

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2014

Selectmen present: Henry Spencer
Timothy Eldridge
Theresa Swanick

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

A property owner who just acquired his property inquired about road posting for weight limits. He explained he will be putting a modular home on his land. It was explained that the Town does not pre-determine when the roads will be posted, but instead waits for road conditions to warrant the restriction.

Jonathan Burbank attended, adorned with three new gold medals, earned at the winter Special Olympics. He was congratulated for his accomplishments.

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

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Swanick has requested a proposal from White Mountain Survey for consulting services in drafting a paving RFP and corresponding contract. She also advised them that the Board is interested in getting a professional review of the road plan developed by a team from UNH. A proposal from CMA Engineering has already been received and is being reviewed.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the Minutes of February 25th and the weekly manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectmen Spencer reported that two compactors are due to be delivered on Friday. The next step will be to switch electrical service over from the present compactor to the new location. Selectman Eldridge thanked Selectman Spencer for the oversight of the transfer station improvement project. The improvements will bring a water supply for use by employees at the transfer station, a department of labor requirement. It is also expected that by compacting the recyclables, hauling fees should drop dramatically. The solid waste compactor will be more efficient and effective as well. All thanked Mike Pilkovski for his expertise, shared with no compensation.

Selectman Eldridge has been working on a Power Point presentation for Town Meeting, but has found that the screen would be in a position that could not be fully viewed by those in attendance with the usual Town Meeting set up.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board opened the two proposals submitted for ambulance service. One was from CarePlus EMS the other from LifeStar EMS. The Board quickly determined that the less expensive option of the two requested, would be considered. CarePlus proposed \$100,000 for the first year with an increase in the second year. LifeStar proposed \$96,000 for each of the two years. The fee for service schedule for LifeStar was less than CarePlus as well. The Board voted unanimously to accept the LifeStar proposal. The warrant article to be discussed at Town Meeting requests an amount of \$130,000. That amount will be amended at Town Meeting to reflect the \$96,000 to contract with LifeStar. Gwen English and others questioned and commented each EMS provider. Gwen wished the minutes to reflect a summary of her comments regarding what she believes to be despicable and irresponsible behavior on the part of some local public safety officials which led to the temporary suspension of LifeStar's hospital privileges to respond to 911 calls, all found to be unfounded by the State of New Hampshire. She stated that this has cost Effingham and all neighboring communities a sharp increase in the expense of ambulance service.

Due to ballot voting on Tuesday, March 11, the Board will conduct the regular weekly meeting on Monday.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

No planned discussion

The Board went in to non-public session at 7:07 pm to discuss a personnel issue with Chief Butts. Public session resumed at 7:15 at which time the Board adjourned the meeting.

Henry Spencer, Selectman

Date

Theresa Swanick, Selectman

Timothy Eldridge, Selectman