

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2015

Selectmen present: Timothy Eldridge
Henry Spencer
Lawrence Edwards

Minutes transcribed by: Claudia Lamphier

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

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

Pledge of Allegiance

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the minutes of May 19, and May 26 as well as the weekly manifest for June 2, 2015.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jory Augenti spoke in favor of the Board accepting the road maintenance proposal submitted by Dig and Doze.

Ruth O'Neal showed the Board 2 rocks to demonstrate their size. The rocks were left on her lawn from the snow banking which was plowed in her yard from winter road plowing.

Kathy McGuire reported that she was very happy with the maintenance of her road. She also wanted the Board to know how much she enjoys her encounters with attendants at the transfer station.

Patricia Riker requested the Board consider the lower priced proposal received for the road maintenance contract.

Chris Seamans requested an update on research being done for the replacement of the Stevens Road bridge. Selectman Edwards has received a proposal for some of the designing and necessary permitting of the bridge.

Fire Warden Thompson announced that he has spoken to officials regarding replacement of the Green Mountain fire tower. He reported that it is anticipated that the project will take most of the summer months.

Maureen Spencer reported that the first available time the Library Trustees and employees of the Library can meet with the Board will be July 8th at 5:30 pm.

Linda Edwards noted that the Selectmen's meeting minutes on the Town's website are not up to date.

Mellisa Seamans asked if the Board intends to make any improvements to the Town Hall/Library Building this year. The next project suggested to be done in the architectural report, is to remove pavement around the building to provide for drainage. She suggested that the report be uploaded to the Town's website. Selectmen have also discussed the possibility of moving the veteran's honor roll from the Lord's Hill Meeting House grounds to Town Hall/Library.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly fire/rescue report.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

Police Chief Butts announced the effective date of the "hands free" law to be July 1. He noted there will be a multi-faceted approach to find and fine violators. There will be a State wide effort to enforce the new law. The law restricts the use of communication devices unless they are accessed hands free. Members of area law enforcement agencies are forming a coalition to address the widespread heroin epidemic. A new law is proposed which will allow family members of heroin users to possess NARCAN, a drug which can counteract an overdose of heroin. Chief Butts noted that with the increase of heroin use, has come the increase in many other crimes committed to secure funding for the habit. In a statewide study, Carroll County was found to have the highest use of marijuana. The Chief closed by reminding all that the Police Department welcomes calls for any questions or concerns.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Selectman Edwards referenced the proposed expense for the design and permitting of the Stevens Road bridge, noting that the total is under the amount that would require competitive bidding. Board members will discuss this further to decide if they wish to go forward with the firm Selectman Edwards has been working with, or look to other companies for the work to be done.

A soil test will be conducted at a town owned property located on School Street. Clean up work continues on a property located on Wilkinson Swamp Road.

The Cemetery Custodian position has been posted. Interested applicants must have their employment applications submitted by June 12th. Chris Seamans asked if posting was required. The personnel policy requires new positions must be posted.

Mold has grown on the inside walls of the Municipal Office Building. It is located at the corner of the hallway and seems to have been caused by condensation from water pipes above the suspended ceiling. The water pipe was relocated a few years ago. A firm was hired to mitigate the mold, but that firm did not mitigate the circumstances which caused it. A roofer which formerly worked on the roof of the Municipal Office Building will be contacted to see if they can resolve the underlying condition.

Selectman Spencer will be speaking on behalf of the Board at the Effingham Elementary School promotion ceremony. As is customary, he will be giving each of the 6th graders a certificate of congratulations signed by all Board members and a dictionary.

The Board will be advertising in local newspapers to fill vacancies on Town Boards.

Selectmen will be adding signage at the Effingham salt and sand shed.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board is advertising requests for RFP's for crack sealing of some recently paved roads and a three phase chip sealing project on Green Mountain Road.

The meeting held with the Fire Warden, Fire Chief and Board members was a productive one. Selectmen have signed the required recommendation to the State of New Hampshire to appoint Richard Thompson as Fire Warden for the next 3 years. The Board felt an agreement to certain terms by all parties was warranted and will monitor adherence for the upcoming term in office.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2015-2017 road maintenance contract was awarded to the firm of Dig & Doze, on a vote of 2 to 1, with Selectman Eldridge opposing. The firm will be offered a conditional approval until all required documentation has been received. The worker's compensation insurance certificate has been presented, although the Town needs to be named as an additional insured party. Also, a bond for the estimated annual amount of the contract must be obtained within the next 15 days.

Selectman Edwards explained to those in attendance how the road maintenance bidding sheet is written. Since required road maintenance changes according to circumstances, prices are quoted on an hourly rate for the use of required equipment and that rate include the price of the operator for that hour as well. A total annual amount is not stated as is the case in the winter road contract or most other contracts the Town enters into.

At 7:15 pm the Board held a work session.

The Board met with Bob and Josh Battles, primary operators of Dig & Doze, which has conditionally been awarded the 2015-2017 road maintenance contract.

The town's attorney will be moving to another firm, but will continue to represent us there.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Timothy Eldridge, Chairman

Date: _____

Henry Spencer, Selectman

Lawrence Edwards, Selectman