

Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

September 19, 2011

7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: Scott Lehay, Leo Mayo, Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, 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 September 6, 2011. Accepted as written.(3-0)
 - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #18 totaling \$183,379.22. (3-0)
 - 3.2.1 BOS reviewed the telephone bill for the town office.
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations:** None
- 5 **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 5.1 **E-911** – No Report.
 - 5.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** – C. Taylor stated he would call S. White and ask him to come to the 1st meeting in October.
 - 5.3 **Animal Control** – No Report.
 - 5.4 **Board of Assessors** – B. Baker stated that the Assessors had completed the commitment process. She added that the official date would be Wednesday, but the bills should have been in the mail today. She said the mil rate was set at 12.42.
 - 5.5 **Planning Board** –
 - 5.5.1 L. Mayo said that everything was pretty good. He submitted copies of 2 denials and a correspondence. He added that the minutes were in the Selectpersons mailboxes.
 - 5.5.2 C. Taylor stated he had a question on Wilderness Acres. L. Mayo replied that the BOS had never signed off on the road being done. C. Taylor stated that he thought they had, and it had gone back to the CEO for approval.
 - 5.6 **Plumbing Inspector** – L. Mayo reported that everything was going well.
 - 5.7 **Board of Appeals** – S. Lehay stated that it had “been quiet.” He said the last appeal had gone well.
 - 5.8 **Code Enforcement Officer** – L. Mayo stated R. Dunphy was out looking for a price for a primitive system.
 - 5.9 **Health Officer** – No Report.
 - 5.10 **Road Commissioner** – No Report.
 - 5.11 **M.S.A.D. #74** – S. Lehay stated the pellet project was coming along nicely.
 - 5.12 **Recreational Director** – No Report.
 - 5.13 **Town Clerk/Treasurer** –
 - 5.13.1 B. Baker submitted a Treasurer’s report.
 - 5.13.2 She submitted a Check Reconciliation Report for the Selectpersons to review.
 - 5.13.3 She submitted a written report of outstanding (liened) real estate taxes. E. Pratt asked how many accounts were included in the report. B. Baker stated she was not sure.
 - 5.13.4 C. Taylor stated the auditor had been at the office Friday. W. McLaughlin said that the auditor had recommended having the taxes due twice a year, and had also mentioned swapping the fiscal year to July – June. E. Pratt added that the auditor thought the town should try to get on a system where it wasn’t always trying to play catch-up. She said she thought B. Baker had brought up the option of a tax club in the past. She said the auditor thought the BOS might be able to approve going to a twice per year payment on taxes without having to have a town vote. C. Taylor asked whether the first installment would be estimated based on the previous year’s tax bill, and the second used to pay the difference. E. Pratt answered yes. Discussion continued.

- 5.13.5 B. Baker said she planned to take her last 2 days of vacation on January 31st and February 1st. Discussion ensued.
- 5.13.6 W. McLaughlin asked when the bids came due for the Tax Acquired property. B. Baker replied 9/16, to be opened at the next meeting. She stated she had not received any bids so far.
- 5.14 Tax Collector:** No Report.
- 5.15 Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group** – W. McLaughlin stated there was nothing to report.
- 5.16 Community Center –**
 - 5.16.1 E. Pratt stated there would be a supper this week.
 - 5.16.2 She stated they had had so much trouble with the newspaper that it was like they were “trying to sabotage us.”
 - 5.16.3 S. Leahy submitted an alcohol policy & vendor contract. He stated he did not expect the BOS to vote tonight, because he felt they needed some time to review it. Discussion continued.
- 5.17 Emergency Management Directors** – C. Taylor stated J. Mullin was out patrolling during Hurricane Irene.
- 6 Old Business:**
 - 6.1 Town of Embden Policies:** None.
 - 6.2 Open & Award Closed Real Estate Bids:** BOS opened and read bids for Property # 1, map 007 lot 013. Bid was \$400 from Leo Mayo. E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to accept the bid of \$400 for map 007 lot 013 and issue a quit claim deed to Leo Mayo. (3-0)
- 7 New Business:** None
- 8 Correspondence:**
 - 8.1 BOS reviewed the completed submerged land lease application for the boat ramp.
 - 8.2 C. Taylor read the summary from the underwriter at MMA. He stated that the snowmobile club was looking into fixing the path to the beach. He asked B. Baker to order 3 “Use at your own risk” signs. He added that the fire extinguishers at the Community Center needed to be inspected monthly, and the playground equipment needed to be inspected and maintained. W. McLaughlin asked how they could control the fact that people were using the playground at the Community Center at all hours even if the building wasn’t open. E. Pratt stated that the “Use at Your Own Risk” signs wouldn’t amount to anything. W. McLaughlin stated he would bring it up to the Club Thursday night
- 9 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:**
 - 9.1 Open Public Forum :**
 - 9.1.1 E. Pratt asked C. Taylor whether he had heard anything from Time Warner yet. Discussion continued.
 - 9.1.2 W. McLaughlin asked what the thoughts were on the new light on the flagpole. C. Taylor stated it was a 500W flood light. E. Pratt asked whether they should have T. Lamontagne check it out for them. C. Taylor stated he would thank P. Hellinski for replacing that free of charge.
 - 9.1.3 S. Leahy asked whether the snow plow contract would be up this year. He asked whether the BOS had given anythought to how that would be done. C. Taylor stated there would be some work sessions.
 - 9.1.4 W. McLaughlin asked what they were going to do about plowing at the Community Center. He said he didn’t know if Joe Creamer was interested this year. C. Taylor said he thought they should add it to the next plow contract in the future.
 - 9.1.5 B. Baker asked whether any decision had been made about vacation time yet. Discussion continued. E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) that the elected officials who have vacation time, that time goes from March to March, and cannot be rolled over into the next year (i.e. use it or lose it). (3-0)
- 10 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment**
 - 10.1** Next Regular Selectmen’s Meeting – Monday, October 3, 2011.
 - 10.2** Motion to adjourn made by W. McLaughlin (2nd - E. Pratt). Adjourned 20:43 (3-0).

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker*