

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2015

Selectmen present: Timothy Eldridge

Henry Spencer

Lawrence Edwards

Minutes transcribed by: Cheryle A. Feirick

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

The Mail, Manifest and Signature and Action Folder were reviewed.

Pledge of Allegiance

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST:

The Board approved the minutes of October 13, 2015 with an amendment made under **Selectmen's Comment and Reports** that should read: "acquiring a grant for **general repairs** of the library" and weekly manifest.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Jory Augenti asked what the issue with the Granite Road Bridge is. He stated that when we had the severe rain storm a tree came down over the wires and nobody could get through, what would be done if emergency vehicles had to get through. He reminded the Board that the winter road Contractor needs to be notified that the bridge is closed. They need to be prepared for where they are going to put the snow and turn around.

Resident David Strauss met with Gwen English, Assessing Clerk about the Assessing firm's report on his property and wanted to congratulate Gwen on doing a fantastic job working as a mediator between Avitar and himself. With her help he now has a meeting setup with Avitar on his property.

Resident Erik Jones reported that the Open House at the Library/ Mason Hall attracted 65 people coming through the library door. Great turn out for the presentation on the restoration of the Dr. Sanders portrait. Mr. Potter had many visitors asking questions about the history of Effingham and past residents. Carpets were cleaned at the library and they look great, so thank you to the town for taking care of this.

Resident Eric Potter stated that at the Open House he helped an interested party discover info on his family including great-great-great grandparents. The Effingham Historical Society is in possession of Maxine and George Pearson cemetery book from Bill Stewart. The Cemetery Trustees can reach out to the Historical Society for the book if they so choose.

Library Trustee Maureen Spencer reported that the motion detection lights have been installed at the library. Library staff will be checking out how they are working this evening. She had a conversation with Dana Amidon, the Town's Electrician about electricity to be installed at the library sign and out to the

prospected Gazebo. Dana Amidon is willing to donate his time when running the conduit under the parking lot when it is being redone. The library will be holding their Halloween party on Saturday October 31, at 1:30pm.

Emelyn Albert-Chair of the Effingham Conservation Commission reported the expenditure to the Town for Milfoil removal was \$7,000.00. Jack Williams and Emelyn Albert, members of the Effingham Conservation Commission went out to look at the repair work done on Molly Philbrick Road. Speaking on behalf of the Commission, they are happy with the repairs. Good Job!

PLANNED DISCUSSION WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS:

The Board met with Road Contractor, Bob Battles for his monthly meeting report on numerous projects throughout the town that have been completed (Pine River Road) and the start of (Champion Hill Road). Road Contractor reported that there were extremely large boulders and rocks that needed to be removed on Champion Hill Road before the next step could be taken. He also, reported that during the severe rainstorm on September 30, 17 trees came down with the 6.4" of rainfall. Fall grading is done for now. Selectman Eldridge asked about a time line on Granite Road, starting the week of November 2nd. The Road Contractor will keep the Selectmen's office informed of any unforeseen issues that may come up while doing Granite Road. Selectman Eldridge brought up there is a pothole on School Street that needs to be fixed. Road Contractor mentioned that at this time they cannot deliver road waste material to Mr. Hill on Elm Street, due to the fact that they cannot safely get a triaxle truck into the area he has designated to dump. When they are using a smaller dump truck, then they will deliver road waste to him.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Selectman Eldridge reported that the Civic Awards Ceremony went well. Congratulations to all who received awards for outstanding work in the town. Update: on the fencing at the transfer station it is scheduled out for another 2 weeks. Snow shelving for the Town Office, Library, Police Station, where do we stand for this winter. It was decided that an RFP would be done and put out there. RFP will require Liability and Workmen's Compensation insurance coverage. Selectman Eldridge read off an extensive list of the Board's completed projects for the year to date.

Selectman Spencer will call the John Deere dealership to get an update on the snow blower delivery. He would like to put a motion forward to have H.E. Bergeron be hired to do the ranging shots **only** for the library parking lot at a cost of \$1412.00. This expenditure was approved by the Board. Selectman Spencer reminded all in attendance that he takes all towns' needs into consideration not just the Library. With much discussion about the previous report that was done by Norman Larsen from Christopher Williams Architects, Town Administrator will call and see if they have a specific plan that was done for the Library parking lot. As Health Office he received a letter from a resident in town reporting mold issue where they live. He is going to contact the resident, do a site inspection and obtain more specific information as the Health Office.

Selectman Edwards stated that he doesn't have anything thing to add to road concerns since the Road Contractor covered it all. He reported that he met at the Granite Road Bridge with the Engineer (CLD Engineering-John Byatt) that works along with Stoney Ridge on Monday, October 19 and provided a report for the Board. Also, we have received a report back from the DOT Engineer. Selectman Edwards displayed his drawing and photos of the bridge. He pointed out areas that both Engineers mentioned in their reports. Selectman Eldridge stated that more discussion will take place on the bridge under New Business.

OLD BUSINESS:

Covered by Road Contractor's monthly report

NEW BUSINESS:

First budget meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 27 after the Selectmen's meeting. Selectman Eldridge stated that the Selectmen will begin meeting with Department heads starting with Lenny Espie, Cemetery Custodian on November 3rd after the Selectmen's meeting. He asked Lenny to bring forward items he feels should be included on the Cemetery budget.

Selectman Eldridge reported that when contacting White Mountain Survey he was told they are not structural engineers. He was referred to H.E. Bergeron for this type of work because they specialize in structural engineering. Selectman Eldridge contacted H.E. Bergeron they will do a site walk of all three bridges, review the report from the DOT and give an official report prioritizing the bridges at NO cost. Reports will be submitted to the Selectmen's office.

Selectmen Edwards asked why the Board was going to redo all that the other Engineers have done. Selectman Eldridge reminded Selectman Edwards that communication and reports have been going to him as an individual not the Town of Effingham. All information must come through the Selectmen's office not to one individual Selectman, this includes emails and reports. Selectman Eldridge clarified that the board members need to work as a whole board not individually. Selectman Eldridge motioned that they have H. E. Bergeron come out at NO cost to the town and give an engineering report on the three bridges, seconded, no further discussion. Vote is to have H. E. Bergeron to do the engineer report on the town's bridges. Selectman Spencer stated that special attention must be made on Nutter Road by our winter road contractor for the safety of those using Nutter Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Jory Augenti asked why the Board is sidelining the reports that have already been done by the DOT Engineer and CLD Engineering on the Granite Road Bridge. Selectman Eldridge reiterated because the Board as a whole was not involved.

Resident Bill Piekut stated the resident that is dealing with mold issues, the town needs to clarify if they are tenants or homeowners. If they are tenants, that is a dispute with the landlord and the town shouldn't be getting involved. Bill asked for an update on the Rumney Hill Road trailer: where is it at, there is now firewood stacked in front of the trailer. Selectman Spencer will write up an outline for the steps that have been taken to contact the property owner.

NON-PUBLIC:

Property Auction-Legal

WEEKLY DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Roll call vote to go into Non-Public @ 6:45pm

Discussion-concerns with taxed deeded and repurchase status property

Non-public ended at 7:05pm

After a short work session, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm

Timothy Eldridge

Henry Spencer

Date: _____

Lawrence Edwards