

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2015

Selectmen present: Timothy Eldridge

Henry Spencer

Lawrence Edwards

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 October 6, 2015 and weekly manifest adding that the Board of Selectman signed the Purchase Sales Agreement for the property that the Effingham Conservation Committee is looking to purchase. Avitar contract was signed for the availability of online credit card payments for taxes and vehicle registrations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Emelyn Albert, Chair for Effingham Conservation Committee reported that 3,400 gals of milfoil was removed from the Ossipee Lake cleanup. Another day is needed to complete the project. Volunteers from Berry Bay removed 4-6 gal buckets per day of fragments from the shoreline. Milfoil has been found further down towards Maine.

Resident Bill Piekut asked where the weights on bridges stood. He said the bridges are posted for a specific weight and the town's emergency vehicles weigh more. If this is the case, what are the emergency vehicles to do? Selectman Eldridge stated that the Town's liability insurance carrier is aware of our current bridge situation. Selectman Edwards stated if the bridge is posted 6 tons, we should not be going over, even with emergency vehicles.

Selectman Spencer asked if the Fire Department has a preference on which order of repair/replace of bridges should take place based on emergencies. Bill Piekut stated that it would take 5-6 minutes to get around the Steven's Road Bridge. It is only a ½ mile more to go around the closed Granite Road Bridge.

PLANNED DISCUSSION WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Highway Contractor will be in next week with his report per the Selectmen.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Selectman Spencer reported that after receiving the report back from H.E. Bergeron on the Library parking lot study he would like to proceed with the study. He stated that this would be a first step in acquiring a grant for the parking lot. Selectman Eldridge stated the first step is to reach out to other surveyors for the cost of a parking lot study. While we are reaching out for other proposals the Select Board is to review the previous plan done by Christopher P. Williams Architects.

Resident Tom Hart spoke up and said it doesn't make sense that the Board is going to replace the parking lot at the Library using an Engineer but not use an Engineer for bridges.

Resident John Meisner stated that the Board should be asking the Town's people what they feel about the Library parking lot.

Residence Maureen Spencer said bridges are important and reminded everyone, the Library is a town public building and to continue putting it on hold is not looking out for the safety of the town's people.

Resident Linda Edwards asked when the grant would take place. Selectman Spencer responded that the Community Block Grant will be available next year.

Resident Eric Potter stated that 10 years ago The Effingham Historical Society was designated as supervisor trustee to oversee the Town Hall restoration which was part of the L-Chip Grant.

Selectman Spencer requested that the transfer station staff be permitted to purchase adequate rain gear. Mark Bussiere was given the go ahead to look into rain gear for the staff.

Selectman Edwards reported that 3 encroachments were completed today on Molly Philbrick Road. The Road Contractor provided his time to repair these areas at no cost to the town and the town purchased the material. He said maybe the Effingham Conservation Commission should go out and look at these sights. Road Contractor is starting on Champion Hill Road this week. Suggestion was made that the town close off Champion Hill while the work is being done, only open for local traffic. Discussion took place and the Board agreed it is a good idea. Police, Fire and Dispatch need to be notified of road closing. Selectmen are aware that larger riprap is needed in an area of Town House Road.

OLD BUSINESS:

No significant changes have taken place on the Granite Road Bridge report. Selectman Edwards reported he spoke to Cindy at Stoney Ridge last week and the Engineer and Stoney Ridge are scheduled to come out on Monday, October 19th to do the site walk. Conversation ensued on contacting another Engineering firm to come out and meet with the Board of Selectman. Selectman Eldridge let everyone know that the Selectmen will be returning after the Civic Awards to have further discussion on the bridge matters.

Mike Cahalane stated if the Town requires Licensed Engineer, Soil Scientist, etc. for permits of all kinds, then the same should apply to the Board on making decisions on bridge work.

Town owned School Street property demolition: Received addition proposal from Danley Demolition to save the stones from the foundation and place fill in hole after house has been taken down. The additional cost is \$1200.00 bringing the total to 9700.00. After some discussion it was voted by the Board of Selectmen to assign the project to Danley Demolition after we receive a certificate of insurance.

NEW BUSINESS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Linda Edwards asked where the town owed property on Wilkinson Swap Road was at. Selectman Eldridge said that the Auctioneer has been contacted and the Selectmen's office will be notified shortly with an auction date.

Reminder: Open House at the Library/Mason Hall on Saturday, October 17, 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Effingham Elementary School PTO is having a yard sale Saturday, October 17.

Effingham Preservation having Chili and Arthur on Saturday October 17, 5:00pm.

NON-PUBLIC: None

WEEKLY DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Bridges

Recessed meeting at 6:25pm

Resumed weekly discussion after attending the Civic Awards Event @ 8:20 pm.

Adjourned meeting @ 8:30pm.

Date: _____

Timothy Eldridge

Henry Spencer

Lawrence Edwards