

# **TOWN OF EFFINGHAM**

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

May 6, 2014

April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting was canceled for lack of a quorum.

Selectmen present: Henry Spencer  
Timothy Eldridge  
Lawrence Edwards

Minutes transcribed by: Claudia Lamphier

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

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mellisa and Chris Seamans spoke of their concern about a discussion at a previous meeting and the corresponding minutes. Mellisa asked that it be recorded that any discussion she had with the Board of Selectmen about public safety concerns, were her concerns alone. She was not reporting the opinions of neighboring fire chiefs, as had been implied in a rebuttal offered by Effingham Fire Chief, Randy Burbank, at the Selectmen's meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Randy was offered the opportunity at that time, to have a discussion with the Selectmen in a non-public session, but he insisted he be granted his right to bring this discussion forward in a public forum. It was during Randy's discussion that he named the Seamans' as having brought certain reports to the Board. He was not given that information by the Board, by way of the meeting minutes or the Selectmen's staff. Randy was not present at tonight's meeting when Chris and Mellisa voiced their concern that the Fire Chief and perhaps other members of the Effingham Fire Department, would feel that their private concerns brought forward, were an attack or allegation against the Department or it's members personally. Since Randy was not present it is unknown where and how he derived the information he concluded was discussed.

Jonathan King spoke to the Board about a complaint he made to the Zoning Enforcement Officer concerning junk on a property on Garfield Road, near his home. He reported there has been no follow up on his complaint. He requested the Board speak with the ZEO about having the property owner clean the junk off this property.

Conservation Chairman, Emelyn Albert reported on the Earth Day roadside clean up which took place Saturday. They had 21 adults and 6 children participate and they collected 120 bags of trash. Selectman Eldridge noted that the fire tower on Green Mountain is no longer safe to walk up, noting that many hikers do want to climb up to the tower for the view.

Randy Burbank, who attended the meeting after responding to a fire call which prevented him from arriving when the meeting convened, reported that his request for the purchase of two AED units from the State of NH, has been approved by the appropriate party at Huggins Hospital. He inquired if the Board would like him to also order boxes for the units at a cost of \$140 each. The Board opted to find a less expensive alternative to the pre made boxes. Randy further reported

that he recently attended an OVMA meeting, during which he asked if any area fire personnel had issue with him personally or the Effingham Fire Department. There were no complaints or concerns noted at that time. Randy asked all attendees to feel free to direct any area of concern to him directly. He noted that criticism can only be constructive if it is given to the party who can act on it.

The Board conducted the annual lottery drawing for attendance at Camp Marist. The Camp offers the Town the opportunity to send 30 campers from Effingham each year, without any tuition charge. Campers are selected in a random drawing at a Selectmen's weekly meeting.

Chris Seamans asked that the Board consider selling transfer station permits and disposal coupons at the facility instead of at the Selectmen's office. Selectman Spencer said he was not opposed to entering into discussion on that. He also inquired about why his road was recently being measured. It was reported that it was for the placement of a sign designating the beginning of the Class VI portion of the road.

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

### **SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

Selectman Spencer reported on the progress of the transfer station improvement project. The telephone line is scheduled to be brought to the new attendant's shed on Wednesday. He is regularly checking the septic system for water overflow caused by groundwater melting. He also reported that one of the transfer station attendants may be leaving.

Selectman Spencer and Edwards continue to work on resolving the water drainage issue at the kitchen sink in the Municipal Office Building.

Selectman Eldridge reminded all of the upcoming Black Fly Ball, sponsored by the Effingham Elementary School PTO. It will be held on May 10<sup>th</sup> at Sunny Villa.

The Planning Board is holding an event for the purpose of recruitment on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the Municipal Office Building.

A road maintenance program is being offered on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May at the Freight House in Ossipee. Selectman Spencer may attend.

Selectmen announced the recent passing of long time resident, Marion Kirker. Marion worked in many capacities in service to Effingham.

### **REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST**

The Board approved the Minutes of April 22<sup>nd</sup> and the weekly manifest.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Selectman Edwards will be drawing up specifications for each phase of the building of a new salt shed. When completed, RFPs for each phase of construction will be requested.

Selectman Eldridge has completed revisions to the specifications for the Winter Road Contract. He will be working on revising the contract as well.

Selectman Spencer reminded his fellow Board members that during the summer months, they should decide what to do about winter freezing of pipes in the crawl space under the bathrooms at the Library.

Selectman Edwards reported on his attendance at a meeting with officials of area Towns to discuss future plans to address the increasing cost of ambulance service. He asked for the number of annual calls for ambulance service. All towns will have those numbers at the next meeting.

Selectman Edwards has not had a chance to do a listing of priority road projects to be completed this year. Selectman Eldridge reminded him that the UNH road report may help in that effort.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Selectmen signed a contract with an auctioneer to sell tax deeded property located on Huntress Bridge Road.

Trustees of the Effingham Falls Cemetery have requested withdrawal of trust funds to conduct maintenance work. The Board of Selectmen which serves as Cemetery Trustees, approved the request. A letter will be drafted to the Trustees of Trust Funds approving the withdrawal of the requested funds.

The Board reported that Roger Steding, one of the town's transfer station attendants, has passed his level III certification testing.

## **PLANNED DISCUSSION**

Police Chief, Timothy Butts presented the Board a draft of an ordinance pertaining to adequate traffic control on Town roads. He also reported on the latest meeting at the Lakeview Neurorehabilitation facility, aimed at preventing clients from wandering from the grounds of the facility. He feels that new protocol, initiated from discussion at these meetings, will help to achieve mutual goals. The next meeting of the group will be May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

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Henry Spencer, Selectman

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Date

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Timothy Eldridge, Selectman

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Lawrence Edwards, Selectman