

**TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

March 1, 2016

Selectmen present: Timothy Eldridge
Henry Spencer
Lawrence Edward

Minutes transcribed by: Cheryle A. Feirick

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

The Mail, Manifest and Signature and Action Folder were reviewed.

Pledge of Allegiance

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the minutes of the February 23rd meeting with one correction under Public Comment which should read as follows: Betty asked Selectman **Edwards** instead of Selectman Eldridge and the weekly manifest in the amount of \$289,928.39.

Action Folder: A resident asked if she could gather some rocks from a town owned property (School Street) for her garden. An okay was given by the Board of Selectmen. The Preservation Society asked the Board if they could use some of the granite slabs from the School Street property for steps at the Grange. After some discussion it was decided the Town would hang onto them for a town project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The announcement was made that Susan Slack will be a write-in for Moderator on the town ballot.

Resident Chris Seamans asked the Board about the status of installing a fire detector at the Library. Chief Burbank did meet with an alarm company at the Library. The town administrator announced Knight Security installed a panic button system at the library and a fire detection alarm can be added in the future. Chris also asked why the Forestry Truck is parked at the transfer station. The response was, it is out of commission and is used to water down brush fires at the transfer station.

Resident Betty Brown expressed her thanks to two of the Selectmen for all their efforts in working together.

PLANNED DISCUSSION:

Police Chief Butts was unavailable for his monthly meeting.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Selectman Edwards and Selectman Spencer will work the polls on Tuesday from 11:00am to 7:00pm. Selectman Eldridge cannot work the polls because he is a candidate.

The Selectmen's Meeting of Tuesday March 8th is rescheduled for Monday March 7th. Selectman Eldridge reminded the board they were expected to meet with the Planning Board on Tuesday, March 8th but discussed changing the meeting date. Planning Board Secretary, Barbara Thompson will contact the board members and attempt to move the meeting to March 7th.

Report of trucks driving over town posted roads. Several complaints came in about a loaded logging truck coming from Moody Road. Selectman Edwards went out to the site of operation and issued a waiver until Friday the 4th of March. The operator informed Selectman Edwards they were moving their equipment off the site on Thursday. Police Chief Butts spoke to the truck driver delivering logs to John Davis's business on Town House Road. After much discussion the Board decided come Monday, March 7th there would be no more over weight traffic allowed to haul over the roads. Waste Management is the only company permitted a waiver to travel on Snow Road, while posted, due to business at the town transfer station. Resident John Meisner reported that on February 29 at noon, he saw resident John Edwards trucking over posted roads. Linda Edwards stated John Edwards has been spoken to.

Resident Chris Seamans suggested moving the "weight limit" signs for earlier visibility for example on Ryefield and Pine River Road the signs are too far from the intersection with Route 25. He explained once a trucker driver sees them it is usually too late for them to turn around. Selectmen took it under advisement.

Selectman Edwards reported the pile of cold patch is frozen. The potholes on Elm Street have been filled with gravel for the time being. The Road Contractor will get usable cold patch and fill the potholes in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS:

Selectman Eldridge gave an update on the Wilkinson Swamp Road property for sale by the town. Several bids have been submitted and the Board will meet in non-public to discuss it further. No action on the School Street property at this time.

Re-approval on Rules of Order and Personnel Policy were voted on and approved, Board of Selectman will sign off.

Selectman Spencer reported the Board is still waiting for the Library lot design from Bergeron Engineers. Resident Tim Murphy asked Mr. Spencer why we are investing so much in Engineering for drainage, moving propane tanks, etc. Selectman Spencer noted it's a step we need to take so we can apply for grants. Selectman Spencer reported he attended a meeting with the Historic District last evening to find out two members of that board are retiring and there is an interested individual they would like to appointed to the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

Selectman Eldridge spoke on the letter received from the town insurance carrier that the fire truck involved in the rollover is a total loss. Selectman Eldridge turned the floor over to Glenn from Lakes Region Fire Apparatus Inc. Glenn has been working with the insurance company and Fire Chief Burbank to find a replacement fire truck. Glenn has located a HME fire truck built in early 2015, has 2200 miles on it. This truck is at a dealership in Albany NY. Glenn stated this truck could surely carry the town for 20 years. The truck meets the town's needs by size, color, design, and seating. All existing equipment is transferable. This is a 3000 automatic, stainless steel; white over red paint, includes new ladders, generator, drop down chains, correct fittings, lettering, 30 day delivery for \$335,750.00. The town insurance carrier will pay HME directly. Glenn stated the Town of Chocorua uses the same truck. Resident Betty Brown suggested we accept what the insurance company is proposing for replacement. She reminded everyone that by accepting this fire truck there is no cost to taxpayers. After much discussion Selectman Eldridge motioned to accept, Selectman Spencer 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous to accept the new fire truck as proposed by Lakes Region Fire Apparatus and the town insurance carrier. Glenn also reported the new mini- pumper is expected to be at Lakes Region Fire Apparatus by Thursday March 3rd.

Selectman Eldridge prepared an RFP for the Steven's Road Bridge for the Boards review and discussion. A suggestion was made to have an engineer review any changes before sending it out for proposals. There will be further discussion on the RFP during the weekly discussion. The Select Board discussed the figure of \$260,000 they are presenting at town meeting for the cost of replacing Steven's Road Bridge. Selectman Edwards said he has the figure at \$161,000.00 including the earthwork and 10 days of oversight. He gathered the information from Bacon Engineering, SW Cole Engineering., Stoney Ridge Environmental and Miche Corporation. Selectman Edwards feels we have a good number at \$161,000.00 to present at town meeting. Selectman Spencer would like to reduce the \$260,000.00 by \$40,000.00 to present to the town's people at town meeting. Resident Tom Thompson expressed his concerns with coming too close to the bottom-line number. Resident Erik Jones asked where is the money coming from for the Steven's Road Bridge? Selectman Eldridge responded with an example of \$111,000.00 from taxation and \$50,000.00 from undesignated funds.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Bill Piekut gave many thanks to Selectman Tim Eldridge for his term served and stated we couldn't ask for a better individual to get things done. Resident Betty Brown reiterated the same sentiment.

Resident Eric Potter expressed his delight at the number of town's people in attendance at the meeting tonight.

NON-PUBLIC

The Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to enter into non-public at 7:30 pm to discuss the sale of town owned property.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

RFP for Steven's Road Bridge

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Timothy Eldridge

Date: _____

Henry Spencer

Lawrence Edwards