

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2015

Selectmen present: Timothy Eldridge
Henry Spencer
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

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the minutes of June 30th and the minutes of their meeting with the Trustees of the Library on July 8th along with the bi-weekly manifest.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Selectman Eldridge announced Green Mountain Conservation Group will hold a ground breaking ceremony on July 18th from 3-6pm at 196 Huntress Bridge Road. Also, the Preservation Society will be hosting Wednesday Night Socials at the old Grange Building, 9 Town House Road throughout the summer at 7:00pm. All are invited to attend.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Deanna Amaral regrettfully announced her office will be closed on Friday July 17th.

Resident Tom Hart commended Police Chief Timothy Butts and Deputy Fire Chief William Piekut for their quick response to the recent 911 call at his residence. He said, "they did an outstanding job."

Residents Mike & Kate Cauble addressed the Board regarding the dilapidated house on NH Route 153N. They presented the Board with an article from the Conway Daily Sun regarding hazardous and dilapidated houses and referenced the assessor notes on the property record card. The Board agreed to look further into the matter.

Resident David Strauss asked for an update on road grading and calcium chloride. Selectman Edwards noted road grading is complete and the calcium chloride application will be finished by the end of the week. Mr. Strauss also asked how the need for ditching was determined and was told the Selectman decide.

Resident Erik Jones was very pleased with the ditch work and clean- up noting the lawn was not damaged.

Resident Chris Seamans asked about the status of the flow chart, designed to be a guide for land use applicants. Selectman Eldridge reported emails were sent to the various boards involved asking when another meeting could take place, he is waiting for responses. He will follow up.

Resident Mike Cahalane asked for an update on where the Board was with the matter of materials from the ditching process being transported to Selectman Edwards property. Selectman Edwards reported he was approached by the summer road contractor looking for a location to dispose of the sand at which time Selectman Edwards offered his property. He now realizes this was a mistake on his part and any future ditching debris will be moved to the transfer station.

Resident Tom Thompson presented the Board with a Draft Ordinance Regulating the Disposition of Road Materials in the Town of Effingham which the Board can revise as they see necessary. Chris Seamans also offered the State of New Hampshire D.O.T. adopted a ditching policy due to potential contamination of the waste debris and recommended the Board review liability for dumping the material.

Selectman Spencer offered up comment on behalf of Resident Tim Murphy who asked if there is a need for three attendants at the transfer station. Selectman Spencer and Eldridge both noted three attendants are necessary for employee safety and coverage in the event of an absence.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

The Board met with Police Chief Timothy Butts for his monthly meeting. Chief Butts reported speed details are underway and commented on the new "Hands Free Cell Phone Law." Some further discussion ensued. Also, Road Contractor Robert Battles was on hand for his monthly meeting reporting on numerous projects throughout town involving grading, patching, the need to focus on ditching to prevent washout, many dirt roads are thin on gravel, blocked culverts which the fire department is happy to assist with. Thirteen catch basins were found on Green Mountain Road and debris cleared from the top to allow for better drainage.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Selectman Spencer brought up discussion from the meeting with the Library Trustees regarding the need to fix the pavement in the parking lot, painting and replacement windows as well as discussion on applying for grants and costs etc.

Selectman Edwards reported he is having difficulty scheduling a time to complete perambulation of the town line between Effingham and Wakefield. He also reported the soil report for 144 School Street came in a little over estimate with no soil contamination reported.

Selectman Eldridge noted the Budget vs. Actual was available for each board member to review. He also discussed dealing with roadside waste material (dirt) and commented that most towns do not have a policy on how to deal with the waste. Typically it's given to residents who want it or returned to the town shed then disposed of. Due to public concern he contacted the town attorney regarding the matter who recommended the issue be kept on the up and up and reimbursement to the town for trucking costs would be prudent. Trucking costs were calculated to be approx. \$3600.00. Selectman Eldridge left the matter with Selectman Edwards to decide how he would proceed. Again Selectman Edwards realized it was not a good idea and sincerely thought he was doing the town a favor. Road Contractor Robert Battles noted, if the material had to be transported to another pit for disposal the town would have paid more for disposal and increased trucking costs.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly fire and rescue report.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Eldridge reported since rejecting the proposals for chip-seal due to the over budget costs he proposed sending out a request for proposal to various contractors in the area for road re-

surfacing with a bid walk to be held July 21, 2015 with the Board of Selectmen. The proposals would be due July 28th 2015 in hopes of getting a project going before snowfall. He also reminded those present there will be no Selectmen's Meeting on July 21st.

NEW BUSINESS

None discussed.

At 6:30 the Board entered into non-public to discuss a personnel issue and meet with the Tax Collector to discuss tax deeding.

The Board adjourned the non-public session at 7:25 at which time they began their weekly discussion regarding the White Mountain Survey proposal for Steven's Road Bridge and the road maintenance plan.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Timothy Eldridge, Chairman

Date: _____

Henry Spencer, Selectman

Lawrence Edwards, Selectman