

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

August 7, 2012

Selectmen present: Susan Slack
Theresa Swanick
Henry Spencer

Minutes transcribed by: Susan Slack and Gwen English

Meeting called to order: The Board opened the meeting at 6:30 pm and met in nonpublic session with Police Chief Joe Collins and Sgt. Tim Butts on a personnel matter.

At 7 pm, the public portion of the meeting began with a farewell reception for departing Chief Joe Collins, with numerous townspeople and guests in attendance. In addition to thanking Chief Collins for his nine years of exceptional service to the people of Effingham, the Board announced that Sgt. Tim Butts will become the town's next police chief. He will serve as acting chief until a sergeant can be hired to replace him.

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Following the reception, the Board opened the meeting for public comment. Emelyn Albert, Conservation Commission Chair, informed the Board that the invasive plant, milfoil, has been detected at the Ossipee River boat ramp off Route 153. She reported that it appeared to be a significant infiltration of milfoil and that she and other members of the conservation commission had scheduled a meeting with two Freedom Conservation Commission members to further investigate the extent of the problem. Emelyn said a milfoil treatment method would then be determined and that the Aquatic Plants trust fund still had adequate funds to pay for the treatment.

Emelyn also praised Evans Brothers for their recent work on Huntress Bridge Road. Sand was cleaned off the bridge, potholes were patched on the paved portion and dirt was removed from the sides of the road, improving the ditches and water drainage. She asked that compliments be passed along to Ron and his crew.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Slack noted that Evans Brothers had replaced several culverts on Town House Road as part of the road reconstruction project. She asked town office staff to contact Ron about posting travel warning signs either at each culvert location, or at each end of

the section to be reconstructed. She said there are significant bumps in the road where the pavement was removed for installation of new culverts.

Selectman Spencer reported that the group working on the Lord's Hill PlanNH charrette had met recently to discuss how to raise the \$5,000 needed for the program. The group also is researching other towns that have done PlanNH programs to talk to about their experiences.

Selectman Swanick reported that she spoke with Tim Crutchfield at the NH Retirement System about providing documentation that animal control duties are part of the police chief's job description and is optimistic that once the documentation is reviewed, NHRS will reverse its earlier position that wages received for dog officer duties are not eligible to count toward the chief's retirement. In the future, the police chief's base pay will reflect more clearly that the dog officer duties are included.

Selectman Spencer met with a representative of Waste Management to review compacting bottles, cans and glass. The representative will forward information to the Selectmen's Office.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the Minutes of July 31st and the weekly manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Swanick updated the Board regarding their options for dealing with insulation of the roof in order to achieve optimum efficiency of the wood pellet boiler system.

The Board voted unanimously to remove the batting insulation from above the ceiling tiles allowing the heat to rise preventing the pipes from freezing during the cold winter months and discontinuing the need for continuous water circulation.

The Board received a quote for additional electrical work recommended at the Library/Town Hall. Library Trustee Cheryl Feirick asked the Board to hold off discussing the issue until the Library Trustees can report back on their concerns and recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Cahalane addressed the Board of Selectmen with his resignation from the Historic District Commission. He noted the meetings are poorly attended and does not believe his time is being used wisely. The Board accepted his resignation from the Historic District Commission unanimously

PLANNED DISCUSSION

None planned

The meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Susan Slack, Selectman

Date

Theresa Swanick, Selectman

Henry Spencer, Selectman