

# Town of Embden

## Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

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January 2, 2012

### 7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

**In attendance was:** Ruth Blake, Terriann & Julien Lamontagne, Leo Mayo, Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor, Edwin Thebarger, Sam White Jr., and Bonnie Baker.

- 1 Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:09.
- 2 The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3 **Consent Agenda:**
  - 3.1 Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated December 19, 2011. Accepted as written.(3-0)
  - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #25 totaling \$32,936.44. (3-0)
  - 3.3 Reviewed Warrant # 1 totaling \$37,156.56. (3-0)
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations:** None
- 5 **Department Officials Reports:**
  - 5.1 **E-911** – No Report. E. Pratt stated that E. Ketchum had checked in, but had nothing to report.
  - 5.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** –
    - 5.2.1 B. Baker stated she had been told by a firefighter during that storm 2 weeks ago, that they did not think they would be able to make it to the call in their car until they hit the Embden roads.
    - 5.2.2 C. Taylor stated the BOS was working on a draft for the plow contract. He added that they were thinking about putting the salt back in the contract. He said they were also talking about putting a clause in there that it was up to the contractor to police the sand as they felt was necessary. S. White said he had never complained about people taking sand. He said the only thing he had told J. Hibbard was not to clean the building out so no one else could get any. C. Taylor stated that it would be put in the hands of the contractor with the support of the BOS. S. White asked what they felt they were gaining by adding the salt to the contract. C. Taylor replied, “Just the headaches.” S. White said he used it sparingly. He added that the portion of rt. 16 that had been added uses more salt. He stated there was a difference between sanding to bare the roads and sanding for traction. He said there was money in sand and salt, however it worked on averages. He stated that some years it was really close, but the town could save money. C. Taylor said that the BOS wanted the contractor to be responsible for what was in the shed.
    - 5.2.3 E. Pratt stated that Embden roads have always been the best. S. White stated he had seen them when they weren’t. He stated that he had worked for the town for 20 years, and was happy to have the work. He said that some people would tell you that he had enough money to never have to work again. He cautioned the BOS to remember that there were roads north of the Cross Town Road. He said, “Even though they don’t live on the pond, they pay their share of taxes, they live out there. You three are going to make up the contract and sign it.” He said that the days of trucks not showing up were over; the days of having to drive on stuff that hadn’t been sanded in 3 days were over. E. Pratt asked whether he was saying that the amount of the contract was not enough to keep the roads sanded. S. White said no. He said that it was not about being overpaid or underpaid. He stated the back roads of the town needed to be policed. He added that in the contract he had signed, the contractor started plowing at ½ inch, and kept plowing until the yellow line showed. He said that the contract didn’t state that those guidelines stopped once you got off the Cross Town Road. He stated he did not think it was too much to ask that those roads get taken care of too. He said that if the BOS thought they were going to save the town some money by not keeping the roads so good, fine; as a taxpayer he didn’t care who plowed up there, but his kids and his family and his neighbors needed to be able to make it home. He said that it wasn’t just him that lived up there. E. Pratt stated that whoever plowed needed to keep all the roads safe. S. White stated that he tried to stay about 20 minutes ahead of the buses. He said that once the buses were through, then they would go back over so people could get home from work. Discussion continued. S. White said that when the BOS signed the contract, they were liable; and if they wanted to save money that was fine, but put it in the contract rather than trying to make a back-door deal.

**5.2.4** He asked whether the BOS had called the state about the roads. E. Pratt replied that she had called last year. C. Taylor stated that the State had plans to pave rt. 16 next summer, then Embden Pond Road the year after that. S. White said that the \$6K from the state for rt. 16 didn't even buy the salt. He said the best thing to do would be call the state and tell them that the town was not going to plow the state roads. He stated, "Someone in your position needs to stand up to them sometime." Discussion continued.

**5.3 Animal Control** – No Report. E. Pratt stated she had called this week, because her dog had been attacked.

**5.4 Board of Assessors** – E. Thebarga said everything was fine.

**5.5 Planning Board** – L. Mayo stated he had nothing to report other than the ordinance change he had turned in. C. Taylor asked whether the deed from Jed Spear should be on the hearing too. L. Mayo stated that there were other changes to the ordinance and map that should be done in the summer, when the pond people were here since it affected them directly.

**5.6 Plumbing Inspector** – L. Mayo stated there was nothing new right now.

**5.7 Board of Appeals** – No Report.

**5.8 Code Enforcement Officer** – No Report.

**5.9 Health Officer** – No Report.

**5.10 Road Commissioner** – No Report.

**5.11 M.S.A.D. #74** – No Report.

**5.12 Recreational Director** – No Report.

**5.12.1** E. Pratt stated that the job description said that the Rec. Director would instruct programs for various age groups. She asked whether that had happened.

**5.13 Town Clerk/Treasurer** –

**5.13.1** B. Baker submitted a report of the Outstanding Liened Taxes.

**5.13.2** She submitted an Expense-Revenue report, stating there would be a couple of changes to it. She added that the \$79K sand shed reimbursement could not be shown in that line of the expenses.

**5.13.3** B. Baker stated that the auditor had been here Friday.

**5.13.4** B. Baker stated she needed the tax id # for the Community Club. She asked whether the auditor would be auditing the Embden Community Club's books. C. Taylor stated he would email him to get a price. He asked R. Blake whether she would have things ready for the auditor. She said, "I don't know. When is he going to be here?" C. Taylor asked whether she had the books on an excel spreadsheet. She said kind of.

**5.13.5** C. Taylor asked if B. Baker would be at the budget meeting. She replied yes.

**5.14 Tax Collector:** R. Blake stated not much had come in right before she left on vacation.

**5.15 Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group** – BOS asked that this be removed from the next agenda.

**5.16 Community Center** –

**5.16.1** W. McLaughlin said not much had gone on at the ECC during the holidays.

**5.16.2** He said that the Thrift Store would be moving.

**5.16.3** He added that there had been a couple of Christmas parties there.

**5.17 Emergency Management Directors** – No Report.

**6 Board of Selectpersons Concerns:** None.

**7 Old Business:**

**7.1 Town of Embden Policies:** E. Pratt asked whether they could discuss the policies at the next BOS work session. She made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – W. McLaughlin) to table the policy review until the next meeting.

**8 New Business:**

**8.1 Review & Sign Public Hearing Notice:** C. Taylor stated they were changing the Public Hearing to February 6<sup>th</sup> at 18:00.

**9 Correspondence:** None

**10 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:**

**10.1 Open Public Forum:** None.

**11 Executive Session (Non-Public)(ME§405):** BOS reviewed and signed Concealed Weapons permits.

**12 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment**

**12.1** Next Regular Selectperson's Meeting – Monday, January 16, 2012.

**12.2** C. Taylor stated there would be a BOS Work Session Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 18:00.

**12.3** He stated the first Budget Meeting would be held Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 18:00. E. Pratt asked whether that could be published in the newspaper. B. Baker stated she had already e-mailed it to the paper for publication.

**12.4** He said the Public Hearing on the proposed Shore Land Zoning Ordinance change, the easement, and the Jed Spears deeded land, would be Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 18:00, before the Selectpersons Meeting.

**12.5** Motion to adjourn made by E. Pratt (2<sup>nd</sup>- W. McLaughlin). Adjourned 20:47 (3-0).

*Minutes submitted by:  
Bonnie A. Baker*