

Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

~
October 3, 2011

7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: David & Kimberly Benes, Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor, Michael Witham, Sam White Jr., and Bonnie Baker.

- 1 Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:04.
- 2 The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3 **Consent Agenda:**
 - 3.1 Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated September 19, 2011. Accepted as written.(2-0)
 - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #19 totaling \$175,530.07. (2-0)
 - 3.2.1 B. Baker stated the checking account balance as of close of business Friday was \$509,325.52.
 - 3.2.2 W. McLaughlin said the carpets look good. He asked B. Baker to find something for the bottoms of the chairs in R. Blake's office. B. Baker added that she needed to order another runner for the Assessors' office because they had ended up using 2 in R. Blake's office.
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations:** None
- 5 **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 5.1 **E-911** – No Report.
 - 5.1.1 W. McLaughlin stated that he had had 2 or 3 people ask about the West Shore Road. He said it had been a problem with 911 because people still know it as the West Shore Road. He said he thought it needed to be explained to E. Ketchum that it was, “a bad situation.” He added he had listened to an ambulance call the other night where the crew could not find the individual because they were looking for the West Shore Road instead of the Embden Pond Road. D.Benes said he liked West Shore Road. C. Taylor stated he would speak with E. Ketchum.
 - 5.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** –
 - 5.2.1 B. Baker submitted a copy of bond and the proof for salt & sand requirements from S. White. B. Baker stated she could pre-pay him for the next warrant. C. Taylor agreed.
 - 5.2.2 M. Witham asked whether the salt was the same price as last year. C. Taylor stated he did not have that information.
 - 5.2.3 C. Taylor asked whether there would be more salt coming. S. White replied he would order it as needed.
 - 5.2.4 C. Taylor asked whether he had anything to report. S. White replied, “It hasn't snowed yet.”
 - 5.2.5 C. Taylor asked how the shed looked. S. White stated that the water was not coming in anymore that he could see. He added that if the Selectpersons wanted to inspect the roof, this would be a good time to do it.
 - 5.3 **Animal Control** – B. Baker submitted report from ACO. BOS reviewed.
 - 5.4 **Board of Assessors** – No Report.
 - 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** –
 - 5.10.1 M. Witham stated he had spoken with Fine Line Paving, and they were going to have the shoulder machine for the Fahi Pond Road. He added that some spots had a lift of 5-6”, so they would use some of the recycled hot top.
 - 5.10.2 He added that he had D. Nile take care of some beaver issues.C. Taylor asked whether he had spoken to Eldon McLean. M. Witham replied that it did not appear to be any new stuff.

5.10.3 He said he was doing some ditching on the Hancock Pond Road at the Lexington end. He added that there was a spot just past Second Street which should be built up. C. Taylor stated that road had always had a problem with wash boarding.

5.10.4 C. Taylor asked whether all of the paving projects were all done. M. Witham stated there was one more spot on the West Shore Road near the water district that he would like to patch.

5.11 M.S.A.D. #74 – No Report.

5.12 Recreational Director – M. Witham stated she would attend the next Selectpersons meeting.

5.13 Town Clerk/Treasurer –

5.13.1 B. Baker submitted an Expense-Revenue report.

5.13.2 She submitted a written report of outstanding (liened) real estate taxes. BOS reviewed.

5.13.3 C. Taylor asked her to put the county tax on the next warrant, and hold the check if need be.

5.14 Tax Collector:

5.14.1 R. Blake stated she had tried to pull a TRIO report, but the amounts were not coming out right. She stated that \$342,382.86 had come in so far for 2011. She added that that was in 4 days.

5.14.2 She questioned whether she could see the bankruptcy reports as they came in. C. Taylor stated that it was a sensitive document; however she should be made aware when they came in.

5.14.3 R. Blake stated that she had a situation where the 30D Notice went out, and she put it together and called the new owners, who came right in and paid. W. McLaughlin asked, “Isn’t the person responsible the one that owned it on April 1st?” B. Baker replied yes. R. Blake responded, “Well, yeah, but I don’t think it’s right.” C. Taylor reminded her that the town was not legally obligated to send out tax bills. W. McLaughlin asked B. Baker how soon after a sale the town received the transfer sheets. B. Baker responded that it could be a couple months after they were filed. She added that she would have no problem with taking the list and cross checking with the Assessors sheets before the properties went to lien.

5.15 Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group – W. McLaughlin stated there was nothing to report.

5.16 Community Center –

5.16.1 W. McLaughlin stated that the group had a very good supper last Saturday. R. Blake reported that they had brought in \$980 from the supper, and \$20 in donations.

5.16.2 She said she was waiting to turn in the money. She said they had been turning in \$1,100 per month, but could turn in \$1,200 to the town this time. W. McLaughlin stated he and R. Blake had been discussing doing some painting. E. Pratt added that the group could take some of their profits. W. McLaughlin interjected that since the group did not own the building, they did not want to do that. C. Taylor stated that he thought it would be best to show the painting in TRIO as an expense, even if it had to be pulled from another budget line as an unanticipated expense. Discussion continued.

5.16.3 W. McLaughlin stated that the upcoming events for October would be: a flea market & craft fair on the 8th, a Picking Party on the 9th, a Boiled Ham dinner on the 15th, a bluegrass show on the 22nd, and a Haunted House on the 28th.

5.16.4 W. McLaughlin stated that Myles Durkin had done some pressure washing.

5.17 Emergency Management Directors – No Report.

6 Old Business:

6.1 Town of Embden Policies:

6.1.1 C. Taylor stated he had no policies to bring up today.

6.1.2 He added that S. Lehay had submitted Community Center policies last meeting, which were forwarded on to the town’s attorney. He said that there were some questions on the alcohol policy and pricing that he had forwarded to the BOS. He said corrections were being made.

6.1.3 He stated that MMA wanted the town to have a sexual harassment policy. He added that he would work on that.

7 New Business: None

8 Correspondence:

8.1 BOS reviewed the water quality report from the Madison Water District. C. Taylor said that he had left a message regarding the charges for the hydrants, but had not heard back yet. E. Pratt asked whether the water district had an agreement that they could just take the water. W. McLaughlin stated that he had seen a newspaper article about an upcoming merger, that said that they had the water rights to Fahi, Sand, Hancock, and --- Ponds.

8.2 C. Taylor read a letter from the Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

- 8.3** He mentioned the 2011 Personnel Practices Workshop on November 5th in Augusta. He asked whether anyone was interested in attending.
- 8.4** C. Taylor submitted the ‘Breathe Easy, You’re in Maine’ pamphlet and smoking laws. He asked whether the BOS wanted to adopt them as a policy. He stated it was state law.
- 8.5** He read the Department of Defense memorandum from the Army Corp of Engineers.
- 9 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:**
- 9.1 Open Public Forum :**
- 9.1.1** C. Taylor stated they had some stuff “up in the air” about the Community Club. He said that MMA and the town’s attorney were asking questions about insurance. He added that the BOS were, “faced with some fact-finding.” Discussion continued.
- 9.1.2** C. Taylor stated he had forwarded an e-mail from Shelley Linkenbach of Time Warner Cable to the BOS. He explained that they were in the process of renegotiating the franchise agreement. E. Pratt stated that they had done nothing to expand their system in 15 years.
- 10 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment**
- 10.1** Next Regular Selectperson’s Meeting – Monday, October 17, 2011.
- 10.2** Potential Informational Meeting with the Community Club and MMA on October 11th at 18:30.
- 10.3** Motion to adjourn made by W. McLaughlin (2nd- E. Pratt). Adjourned 20:58 (3-0).

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker*