

Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

July 5, 2011

7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: Ruth Blake, Julien & Terriann Lamontagne, Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor and Bonnie Baker.

- 1 Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:06.
- 2 The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3 **Consent Agenda:**
 - 3.1 Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated June 20, 2011. Accepted as written. (3-0)
 - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #13 totaling \$16,936.06. Approved (3-0).
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations: None**
- 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** –
 - 5.4.1 T. Lamontagne stated the Assessors were “in a crunch.”
 - 5.4.2 C. Taylor said that the county tax bill was due 1 month earlier this year. He added that Larry Post was going to ask whether anything could be done. He said that Elaine Allows from Solon was on the budget committee, and had not known that the date was changing. He stated that he had received an e-mail from R. Hatch stating the Assessors were working to try to get the commitment done.
 - 5.5 **Planning Board** – No Report.
 - 5.6 **Plumbing Inspector** – No Report.
 - 5.7 **Board of Appeals** – C. Taylor stated he had not heard anything yet about the appeal.
 - 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
 - 5.13 **Town Clerk/Treasurer** –
 - 5.13.1 B. Baker submitted Expense-Revenue report. She asked the Selectpersons to let her know if they found any issues.
 - 5.13.2 E. Pratt asked whether the office had gotten a copy of MSWord. R. Blake answered yes, but she still had programs that she couldn't open. Discussion continued.
 - 5.13.3 T. Lamontagne asked about the internet. B. Baker replied that it had been fixed.
 - 5.13.4 C. Taylor stated that the TAN legal had been paid on this warrant. B. Baker said yes.
 - 5.13.5 E. Pratt asked whether the early due date for the county tax was a “one time thing.” C. Taylor replied that he didn't know. He asked whether there were any bills that could be paid at the end of the year to help defray that cost. B. Baker stated, “Not to make up for more than \$400K.”
 - 5.13.6 W. McLaughlin stated that something needed to be done about the rugs in front of the desks. He made a motion (2nd – E. Pratt) to have someone come in and clean the rugs, and purchase runners to put down afterwards. (3-0) C. Taylor asked B. Baker to find someone to come in and clean the rugs.
 - 5.14 **Tax Collector:**
 - 5.14.1 R. Blake submitted a report.
 - 5.14.2 R. Blake stated that money was coming in.
 - 5.14.3 She said she would mail out 30-Day Notices on 7/12, they would be due 7/11, and the liens would be put on 8/18.
 - 5.15 **Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group** –
 - 5.15.1 W. McLaughlin stated the group had spoken with Starks, and had meetings with Cornville & Madison. He said they had tried to get a meeting with Troy Emery, the Chair of the Madison schools. He said that he was a meeting tomorrow night at 18:30 in Cornville regarding a charter school. R. Blake stated that Cornville was ahead of us in this process. She stated that the Governor had just signed a law allowing charter schools, however there would only be 10 allowed in the entire state, and it would be a first come first serve basis.
 - 5.15.2 C. Taylor read from LD1274.
 - 5.15.3 R. Blake stated that some parents had mentioned to her that they were not interested in Madison at all.
 - 5.16 **Community Center** –
 - 5.16.1 W. McLaughlin stated that about a month ago the Selectpersons had approved money to put new lights in the gym at the Community Center. He said that S. Leahy was there putting some together. He added that they had been told that the new lights would pay for themselves within a year. He said they needed to decide what to do with the old ones. C. Taylor asked him to put a value on them. W. McLaughlin stated he would find the value for them new, and go from there.

- 5.16.2 He stated there would be a flea market Saturday.
- 5.16.3 He said the thrift store was doing well on Tuesdays & Wednesdays, and he didn't know about Fridays & Saturdays.
- 5.16.4 R. Blake stated that the ECC had written a check to the town for \$1100 for excess revenues. She said that food sales at the ballgames had brought in \$519.83 and the thrift store \$656, in addition to \$1478 in donations.
- 5.16.5 E. Pratt stated that people were really enjoying the thrift shop.
- 5.16.6 W. McLaughlin said that they had a list of donations. He said that a man had donated a refrigerator. He added that the ECC now had 4 refrigerators and a freezer. E. Pratt stated the building could very easily be an emergency shelter.
- 5.16.7 W. McLaughlin listed the Upcoming Events: Dinner July 16th, Doug Matthews July 23rd, Picking Party June 26th.
- 5.16.8 R. Blake stated that the Embden Pond Association held their breakfast Monday morning.

5.17 Emergency Management Directors – No Report.

6 Old Business:

- 6.1 **Petition for Withdrawal from RSU/MSAD#74:** Covered under 5.15
- 6.2 **Town of Embden Policies:** None.
- 6.3 **Tax Acquired Property:** Set minimum bids. Deadline for closed bids 8/9. Bids will be opened 8/15.
 - 6.3.1 **Property #1:** C. Taylor stated the minimum bid amount would be \$300.
 - 6.3.2 **Property #2:** C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to set the minimum bid amount at \$5,000.(3-0)
- 6.4 **Town Website:** C. Taylor read from estimate for town website. E. Pratt stated that she felt the amount was too much for this town. Discussion continued.
- 6.5 **Review of Time Warner Franchise Agreement:** C. Taylor submitted new franchise agreement. He read his e-mail and the response. W. McLaughlin stated he would like to see the map of coverage areas. He asked when the agreement would be up for renewal again. C. Taylor replied that it was a 15-year contract. B. Baker asked, "Why so long? Aren't they usually a 2-3 year contract?" C. Taylor said this contract was not up until November of next year. Discussion continued.
- 6.6 **Fuel Contract:** C. Taylor stated the amount for the pre-buy contract was 3.599. He said he felt there was no sense wasting their time with pricing it out, because the town did not have the money. E. Pratt asked whether he had found out about off-road diesel. C. Taylor said no, but he would ask. He said he thought the town would be forced to pay market price this year. He added that the town office only used 648g, so there was the option to pre-buy only for this building. He said they had until 8/31 to lock in.
- 6.7 **Repair of Community Center:** E. Pratt stated that the ECC had talked about hiring people to do the work, but felt that it was "not their building." C. Taylor asked for specifics on what needed to be done. W. McLaughlin stated that the clapboards need to be removed & repainted by the boiler room, and also some siding was broken. C. Taylor asked whether they had people interested in doing the repairs. W. McLaughlin listed the following: William Atwood, Jeff Goodwin & Desiree Bolduc, and Michael Carey. C. Taylor stated he would contact those individuals and have them get a hold of W. McLaughlin to look at the damage and submit estimates.

7 New Business:

8 Correspondence:

- 8.1 C. Taylor read thank you from Spectrum Generations.

9 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:

- 9.1 **Open Public Forum :** None

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

11 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment

- 11.1 Next Regular Selectmen's Meeting – Monday, July 18, 2011.
- 11.2 Motion to adjourn made by W. McLaughlin (2nd-E. Pratt). Adjourned 20:40 (3-0).

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker*