

**TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

January 12, 2016

Selectmen present: Tim Eldridge
Lawrence Edwards
Henry Spencer

Minutes transcribed by: Cheryle A. Feirick

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm – for a work session on the Selectmen's budget.

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

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST:

The Board approved the minutes of January 5, 2016 and manifest ending December 31, 2015 in the amount of \$21,732.82 and manifest for week of January 12, 2016 in the amount of \$6,375.91.

Additions to the agenda under New Business: Bond and Bridges

Meeting with Stoney Ridge Environmental was rescheduled until Tuesday, January 19, 2016 by Stoney Ridge. Subject for this meeting is the presentation of the Steven's Road Bridge report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Library Trustee Maureen Spencer informed Fire Chief Burbank there are 10 individuals signed up for the CPR course and asked the Fire Chief if he would contact Brian of LifeStar to schedule a date in January. Randy agreed he would call.

Resident Chris Seamans asked if the Select Board is considering putting funds in their budget for early fire detection for the Historic Town Hall. This is the town's main historic structure and we should give ourselves the best chance to save this building from fire. Fire Chief Burbank stated there would need to be a dialer and a hard wire alarm system installed. Chief Burbank will contact companies on such systems and deliver the information to the Select Board.

Resident Bill Piekut asked for a clarification why \$46,000.00 was appropriated for Granite Road reconstruction but an additional \$4,557.00 was spent? He gathered the reconstruction wasn't being monitored very well.

PLANNED DISCUSSION WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Selectman Spencer spoke on behalf of the Winter Road Contractor. He reported no complaints came in over winter road maintenance and there is a sufficient supply of sand and salt for treating roads. Winter Road Contractor will increase the size of the sand pile for public use at the salt shed.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Selectman Eldridge handed out the bridge report from HEB Engineering to Selectman Spencer and Selectman Edwards for their review.

Selectman Spencer stated he was having second thoughts about protecting the propane tanks at the library. He would like to reconsider placing a lean-to over the tanks for this year and in the future having the tanks moved when the parking lot is able to be redone. All board members agreed to leave the tanks uncovered for now.

Selectman Edwards reported he obtained a quote of \$300.00 to move the granite slabs from the School Street property to the transfer station. Board agreed to expend the money to hire John Edwards to move the slabs.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board received information back from Exit Realty and Costantino Realty for putting the property up for sale on Wilkinson Swamp Road and School Street. One of the packets was incomplete; Selectman Eldridge will contact the realtor requesting the missing information.

The stone fence posts that were purchased for Woodland Cemetery are being stored at the supplier until spring at no additional costs to the Town.

Update on culvert application for Granite Road: Selectman Edwards will have it completed before spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion took place around the Town getting a bond to do the Granite Road Bridge. Selectman Eldridge reminded the board members the Town has to pay out the money first for the replacement before the Town will receive reimbursement from the State Bridge Fund in 2024. The Board agreed they have to come up with a plan and in that plan an RFP needs to be written.

Resident Chris Seaman's shared information with the board on several companies who do bridge work from design, approval and building the bridge. Chris did express his concern that the Board has been talking about the Steven's Road Bridge since last year and nothing has been done. Selectman Eldridge stated an engineering firm was retained and the Board has been waiting since spring for Stoney Ridge's report on proceeding with work on the Stevens Road Bridge.

Many residents had suggestions for the board on moving forward with these bridges.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Linda Edwards asked the Board if waiting until next Tuesday to meet with Stoney Ridge is too long. Selectman Eldridge responded the board will meet with them then. The town does have a contract with them and will give them the opportunity to present their report.

NON PUBLIC-None

WEEKLY DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMAN:

Work session to complete the Selectmen's budget

Ongoing budget meetings

Meeting with Stoney Ridge will be on January 19, 2016

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Date: _____

Timothy Eldridge

Henry Spencer

Lawrence Edwards