

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
March 22, 2010



ATTENDANCE

Vice-Chairman: Karen Falcone; Selectmen: Dianne Gilbert, James McGeough, Rene Archambault, Bob Jordan; Town Administrator, Dean Shankle; Administrative Assistant: Judith Bielecki.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Falcone called the public session to order at 7:00 PM at the Epping Town Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag followed.

2. MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2010

Minutes from March 8, 2010 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the minutes of March 8, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 4-0. Selectman Jordan abstained.

3. SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$580,017.26 for week ending March 19, 2010 was submitted for approval. \$500,000.00 was for the school and \$80,017.26 was the Town.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$580,017.26. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

4. SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$89,769.94 for pay period ending March 18, 2010 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$89,769.94. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

5. SEALING OF NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – March 8, 2010

Motion by Selectman Archambault to seal the non-public minutes of March 8, 2010. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0. Selectman Jordan abstained.

6. SEALING OF NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – March 22, 2010

Motion by Selectman Archambault to seal the non-public minutes of March 22, 2010. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to revise the agenda and move to the Police hiring request. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7. BUSINESS

7.1 SELECTMAN ASSIGNMENTS

Motion by Selectman Archambault to consider combining Highway/Water & Sewer/Transfer Station Assignments. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion withdrawn.

Discussion followed regarding the assignments and how to better distribute the individual Public Works Department and Water and Sewer.

Chairperson:

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to nominate Selectman Falcone as Chairman. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Vice Chairperson

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to nominate Selectman McGeough as Vice-Chairman. Selectman McGeough withdrew nomination. Motion not acted on.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Archambault as Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Town Administrator Shankle to the Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Lamprey Regional Cooperative

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Mr. Dennis Koch to the Lamprey Regional Cooperative. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to nominate Town Administrator Shankle as alternate to the Lamprey Regional Cooperative. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Conservation Commission

Motion by Selectman Falcone to nominate Selectman Archambault as representative to the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Planning Board

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to nominate Selectman Archambault as representative to the Planning Board. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion not acted one.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Falcone as representative to the Planning Board. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Alternate Planning Board

Motion by Selectman Falcone to nominate Selectman Gilbert as alternate representative to the Planning Board. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Budget Committee

Motion by Selectman Falcone to nominate Selectman McGeough as representative to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Alternate Budget Committee

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Archambault as alternate representative to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Recreation Commission

Motion by Selectman Falcone to nominate Selectman Gilbert as representative to the Recreation Commission. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to reconsider the appointment of Selectman Gilbert to the Recreation Commission and to nominate Selectman Jordan. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Historical Commission

Motion by Selectman Archambault to nominate Selectman Falcone as representative to the Historical Commission. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Cable TV Representative

Motion by Selectman Archambault to nominate Selectman McGeough as representative to Cable TV. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Fire Wards and Police

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to nominate Selectman Falcone as representative to the Fire Wards and Police. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion did not carry 2-3. Selectman McGeough, Selectman Archambault, and Selectman Jordan voted nay.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to nominate Selectman Jordan as representative to the Fire Wards and Police. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion did not carry 2-3. Selectman McGeough, Selectman Archambault, and Selectman Jordan voted nay.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to split the Fire Wards and Police Departments Assignments and nominate Selectman McGeough to the Police Department and Selectman Archambault for the Fire Wards. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion withdrawn.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Falcone as representative to the Police Department. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Archambault as representative to the Fire Wards. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-2. Selectman Gilbert and Selectman Falcone voted nay.

Town Buildings/Infrastructure

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to remove Town Buildings/Infrastructure from the assignment list. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion carried 5-0.

Water & Sewer Oversight

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Gilbert as oversight to Water & Sewer. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion carried 5-0

Stump Dump, Recycling & Transfer Station Oversight

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Gilbert to the Stump Dump, Recycling & Transfer Station Oversight. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion carried 5-0

Highway Oversight

Motion by Selectman McGeough to nominate Selectman Jordan as oversight to Highway Department. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0

Alternate Highway Oversight

Motion by Selectman Falcone to nominate Selectman McGeough as alternate for oversight to the Highway Department. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0

7.2 HIRING REQUEST – Police Department

Request to hire Mr. Matthew Blonigen as a full-time police officer was presented by Chief Dodge. Chief Dodge advised that Mr. Blonigen is from Newington and successfully passed all written tests and background checks and recommended Mr. Blonigen for the Police Department. He introduced Mr. Blonigen to the Board and requested his appointment.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to hire Mr. Matthew Blonigen as a full-time police officer effective immediately. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Request by Chief Dodge to grant permission for signing the application for Mr. Blonigen to attend the Police Academy.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to grant permission for Chief Dodge to sign the application to the Police Academy for Mr. Blonigen. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

7.3 PURCHASE ORDER – Safety Complex

Purchase Order for Monarch Electric Service in the amount of \$3,185.00 to replace a switch in the generator at the safety complex.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the purchase order for Monarch Electric Service in the amount of \$3,185.00 for the generator switch replacement at the Safety Complex. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7.4 PURCHASE ORDERS – Police Department

Purchase order for Central Chrysler Jeep Dodge in the amount of \$22,536.00 for a 2009 Dodge Charger was presented by Chief Dodge.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the purchase order for Central Chrysler Jeep Dodge in the amount of \$22,536.00. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Purchase order for Adamson Industries in the amount of \$7,222.50 for the transfer of equipment from unit #5 was presented by Chief Dodge.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the purchase order for Adamson Industries in the amount of \$7,222.50. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Purchase order for Central Chrysler Jeep Dodge to lease a 2009 Dodge Charger with a three year lease payment in the amount of \$15,600.00 with a total amount of \$46,800.00 was presented by Chief Dodge. Chief Dodge advised that this lease additionally includes: police equipment and installation from Adamson Industries (\$13,011.40); a Panasonic laptop model #29 from Transcor (\$6,880.93).

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the purchase order for Central Chrysler Jeep Dodge in the amount of \$15,600.00 for the first years lease payment on a three year plan with a total amount of \$46,800.00. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Purchase order for Northwestern University for motorcycle training for police officers in the amount of \$1,795.00 was presented for approval by Chief Dodge.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the purchase order for Northwestern University in the amount of \$1,795.00. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

7.5 PUBLIC WORKS ISSUES

Town Administrator Shankle requested approval for Public Works to close the Transfer Station Easter Sunday on April 4, 2010.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to close the Transfer Station on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Town Administrator Shankle requested approval to hire Tri-State to clean up the Town Hall and remove the debris from the bell tower in the amount of \$1,795.00. Selectman McGeough advised that the recent rain storm caused some debris to come through the ceilings and light fixtures in the Town Hall.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the purchase order in the amount of \$1,795.00 for Tri-State. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7.6 SIGNING OF MS-2

Request to approve and sign the MS-2 Report of Appropriations Actually Voted was submitted for approval by Finance.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to sign the MS-2 Report as submitted by Finance. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7.7 WARRANT ARTICLE – Fire Chief

Selectman Archambault stated that under RSA 154:5 the authority to hire the Fire Chief from part time to full time. He advised that the position would have to be posted internally. He asked the Fire Chief if he is selected as the candidate, what type of separation notice is required for resigning his current position. Chief LeDuc advised that under his contract it would be a 60 day notice unless the Board of Selectmen would waive that requirement. Selectman Archambault stated the position would have to be posted. Chairman Falcone advised that the Selectmen had met with the Fire Wards and decided that the process to hire should be consistent with other hiring requirements in Town. Selectman McGeough stated that the Fire Wards indicated they were very happy with your performance as Fire Chief and are looking to expedite the process. He added that Chief LeDuc is one of the best chiefs the Town has had in a while. Chief LeDuc stated that the people on the Fire Department make the department look good, and we work as a team.

7.8 LETTER – Seacoast Soccer Club

Letter from Seacoast Soccer Club to advise that a fund raising event would be held at the Shirking Road Facility on Friday, April 2, 2010 from 5:00 PM through 5:00 PM, April 3, 2010. Mr. Paul Willis, Executive Director advised it was a Soccerthon to be held on Field #1 which should not cause any impact to the abutters. The letter was submitted as notification of the event.

7.9 VETERAN'S EXEMPTION – Carr

Veteran's Exemption request for Mr. Michael Carr, 290 Calef Highway, Map 023, Lot 039-012-D was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Michael Carr, 290 Calef Highway, Map 023, Lot 039-012-D. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.10 VETERAN'S EXEMPTION – Fowler

Veteran's Exemption request for Mr. Walter Fowler, 382 Pleasant Street, Map 027, Lot 086 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Walter Fowler, 382 Pleasant Street, Map 027, Lot 086. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

7.11 VETERAN'S EXEMPTION – Levine

Veteran's Exemption request for Mr. Lewis Levine, 16 Cote Drive, Map 023, Lot 162 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Lewis Levine, 16 Cote Drive, Map 029, Lot 162. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7.12 VETERAN'S/ELDERLY EXEMPTION – Gill

Veteran's and Elderly Exemption request for Mr. & Mrs. James Gill, 153 Old Hedding Road, Unit 18, Map 024, Lot 037-018 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Veteran's and Elderly Exemption for Mr. James Gill, 153 Old Hedding Road, Map 024, Lot 037-018. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

7.13 INTENT TO CUT – Camp Hedding

Intent to Cut for property owned by Hedding Campground, and submitted by Mr. Jay McKinley, Map 024, Lot 026, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Intent-to-cut for Hedding Campground, Map 024, Lot 026. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7.14 INTENT TO CUT – Abenaki Timber

Intent to Cut for property owned by Abenaki Timber, on NH Rout 27, Map 027, Lot 091, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Intent-to-cut for Abenaki Timber, Map 027, Lot 091. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

7.15 INTENT TO CUTS – Burley Trust

Intent to Cut for property owned by Burley Trust, for property located on Map 016, Lot 039, Map 010, Lot 067, as submitted for approval. Two intent-to-cut requests were submitted, one for 2009 and one for 2010.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Intent-to-cut for property owned by the Burley Trust, located on Map 016, Lot 039, Map 010, Lot 067. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

7.16 INTENT TO CUT – Langdon

Intent to Cut for property owned by Gerald Langdon, 314 North River Road, Map 030, Lot 055, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Intent-to-cut for Mr. Gerald Langdon, 314 North River Road, Map 030, Lot 055. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7.17 INTENT TO CUT EXTENSION – Primack

Request to extend the report date to June 30, 2010 was submitted by Mr. Phil Primack, 356 Pleasant Street, in reference to Intent-to-Cut 09-147-011-T.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Intent-to-Cut extension for 09-147-011-T for property owned by Mr. Phil Primack, 356 Pleasant Street. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.18 LICENSE – N.E. DRAGWAY

License for NE Dragway for the upcoming season from April 1, 2010 to October 31, 2010 was presented for approval. Mr. Joe Lombardo advised that all inspections have been completed to date.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the license for N.E. Dragway from April 1, 2010 to October 31, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.19 ASSESSING CONTRACT FOR REVALUATION

Assessing contract to hire Vision Appraisal to complete the 2010 Town Revaluation in the amount of \$68,500.00 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the contract to hire Vision Appraisal for the 2010 Town Revaluation in the amount of \$68,500.00. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

HIRING REQUEST – Recreation

Request to hire Donna Duddy as a part-time group leader with a salary of \$10.00 per hour was submitted by the Recreation Commission.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to hire Ms. Donna Duddy, as a part-time group leader with a salary of \$10.00 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

8. CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

8.1 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Town Administrator Shankle

Town Administrator Shankle advised that the letter of support for Lamprey River Advisory Committee has been sent. He advised that a thank you letter for supporting them was received back.

8.2 INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman McGeough

Selectman McGeough stated that the last few weeks have been a challenge to the Town and forming a committee to become better prepared and having Mr. Flowers is the right person for the job. He added that the Town has voted in a full-time Fire Chief and the position will be filled as soon as the hiring process is complete.

Selectman McGeough stated he hoped the Board would leave their egos at the door as the Town has some serious problems.

Selectman Gilbert

Selectman Gilbert thanked the people for there confidence in her by re-electing her to the Board. She added that she takes the job seriously and considers herself as the people's agent.

Selectman Jordan

Selectman Jordan thanked the Town residents for voting for him. He stated that he would work to make the Town a better place. He added that the issues with the Town Hall and infrastructure have been brought to his attention during the last catastrophe and hopes to help address the problems.

Selectman Archambault

No issues.

Selectman Sott

Selectman Sott welcomed Selectman Jordan to the Board and Selectman Gilbert back to the Board.

Selectman Sott stated that the air has been cleared this evening and hopes the egos will be checked at the door so the Board can work together productively.

9. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS**

Mr. Dick Irving, Acre Street, stated that this is the best meeting the Board has ever had. He asked why the audio goes low during the broadcast. Mr. Joe Denoncour, ETV advised that the issue is caused by a part which levels the audio is starting to go and would be replaced if it continues. Selectman Archambault requested Mr. Irving be provided a CD of tonight's meeting.

Mr. Brian Reed thanked everyone for voting for him and congratulated Selectman Gilbert and Selectman Jordan. Selectman Falcone advised that Mr. Reed had applied for a position as alternate to the Planning Board and wished him well.

Mr. Paul Spidle stated that he had been in Town politics for twenty years and stated it is a good Board as you all have talents.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPOINTMENTS

7:45 PM **Emergency Management – Flowers**

Mr. Tim Flowers, Emergency Management Director advised that the last two storms have been declared as disasters by the State and have been sent to the President to release Federal funds. He advised that the last rain storm was monitored and had opened the EOC in case assistance was needed. He added that the abutters of the Lamprey River were visited to advise when the river would crest and were monitoring the river.

Mr. Flowers recommended that the Town should consider establishing a shelter for any future disasters so that we don't have to send residents to other Town's. He recommended a committee be formed to look into finding a location for a shelter. Selectman McGeough stated that Mr. Flowers did a great job during the last couple of weeks. He advised that he had spoken to the school board at the last meeting to start dialog to establish a shelter. Chief Dodge stated that Mr. Jeff Harris, the Superintendent of Schools, representative from the Police, Fire and Board should be included. Selectman McGeough requested the committee be established as soon as possible. Selectman Jordan stated that Mr. Flowers did an exemplary job during the emergencies and said he is the right man for the job. Mr. Flowers warned residents that some consultants are around Town offering assistance to residents with damages and if there is any question about the companies, the Fire or Police Departments should be contacted. Fire Chief LeDuc stated that the Governor viewed the damage on Prescott and Main Streets and was impressed that the Town was handling the issues without asking the State for assistance.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to establish a committee as soon as possible to discuss the process to establish an emergency shelter in Town. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

10. **ADJOURN**

Motion by Selectman McGeough to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Bielecki
Administrative Assistant

Karen Falcone, Chairman

Rene Archambault, Vice-Chairman

Dianne Gilbert, Selectman

James McGeough, Selectman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Date _____