

Town of Embden



Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

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May 7, 2012

7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: Dwight Barron, John Duff, Robert Dunphy, Rodney Hatch, Mary Keenan, Eleanor Ketchum, Wayne McLaughlin, Robert & Jane McQuillan, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor, and Bonnie Baker.

- 1 Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:02.
- 2 The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3 **Consent Agenda:**
 - 3.1 Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated April 16, 2012. Accepted as written.(3-0)
 - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #9 totaling \$36,491.04. (3-0)
 - 3.2.1 C. Taylor stated the amount for the basketball software was the remainder of what was needed. M. Keenan stated the school board had funded the program 100 percent.
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations:**
 - 4.1 **Appeals Board Members:** C. Taylor stated they needed 2 appeals board members & had 2 applicants. E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to accept John Duff and Mary Keenan as AB members. (3-0)

BOS recessed for the swearing in of the new AB members. Meeting resumed at 19:10.
 - 4.2 **Recreation Director:** C. Taylor stated there was one applicant.
 - 4.2.1 **Executive Session (Non-Public) (ME§405):** C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to move to executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) to interview the applicant. (3-0) Entered executive session at 19:12. E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to come out of executive session. (3-0) Out of executive session at 19:24.
 - 4.2.2 W. McLaughlin made a motion (2nd – E. Pratt) to appoint Dwight Barron as Rec. Director (3-0).
- 5 **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 5.1 **E-911** – E. Ketchum stated she had nothing to report. She added that the signs had been put up, but she didn't know how long they would stay.
 - 5.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** – No Report.
 - 5.2.1 C. Taylor stated he would call Eric Morrill to tell Scott that the BOS was ready to sign the contract.
 - 5.3 **Animal Control** – B. Baker submitted 2 sets of reports from the ACO. BOS reviewed.
 - 5.4 **Board of Assessors** –
 - 5.4.1 R. Hatch stated that Terri & Raymond had been doing site visits, for the most part separately.
 - 5.4.2 He said that the wetlands map had been added to the tax maps. He added that it might not be completely done for the tax bills, but they were working on it. He said one thing they had been working the most on was the Shore land that was also wetlands. He said that the judge had not make any decisions yet.
 - 5.4.3 He stated the BOA was continuing to do Sale Analysis. He said they had completed the Snow Shoe Village, and were working on rural. He added that these changes were all based on sales.
 - 5.4.4 R. Hatch stated that they had mailed out a random sample of 200 accounts, and had received all but 45 of them. He added they had begun the site visits for the forms that had not been returned.
 - 5.4.5 He said he was working with T. Lamontagne on data entry, and since Thursday was good for her, he would be coming in on Thursdays instead of Tuesdays for now.
 - 5.4.6 He stated the office hours would now be Wednesdays from 08:30-12:00, and others by appointment. He stated they were asking people to call first for an appointment. He added that it was working well.

- 5.4.7 He stated he would be done next March, therefore he felt that they needed another Assessor working with B. Baker on data entry.
- 5.4.8 He said he had attended a workshop on abatement appeals in Augusta, as well as one for CMAAO in Bangor. He explained some of the changes he had learned about in class.
- 5.4.9 R. Hatch asked whether the BOS was still looking for them to commit early. C. Taylor said not really. He added that the upcoming STM would probably be held June 23rd, to get them the last of the municipal numbers needed for commitment.
- 5.5 Planning Board – No Report.**
 - 5.5.1 R. Dunphy stated they had been busy. He said there had been 2 or 3 last month, but 7 this meeting.
- 5.6 Plumbing Inspector – R. Dunphy stated there was not a lot going on.**
- 5.7 Board of Appeals – No Report.**
- 5.8 Code Enforcement Officer –**
 - 5.8.1 R. Dunphy stated Roosevelt would be coming before the PB this month. C. Taylor stated his attorney was supposed to meet with the town attorney today. R. Dunphy replied that they had been up last week, because they wanted to know some idea of what the PB would accept. He added that the town had been taxing them for a 10x40 deck that was actually 10x14. He said that he had spoken with the BOA and they thought it was the diagonal one that she had removed plus the gravel area.
 - 5.8.2 C. Taylor asked whether he would be at the PB meeting. R. Dunphy said yes, and said it would probably be 2 meetings.
 - 5.8.3 W. McLaughlin asked whether anything could be done about the mess on the Barron Road. C. Taylor responded that the town didn't have a junkyard ordinance. R. Dunphy said that the state had one that he could use to start the process.
 - 5.8.4 R. McQuillan asked about the development on the left side of the Loon Road. R. Dunphy stated he was under the assumption that it was a DEP subdivision.
- 5.9 Health Officer – R. Dunphy stated he had not done anything so far..**
- 5.10 Road Commissioner – No Report.**
- 5.11 M.S.A.D. #74 – No Report.**
- 5.12 Recreational Director –**
 - 5.12.1 C. Taylor stated he had W. Witham's budget, which had been approved at town meeting. He stated only her salary request had not been approved.
 - 5.12.2 B. Baker asked whether D. Barron would continue the scholarship program that W. Witham had done. She asked for him to consider whether he would allow dance camp as eligible for that.
- 5.13 Town Clerk/Treasurer –**
 - 5.13.1 B. Baker submitted the Treasurers Report.
 - 5.13.2 B. Baker submitted a Check Reconciliation report.
 - 5.13.3 She stated they had had a surprise inspection from MDOL this week. C. Taylor stated W. McLaughlin had met with him and was aware of all concerns. R. Dunphy stated B. Baker had not had a key to the sand shed. He added that he would have been embarrassed. He asked whether the BOS were going to get a box with all the keys, and make them all available to town officials. W. McLaughlin said yes. C. Taylor stated they would be changing the code to the alarm.
 - 5.13.4 Foreclosed Property:
 - 5.13.4.1 Property # 1 – B. Baker stated she had heard nothing.
 - 5.13.4.2 Property # 2 – She stated it had been paid.
 - 5.13.4.3 Property # 3 – She asked whether C. Taylor had managed to get in touch with the owner. C. Taylor said there was no answer.
 - 5.13.4.4 C. Taylor stated he felt they should put properties #1 and #3 out to bid. B. Baker said she would have the valuation sheets and total taxes for the next meeting.
 - 5.13.5 B. Baker asked if E. Pratt had learned anything about the tax club for 2010 taxes. E. Pratt said that MMA had told her it would be illegal to offer a tax club for delinquent taxes.
- 5.14 Registrar of Voters:** B. Baker said there was a school budget validation election tomorrow from 10:00-20:00. She said that the office would be closed, except for voting. She added that this was the first election since she had been town clerk that no absentee ballots had been cast
- 5.15 Tax Collector:** C. Taylor read from a report that \$85,695.71 was due in for 2011 taxes, and about \$9,000 had been collected since March 30th. He said that 180 accounts still had balances due.
- 5.16 Community Center –**
 - 5.16.1 W. McLaughlin stated there had been some vandalism on the front lawn and baseball field. R. Dunphy said to let him know what needed to be done and he would make it happen. E. Pratt stated she wanted motion sensor cameras. E. Pratt said they had been told that they could not put out a puncture strip. R. Dunphy stated it was because that was public property.

- 5.16.2 W. McLaughlin said they were working on prices for work at the ECCtr. C. Taylor asked whether they wanted the engineer to come look at the boiler tomorrow. W. McLaughlin said yes.
- 5.16.3 W. McLaughlin said there would be a supper Saturday night (5/12). E. Pratt added that it would be a baked bean supper. W. McLaughlin stated that there was a poster here that the MDI people would get \$1.00 off of the upcoming supper and would be entered to win 2 free tickets to see Tim Sample.
- 5.16.4 E. Pratt stated there would be a flea market & craft fair from 09:00-14:00 on the 19th, and a talent show that night at 18:30.
- 5.16.5 W. McLaughlin said that Tim Sample would perform August 3rd.
- 5.16.6 E. Pratt stated they were holding a “Kids Day” on June 16th (Rain date June 18th). She said everything but the food would be free. She and W. McLaughlin stated the event would have the National Guard climbing wall, an obstacle course, a magician, & balloons. C. Taylor stated they needed to get it advertised. W. McLaughlin replied that Pam Stephens takes care of that. He stated they had had a problem with the Morning Sentinel messing up the dates of the meetings.
- 5.16.7 W. McLaughlin stated they had looked into getting campers over there, and might decide they wanted to do something.
- 5.16.8 He said that the Thrift Store was open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays 10:00-15:00, and had a lot of nice stuff in there. He added that they were getting in a large donation that included a lot of brand new school supplies.

5.17 Emergency Management Directors – R. Dunphy stated that the application had been sent in to make the ECCtr an emergency shelter

6 Board of Selectpersons Concerns:

- 6.1 E. Pratt asked whether the town had purchased a computer for the CEO. She also asked if C. Taylor had looked into a server. C. Taylor stated he would be looking for next March. He added that R. Blake wanted the TRIO motor vehicles, so he planned to look into what type of computer upgrades that would require. B. Baker stated it should not require anything different than what the town already had, except for a special printer. C. Taylor stated that the BOS computer could be moved to the CEO office for now. R. Dunphy stated it would not be needed for a couple of months. W. McLaughlin stated the CEO office was not wired for computer access because of the vault. He added that if the BOS wanted it done he would make it work.
- 6.2 E. Pratt stated Susan Pilgram (of MMA) had sent her a sample article for tax clubs. B. Baker stated that since most tax clubs started in January, they might want to consider putting it on the STM warrant so the 2013 tax clubs could start right in January, instead of after town meeting when they would be 3-4 months behind.
- 6.3 E. Pratt stated that L. Mayo wanted the SZ ordinance changes on LSDs adopted at the STM. She said that the Planning Board needed to be removed from the changes because there was nothing in the ordinances that had ever approved the PB issuing permits. She added that nothing had been approved with PB and CEO. She said that Michael Stoltz had told her that unless the town held a STM that changed the ordinance, then the CEO needed to issue the building permits. C. Taylor stated he did not think this was an issue to get into this summer because he felt they should have the feeling of the entire town. E. Pratt stated that the PB could only do site reviews, changes to zoning ordinances, and subdivision permits; the CEO should be issuing the permits and doing enforcement. C. Taylor stated they had a 2004 document that had gone back and forth, but he didn't think it had ever been approved. He added that it had been that way since 2004, and no one had ever said anything about it. D. Barron stated it was that way in 2002-3 when he came on, and he had been told it had been that way since 1999. He said it was explained to him that the PB issued the permits and [the CEO] just presented the information. E. Pratt stated it had never gone to a town meeting and passed, so they had an issue, and needed to do what the ordinance said. E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) that per the ordinance from 1993 that specifically states that the CEO will issue all of the building permits, and because the changed document was never passed in a town meeting, the issuance of building permits be therefore given back to the CEO. (2-0) C. Taylor abstained. C. Taylor explained that the BOS had just voted to allow R. Dunphy to do the permit process without the PB. B. Baker asked whether that would shorten the application process. R. Dunphy replied that now people could come see him on Tuesdays and walk out with a permit. C. Taylor asked E. Pratt if she was going to go to the PB meeting and explain the decision. E. Pratt said yes. Lengthy discussion continued.
- 6.4 C. Taylor stated he had checked with CMP and Electricity Maine, but CMP had reduced their rates so there was now only a 1/3 of a % difference in price. He said he had not swapped the service at this time.

7 Old Business:

- 7.1 **Town of Embden Policies:** None.
- 7.2 **Review 2011 Audit:** C. Taylor stated they would meet with the auditor Wednesday, May 16th at 17:30.

8 New Business:

- 8.1 **Review & Sign TAN documents:** C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to accept the \$750K TAN with 1.65% interest payable to BSB, and due prior to December 31, 2012. (3-0) BOS reviewed & Chairman signed.

9 Correspondence: BOS reviewed correspondence.

10 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:

10.1 Open Public Forum:

10.1.1 R. McQuillan stated he had gone to the PB with an issue of persons burying fish. He stated they had looked into it with the Dept. of Agriculture. He added he had taken some pictures to the Bingham fish hatchery, and been told that they had been cited for that. He said that it was supposed to be composted, not buried. J. McQuillan stated there was a state law that needed to be followed, and inspections that must be done.

10.1.2 R. McQuillan reviewed a subdivision map with the CEO and the BOS. Extensive discussion ensued.

11 Executive Session (Non-Public) (ME§405): None

12 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment

12.1 Next Regular Selectperson's Meeting – Monday, May 21, 2012.

12.2 Motion to adjourn made by W. McLaughlin (2nd- E. Pratt). (3-0) Adjourned 21:23.

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker*