

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2012

Selectmen present: Susan Slack
Theresa Swanick
Henry Spencer

Minutes transcribed by: Claudia Lamphier

Meeting called to order: 6:30 pm

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Cahalane brought a copy of the Carroll County Independent, a local news publication, to the meeting. On the front page was an article written about Selectman Spencer continuing to write his Effingham column for the Daily Sun. Mr. Cahalane stated his disappointment that this discussion had become “fodder” for the news and that the article also mentioned fellow Selectmen Swanick and Slack, who he felt became innocent victims in the issue. Selectman Spencer stated he shared Mr. Cahalane’s disappointment that this discussion had become front page news, noting that when he was contacted by the reporter, he specifically stated that he was not going to comment to the press. Tom Thompson made note that not all conversation he has heard was in support of Selectman Spencer continuing to write his column, but those that felt it was inappropriate were not willing to come forward in a public forum to state their opinions. Selectman Spencer has previously reported that he has asked many residents for their opinion on this issue and that there was overwhelming support for him to continue writing his column.

Randy Burbank reported that the State has accepted Effingham’s application for grant funding for updating the Emergency Management Plan. That funding will be available until September of 2013. Another grant funding opportunity for hazard mitigation is being made available. Board members and Randy discussed applying for funding to purchase a repeater. PSNH will be conducting a training session for the Effingham Fire Department on fire issues as they relate to downed wires. Surrounding town fire department members have been invited to attend. Randy reported that there were many fires over the weekend.

There was a general discussion about town gravel roads, current conditions of the gravel roads and gravel road maintenance.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly report on Fire Department calls.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Swanick reported on the results of the blower door test done recently. Several areas in the Municipal Office Building have air/heat leakage. The most notable leakage was from the fan/hood over the stove in the kitchen. Selectman Swanick will seek someone to address all areas of concern.

Selectman Swanick has continued to work on research related to the necessary BTU capacity of a wood pellet heating system. She reported on several conversations with professionals in the field. She spoke with someone that is willing to review the bids/proposals submitted. There would be a cost associated with the review. It was determined after discussion that they would hold off on committing to have this review until the bids/proposals have been opened and reviewed by the Board.

Selectman Spencer reported to update issues he is working on. He is serving as the Selectmen's representative on the Historic District Commission and has found that the files should be organized. He will assist in this effort. He has spoken to the police chief about his neighbor's complaint about a pig roaming the neighborhood. Selectman Spencer has looked at the testing required to secure NIMS certification, which Board members are obligated to obtain. The question of when the next phase of Town House Road reconstruction is to begin was asked. That is yet to be determined. Finally, it was discussed that Town owned property on Wilkinson Swamp Road is still occupied by the former owners. The Town's attorney will continue with the eviction process.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES

The Board approved the Minutes of April 10th and the weekly Manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Slack has reviewed the information provided in the Transfer Station Study prepared by Pine Tree Engineering and made a comparison with the specifications proposed. She feels the study is an inadequate representation of what was promised. Further consideration will be forthcoming on what remedy will be requested from Pine Tree Engineering.

Selectman Spencer inquired about when the Board will be meeting with the Library

Trustees to discuss the results of the review of the building assessment for energy purposes. It was determined that the wood pellet boiler is the most time sensitive issue and will be dealt with first. The Board will then look at potential improvements to be made at the transfer station and then the Library/Town Hall building improvements will be addressed.

NEW BUSINESS

A unanimous vote approved making the changes/repairs to the Municipal Building necessary to stop the air leakage/heat loss as determined by the blower door test.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Susan Slack, Selectman

Date

Theresa Swanick, Selectman

Henry Spencer, Selectman