

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MEETING MINUTES

February 10, 2015

Selectmen present: Henry Spencer
Timothy Eldridge
Lawrence Edwards

Minutes transcribed by: Gwen English

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

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maureen Spencer reported to the Board on legislation pending that could greatly impact the 2016 budget for general assistance, if the legislation passes. Also, the “library kids” made valentine cards for residents and staff of the Mountain View Nursing Home. The cards are hand made and beautifully crafted.

Erik Jones announced the Historic Society will host Humorist and Author Rebecca Rule on Friday February 20th at 7:00pm at the Historical Society Building the program will be based on her book “Moved and Seconded” a parody of town meeting humor.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly fire and rescue report.

SELECTMEN’S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Selectman Edwards addressed an email received by the Selectmen’s Office from New Hampshire Municipal Association regarding his recent inquiries of the legal department and asked his fellow board members if they had any questions or concerns regarding his actions. Selectmen Spencer and Eldridge openly admitted they did. Discussion ensued with regards to why Selectman Edwards would contact New Hampshire Municipal Association with legal questions over matters discussed numerous times during Board meetings and specifically matters being handled by the town’s attorney without informing his fellow board members of his intentions to do so, which led into further discussion about Department Heads being excluded from discussions related to decision making which negatively impacts employee morale and inevitably the entire community.

Selectman Spencer announced candidate night will be held Tuesday February 17th at 6:30pm at the Municipal Office Building.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the minutes of February 3rd and the weekly manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Edwards again raised the matter of signing the 6 Town Compact Ambulance Contract prior to town meeting. Selectmen Eldridge and Spencer both explained the committee voted to accept the cost of the contract and enter into the contract pending town meeting vote of the participating six towns.

NEW BUSINESS

Selectmen signed the 2015 town warrant.

Selectman Eldridge recommended the Board hold a work session prior to town meeting. His fellow board members were in agreement. The Board will hold a work session on Tuesday February 24, 2015 as part of their regular meeting.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

Peter Holden with Holden Engineering met with the Board to discuss the repair of Stevens Road Bridge. A 3 sided box culvert was recommended as the best type of structure to use. This type is designed to carry any legal weight limit within the State of New Hampshire. Further discussion ensued regarding state review of the engineering plans prior to construction to ensure the engineering plan meets all state requirements. The State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation conducts annual bridge inspections throughout the town.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Henry Spencer, Chairman

Date: _____

Timothy Eldridge, Selectman

Lawrence Edwards, Selectman