment to the Conservation Commission for Jeff Leombruno pending the resignation of Todd Hathaway. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0. The term will expire 2024.

BUDGET REVIEW

TRANSFER STATION

DPW Director Dennis Koch and Road Supervisor David Reinhold reviewed the budget changes the Board of Selectmen requested. The salary line has been changed from three positions to four positions at \$14.00 an hour. Discussion continued regarding a metal roof at \$18,500 for the recycling building versus \$13,500 for asphalt. Encumbering funds from this year's budget will go towards the roof.

Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the Transfer Station Budget and move forward to the Budget Committee pending final approval of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectmen Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

DPW Director Dennis Koch and Road Supervisor David Reinhold reported there are 2 openings in the Highway Department at \$21.00 an hour in the budget. A truck lease has been paid and a new truck was taken out of the budget as requested. Discussion followed regarding buying a plow package now and a truck later.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve the Highway Budget and move forward to the Budget Committee pending final approval of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectmen Trombley. Motion carried 5-0.

FIRE

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve the Fire Department Budget and move forward to the Budget Committee pending final approval of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectmen Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

SAFETY FACILITY

Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the Fire Department Budget and move forward to the Budget Committee pending final approval of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectmen Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

POLICE

Police Chief Michael Wallace stated his budget has a 7% increase due to non-discretionary budget items and includes one cruiser. Selectman Trombley would like the salary line of the budget to represent two officer hires at level 2 or 3 with benefits.

Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the Police Department Budget and move forward to the Budget Committee pending final approval of the Board of Selectmen. Motion not acted on. Police Chief Michael Wallace will attend next Monday's Selectman's meeting with the new salary numbers.

CONSERVATION

Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the Conservation Commission Budget and move forward to the Budget Committee pending final approval of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectmen Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Selectman Trombley suggested a warrant article by the Conservation Commission creating an Expendable Trust Fund for large one-time projects.

PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION

Selectman Trombley clarified the Merit Pool is being used for two Highway, two Transfer and one Fire personnel.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve the Personnel Administration Budget and move forward to the Budget Committee pending final approval of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectmen Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge would like to review the W&S Budget on Monday, November 8th and finalize the budget. Forward to the Budget Committee on Tuesday. Selectman Trombley would like to see the Highway Garage as a Warrant Article again.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge sent his condolences to the family of Sergeant Jessie Sherrill.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge heard the block party went well and was well attended.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge said the town hall has been receiving phone calls on when the tax bills will be ready to be mailed out. He explained the State has all our numbers but due to the DRA being short staffed the tax rate has not been set. Selectman Trombley would like to consider quarterly tax bills.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked the Board of Selectmen if they would like to have a Town Manager conversation Monday. Monday's meeting will start at 7 PM. Budgets for W&S and Police will be reviewed and finalized along with the Town Manager conversation.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Tom Gauthier

Selectman Tom Gauthier asked if the tax bills are late, will there be a funding issue? Finance Director Lisa Fogg answered there is no immediate danger.

Selectman Joe Trombley

No Report

Selectman Bob Jordan

No Report

Selectman John Cody

Selectman John Cody said Sargeant Jessie Sherrill was a great guy, a great family man, and he is such a great loss to so many. Please everyone, slow down when you see a yellow, red or blue light. The "move over" law is in place for a reason.

Selectman John Cody reported the Budget Committee had good question for the school regarding their budget.

Selectman Gauthier thanked Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge for answering all the questions from the Budget Committee, the answers were very thorough.

Selectman Mike Yergeau

No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident John Scully from Dorothy Drive asked where town openings were posted, he would have been interested in serving on the Conservation Committee.

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Cody. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Mike Yergeau, Chairman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Joe Trombley, Vice Chairman

John Cody, Selectman

Tom Gauthier, Selectman

Date: November 15, 2021