

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

February 10, 2016

Selectmen present: Lawrence Edwards
Henry Spencer

Minutes transcribed by: Gwen English

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

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

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST:

The Board approved the minutes of January 26, 2016 and manifest in the amount of \$349,293.03 (includes a payment to the school district.)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Tom Caulkins asked the Board to consider waiving the delinquent property tax interest and penalties on a parcel of property he is interested in purchasing through private sale here in town. Selectman Spencer expressed his concerns on setting a precedence if the Board were to agree and will seek advisement from the town attorney.

Resident Mike Cahalane referenced the attendants shed at the town transfer station and the location of the electrical switch, gfi switch and the junction box relative to the location of the hot water tank and shower. He is concerned for the electrical safety of the structure. Selectman Spencer will review the situation.

Budget Committee Chair Paul Bartoswicz presented the Board with the MS-737 Budget of the Town of Effingham. Paul then went on to express his concern regarding the bridge situation here in town and emphasized the need for engineering oversight during all phases of construction to insulate the town from liability. He would also like to see the Board of Selectmen strive to work together.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly report.

PLANNED DISCUSSION WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS: None

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Selectman Edwards reported on the Boards meeting with Michie Corporation. Selectman Spencer noted the Selectmen will have further discussions on the Steven's Road Bridge and what requests for proposal might be necessary and confirmed the need for engineer oversight from start to finish to insulate the town from liability.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Selectman Spencer will reach out to the Planning Board to schedule a meeting with the Board of Selectmen to discuss some Zoning Enforcement matters, he tentatively set the date for February 23rd. A time will be announced once the date is confirmed.

Selectman Edwards raised discussion on the need for a social media policy for municipal employees. He read an excerpt from “Knowing the Territory” that recommends a carefully written policy which should be reviewed by the town attorney. Selectman Spencer responded the current personnel policy addresses social media use which has been reviewed by the town attorney and the Board has no authority over employees outside of the workplace.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Linda Edwards expressed concern over the time the snow plow reaches the intersection of Province Lake Road and Nutter Road and the school bus schedule. Selectmen Spencer will look into it with the winter road contractor. She also asked where we were with grant writing for the library. Selectman Spencer explained the time for filing has expired and he will look into putting information together for the June 2016 filing period. All were in agreement the town should contract with a grant writer.

Resident Chris Seamans asked where the Planning Board was in regards to drafting a flow chart intended to assist residence in traversing the land use process. Selectmen Edwards remarked it should be a simple thing to do. Selectmen Spencer noted it was not a simple thing to draft because land use matters are different in nature making it impossible to cover every situation on a flow chart. Chris also expressed his concern over the timing of snow plowing. He doesn’t feel they are out early enough. Resident and member of both the Planning Board and ZBA Mike Cahalane commented that both boards have had discussions on the matter and feel it’s too extensive an issue to narrow down to a flow chart.

Resident Tom Thompson asked the Board about the status of the cluster development at the intersection of Granite and Rumney Hill Road. Selectman Spencer noted an enforcement letter has been sent and he will follow up.

NON PUBLIC: None

WEEKLY DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMAN: None

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm

Timothy Eldridge

Date: _____

Henry Spencer

Lawrence Edwards