

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

July 1, 2014

Selectmen present: Henry Spencer
Timothy Eldridge
Lawrence Edwards

Minutes transcribed by: Claudia Lamphier

The meeting was called to order at: 4:00 pm

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

In a non-public session, the Board met at 4:00 pm to discuss the deeding list for 2014. The letters of notification of pending tax deeding were mailed today and the Tax Collector reviewed the list with the Board. The date of the tax deeding is August 5th.

Public session was convened at 4:35

Following discussion with the Tax Collector, but prior to 5:00 pm Richard Seamans addressed the Board about a taxation issue, unrelated to deeding. The property he was discussing was that of his recently deceased mother and he is working on her estate.

Michael Cahalane had been asked to come in to speak to Board members prior to the customary start of business to discuss filling a temporary position, assisting the Board with oversight of operations during the construction of the salt shed. Mike accepted the position.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maureen Spencer, the Town's General Assistance Administrator, requested she be given a copy of the pending deeding list each year, so she is aware of who may be in need of financial assistance.

Cheryle Feirick announced that the Library has received approval by USDA for grant funding of shelving.

Ron Witham made several inquiries. He asked how many times the cemeteries were going to be mowed this year. He commented that there was a lack of public transportation for people in Town that do not drive to get to doctors appointments. He asked if there was anything that could be done about some buildings around town that are falling down. He also asked why he never sees posting of available positions. Finally, Ron asked why the Town of Effingham no longer had July 4th celebration events. Selectmen responded to each question as they were best able.

Linda Edwards asked why planned road reconstruction work has not been put out to bid. Discussion ensued about this issue having been discussed many times with the conclusion that reconstruction is part of road maintenance and the road maintenance is a contract that is put out to bid. Selectmen will discuss this issue again in the fall, when they are budgeting.

Demolition of the current salt shed is going to start next week if weather permits.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly report on fire/rescue department calls.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Spencer asked Fire Chief Burbank about charges for firefighters gear. Randy explained that the gear needs to be inspected annually. Selectman Spencer also asked if the AED units have been delivered and clearly marked at the Library and Municipal Building. They have been put in each location. When asked where the one at the Municipal Office is located, all were informed that it is in a kitchen cabinet which has the AED initials prominently displayed in red.

After Apex Plumbing responded to a message left by Selectman Eldridge, it was decided that Selectman Spencer would once again approach them about fixing the leaks in the attendance shed at the transfer station.

Selectman Edwards reported that the road contractor is doing cold patching this week. Also the contractor has looked at Stillings Lane which has a large rock protruding from the roadway. Selectman Edwards also noted that vegetation has grown to an extent that it obstructs a safe view at the South River Bridge near Chase Mill Road. The road contractor will be asked to do that, since the annual roadside mowing does not take place until later in the summer.

Selectman Spencer met with the designer of the failed septic system at the transfer station. A new leach field location was chosen.

The surface coat of pavement to Town House Road is scheduled to be put down on the week of July 14th.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the Minutes of June 24th and the weekly manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board voted unanimously to use accept the contract offer to purchase the steel arch building that has been proposed to replace the current salt shed.

Proposals for crack sealing were due on Monday. None were received. The Board will be looking for a firm to do the work.

Selectman Eldridge has created a spreadsheet to monitor roadwork. Entries will be made for work that needs to be done, and the road contractor will indicate on the sheet when the work has been completed.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board has started compiling issues they want to address at budgeting time.

The Board recessed the meeting at 6:15. Fire Warden Thompson and State Forest Ranger, Bob Boyd are scheduled to come in at 7:00 pm this evening. Warden Thompson and Ranger Boyd

arrived at 7:00 pm and the meeting reconvened.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

Police Chief Butts reported that his Department has been very busy. He asked if the Board had approved the traffic control ordinance that he submitted. The Board needed more time to review the ordinance.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Henry Spencer, Selectman

Date

Timothy Eldridge, Selectman

Lawrence Edwards, Selectman