

Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

June 6, 2011

7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: Steve Daniels (CMP), Terriann Lamontagne, Wayne McLaughlin, John Mullin, Charles Taylor, 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 May 16, 2011. Accepted as written. (2-0)
 - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #11. W. McLaughlin stated he didn't want to pay the Hillside Electric until he had seen an itemized bill. C. Taylor replied that they would remove that item from the warrant, to be paid on Warrant#12 instead. New total \$29,655.98. Approved (2-0).
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations:**
 - 4.1 **Appeals Board Member:** C. Taylor stated B. Baker had posted in the newspaper. Tabled until the next meeting.
- 5 **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 5.1 **E-911** – No Report.
 - 5.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** - No Report.
 - 5.3 **Animal Control** – No Report.
 - 5.4 **Board of Assessors** – T. Lamontagne stated they were, “doing alright out there.”. C. Taylor asked whether the Assessors had been out doing site visits. T. Lamontagne responded, “No! I’ve been told that he doesn’t do them until September-October-November.” C. Taylor replied that that was a policy within the Board of Assessors, but if she felt they should get out earlier, then she should use her voice.
 - 5.5 **Planning Board** – No Report.
 - 5.6 **Plumbing Inspector** – No Report.
 - 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** – xxxxxxxx
 - 5.12 **Recreational Director** – No Report.
 - 5.13 **Town Clerk/Treasurer** –
 - 5.13.1 B. Baker stated she had submitted Reminder notices out to anyone still owing money on taxes for 2009 and earlier.
 - 5.13.2 She stated she was almost done entering the budget amounts, & would like them checked before they were finalized.
 - 5.14 **Tax Collector:** No Report.
 - 5.15 **Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group** – W. McLaughlin stated he had nothing to report.
 - 5.16 **Community Center** –
 - 5.16.1 W. McLaughlin stated the ECC had held a supper last Sunday, with 75-76 people attending.
 - 5.16.2 He stated there would be a Flea Market Saturday from 8a-2p. B. Baker added that there would also be a Relay for Life Fundraiser that day from 11a-2p.
 - 5.16.3 W. McLaughlin mentioned that the Thrift Shop was open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays from 10a-3p.
 - 5.16.4 He asked whether there was a problem with the ECC mail coming to the town office. C. Taylor asked what the ECC wanted. W. McLaughlin replied that they wanted to get their mail. He added that if the Board of Selectpersons approved it, then it could come to the Town Office, and if not, then they would get their own mailbox. He stated he had not had a chance to ask the group in a meeting which option they would prefer, but would bring it up at the 6/14 ECC meeting & have E. Pratt let the Board know.
 - 5.16.5 W. McLaughlin said that there had been 2 donations to the ECC, one very large one.
 - 5.16.6 W. McLaughlin stated that Wally, the alarm person, would be in tomorrow. He said the alarm at the Community Center keeps coming up as “Zone 5,” however there is no zone 5.
 - 5.16.7 W. McLaughlin stated that S. Lehay would bring the lift over so they could take a light down to see what needed to be done to change them over. He said it had to be done within 3-4 weeks.
 - 5.17 **Emergency Management Directors** –
 - 5.17.1 J. Mullin stated that it was a mess, and would be for some time. He added that no one was hurt, & no buildings (other than a few sheds) were destroyed. He said there was minimal damage, as well as one camp on Sand Pond which had been moved sideways approx. 8 feet, and a camper trailer on Edgar Drive which had been moved. He added that there had been hail as big & bigger than golf ball size.
 - 5.17.2 W. McLaughlin stated that people were asking about a Red Cross shelter at the Community Center. B. Baker replied that R. Dunphy was supposed to be applying for a grant for a generator. J. Mullin added that there was a place in

North Anson that people could go to in an emergency. B. Baker asked whether an EMT would be needed during hours that the shelter was open.

5.17.3 J. Mullin showed a slideshow of pictures from the tornado's aftermath.

5.17.4 He said he had been speaking with Amy in the Skowhegan office of FEMA.

5.17.5 He added that he had not found any places where the road had washed out.

5.17.6 He said that CMP had "dumped the grid" that day.

5.17.7 C. Taylor stated that he felt John Mullin had done a good, thorough job, and deserved a round of applause. He added that if there was anything that would aid in doing the job, to let the Selectpersons know and they could build a budget for him.

6 Old Business:

6.1 **Petition for Withdrawal from RSU/MSAD#74:** Issue tabled.

6.2 **Town of Embden Policies:** None

6.3 **Tax Acquired Property:** C. Taylor stated that there were 2 properties

6.3.1 **Property #1:** He said that it did not have much value, other than to an abutter, because the property was mostly taxed through New Portland. He said there was 1.56 acres, assessed at \$800. He stated that he thought the property was landlocked. He added that the 2007-10 taxes were \$111.34, & he thought the owner was willing to relinquish. He asked B. Baker to check on the current tax amounts for the next meeting. C. Taylor said that Don Berry could not give them a fair market value for this property, but felt that the town value was about what it would be worth.

6.3.2 **Property #2:** He stated that the next parcel had some value. He added that the taxes owed were approx. \$7,000 as of 4/11. He stated the town had the property valued at \$15,200, and Don Berry had put a value on it of \$26,000. He said that the property had 5.36 acres, and was map 008 lot 033-008.

6.3.3 C. Taylor stated they would review this at the next meeting, then decide on min bid amounts at the 7/5 meeting.

6.4 **Town Website:** C. Taylor read email & reply regarding a town website. He said he would try to call Steve Damren this week. He asked if W. McLaughlin had any input. W. McLaughlin asked whether the town should use Shawn Cyrway, who had done the Embden Community Club, the New Portland Lions & the fairgrounds

7 New Business:

7.1 **CMP Smartmeter Program:** See attached.

8 Correspondence:

8.1 C. Taylor read information about the railroad spray program.

8.2 Selectpersons reviewed Maine State Police requests.

9 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:

9.1 **Open Public Forum :**

9.1.1 W. McLaughlin asked whether the town had a franchise agreement with Time Warner. C. Taylor stated he would call them directly & see if he could get any information.

9.1.2 B. Baker asked whether the flag was lit up. T. Lamontagne stated that it was not, only the pole was lit up. B. Baker stated she would see about getting it adjusted free of charge.

9.1.3 C. Taylor said he had received something stating that there were changes which would not allow the towns to be more stringent than min. state guidelines. He said he was going to speak with Leo Mayo and recommend that the town wait until the state got things sorted out, then adopt state standards. He added that he didn't want to spend money to hold a Special Town Meeting, just to have the work nullified in 2013.

9.1.4 W. McLaughlin stated that he had received a paper on flag etiquette. B. Baker stated that it had not come from her. T. Lamontagne said that all officials had gotten one, so that no one would feel singled out. W. McLaughlin stated that he did not like that the Masons & Veterans were brought into the issue. He added that he would have installed the light for free, and now it has cost the town \$550. He said he had offered quite a few times, & been told no. He said that if the issue had been brought up nicely, he would have done it free of charge, but because of the way things were brought up, he had not wanted to touch the project. C. Taylor stated that it really was an emotional issue. W. McLaughlin replied that he agreed, but he did not feel that it was the right way to go about it. Discussion continued.

9.1.5 T. Lamontagne asked whether the town would pay for 6 bags of mulch for the town office. C. Taylor made a motion (2nd- W. McLaughlin) to let her purchase 6 bags of mulch & submit it to the treasurer for reimbursement. (2-0)

10 **Executive Session (Non-Public) (ME §405):** None.

11 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment

11.1 Next Regular Selectmen's Meeting – Monday, June 20, 2011

11.2 Motion to adjourn made by C. Taylor (2nd-W. McLaughlin). Adjourned 21:12 (2-0).