

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 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

Carl Davis, current President of the Province Lake Association spoke about the plans the Association has for present and future preservation of Province Lake, which he described as shallow and fragile. He reported that for 20 years, the group has taken water samples four times a year for testing in Concord. Last year they started a weed watching program. Once a month, the group inspects the Lake at several locations for exotic invasive plants. This year they will host a program for inspecting boats using the boat ramp for signs of invasive plant material. The group is now filing a pre-proposal for a grant to fund a five year collection of data for watershed erosion with the purpose of receiving professional advice for erosion control. Community support is an important component for consideration for grant funding and the group solicited a letter of support from the Board, which they agreed to do.

Emelyn Albert, Conservation Commission Chairperson attended the meeting. She was solicited to attend to understand what the Province Lake Association is presently monitoring and is proposing for the future. Selectman Slack asked Emelyn to look at her member roster and determine who needs to be reappointed and for what term length. Emelyn reported that there is a particular section of Ossipee Lake which has been found to have milfoil invasion. The Conservation Commission has funded removal of the plants, but the area of invasion has large fallen trees on the floor of the lake, and this condition protects the roots of the plants and makes complete removal impossible. Therefore, that area is expected to be a chronic problem. Sheila Jones noted that the Ossipee Lake Association will be meeting in May.

Randy Burbank reported on a large fire in Wakefield which burned down 7 buildings. The cause of the fire has been determined to be service wires, which caused ignition due to the significantly dry conditions lately and high winds. No one was injured. The Wakefield Fire Chief commended all area departments for the manner in which the departments, including a department from Maine, worked together. Randy also reported on his findings regarding the ISO rating of Effingham and he will be following up on that issue. Calls from Lakeview have subsided. He has received two estimates of value for the ambulance, but noted that neither source actually looked at the vehicle. The quotes ranged from \$40,000 to \$45,000.

Carol Phister announced the resignation of Henry Spencer from the Board of Trustees of the Effingham Public Library. Jack Williams was sworn in to finish the remaining term.

Library Trustees have formed a committee to address issues of concern regarding the building occupied by the Library and will report conclusions with the Board of Selectmen.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly report on Fire Department calls.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Spencer checked on the internet to find what is a prevailing rate for auctioneers when selling property. He found Mr. Schofield was in line with prevailing rates. Mr. Schofield will be retained to auction some Town owned properties later in the year.

Selectman Spencer announced that he and others will be holding a work session to organize the files of the Historic District Commission. He also discussed a complaint that was made to him by a neighbor about a large pig escaping from his pen. The neighbor is preparing to grow a vegetable garden and is concerned the pig will eat the plants before they mature. Conversation ensued that there is little enforcement action that can be taken.

Selectman Spencer and Randy Burbank will arrange to meet with David Manley to be instructed in how to mark a grave for an impending interment.

Selectman Slack met with Plan New Hampshire on Wednesday, regarding a charrette on the Lord's Hill Historic District. She has been informed that project is being recommended for acceptance to the committee which is to decide. Selectman Slack noted that should this project be accepted, community members will need to provide food and lodging for the five or six people that will be working on the project and that funding for the \$5000 cost will have to be found.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES

The Board approved the Minutes of April 3rd and the weekly Manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

Board members will discuss the recent vandalism of the lock at the Transfer Station with one of the Town police officers.

Board members voted to accept the proposal of Steve Schofield to auction selected Town owned properties.

The Camp Marist lottery drawing will be held next week, Tuesday, April 17th.

Board members will be looking over the transfer station study recently received. This review will be specific to determine if all areas on the original proposal were included in the final report.

NEW BUSINESS

Selectman Slack volunteered to speak with property owners of a home on Moody Road. There have been ongoing issues with their driveway being plowed in.

A new person has been contracted for technical assistance with the Town's computers and network. The firm is Ferguson Technology and the owner, Rich Ferguson will be working with the Town.

An advertisement will be placed in local publications for a temporary transfer station attendant. The Board decided to solicit interested parties after learning that one of the present members of the transfer station team will be out or work for another month or so.

Selectman Spencer has been enrolled in a course on gravel road maintenance. The Board was pleased to hear that the road contractor and an employee will also be attending.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

The Board voted unanimously to accept the new specifications for a wood pellet boiler system and pellet storage. The request for bids will be placed in area news publications with a deadline of April 24th at 5:00 pm.

The Board called for a non-public session at 8:50 pm to discuss a safety infraction made by a transfer station employee. The employee will be asked to meet with Selectmen prior to the formal meeting next week. They resumed public session at 9:10 to discuss some of the matters reported in above sections.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Susan Slack, Selectman

Date

Theresa Swanick, Selectman

Henry Spencer, Selectman