

Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

October 17, 2011

7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: David & Kimberly Benes, Ruth Blake, Eleanor Ketchum, Terriann & Julien Lamontagne, Scott Leahy, Leo Mayo, Ramona & Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Norma Reichert, Charles Taylor, Wendy Witham, and Bonnie Baker.

- 1 Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:03.
- 2 The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3 **Consent Agenda:**
 - 3.1 Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated October 3, 2011. Accepted as written.(3-0)
 - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #20 totaling \$648,929.00. (3-0)
 - 3.2.1 E. Pratt asked whether anyone had gotten a hold of CMP regarding the street lights.
 - 3.2.2 She stated that the lens on the light for the flagpole was broken. W. McLaughlin said he thought it was due to the heat and the rain sitting on the lens. C. Taylor stated he would contact Hillside Electric.
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations:** None
- 5 **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 5.1 **E-911** – No Report.
 - 5.1.1 E. Ketchum stated they had put up a new Katie’s Crotch Rd sign today. She said she had one more KCR sign left, & would be ordering two or three more signs before snow.
 - 5.1.2 S. Leahy stated that the sign for the Station Road was missing.
 - 5.1.3 C. Taylor asked about the numbers for Lakefront Drive. He stated that they started at 41 and seemed to be all over the place. R. Blake added, “The numbers in there don’t make any sense. The numbers aren’t consecutive.” E. Ketchum replied that that was the way they were measured, and she couldn’t help that. R. Blake stated, “They jump all over the place.” E. Ketchum stressed, “That’s the way they come off the satellite.”
 - 5.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** – No Report.
 - 5.3 **Animal Control** – No Report.
 - 5.4 **Board of Assessors** –
 - 5.4.1 T. Lamontagne said, “Everybody’s happy with their taxes, no one’s complaining.”
 - 5.4.2 C. Taylor asked whether the Assessors would be open-minded about a 2-pay tax bill. He added that the Selectpersons were planning on putting an article on the March warrant. R. McLaughlin added that their tax bill from Ellsworth had 2 coupons, and she could choose to pay either one payment or both when she received it.
 - 5.5 **Planning Board** –
 - 5.5.1 L. Mayo stated there had been two permits last week. He submitted copies of the permits, along with a couple of correspondence letters. C. Taylor read from the submitted letters. He said he received a fax from the Wahlers.
 - 5.5.2 B. Baker stated that Ann Bridges had e-mailed her all of the minutes, and the postings were now current through the most recently approved minutes.
 - 5.5.3 L. Mayo said he had no personnel interested in attending the Planning Board training in Farmington. C. Taylor stated he would try to get a hold of someone at KVCOG to see whether a class could be arranged in Embden.
 - 5.5.4 C. Taylor said the Selectpersons needed to have an article for Jed Spear and the subdivision on the Perkins Road. L. Mayo added that there was also one on the East Shore Road that had dedeed 16.5’ to the Town for ditching.
 - 5.6 **Plumbing Inspector** – L. Mayo stated there would be some new systems going in this fall, as well as some upgrades. C. Taylor asked whether any were part of Shore land Zoning. L. Mayo replied, “Nothing in violations.”
 - 5.7 **Board of Appeals** – Selectpersons reviewed a letter submitted by John Duff.

5.8 Code Enforcement Officer – No Report.

- 5.8.1** E. Pratt stated that she understood there had been a stop work order placed on the Roosevelt camp that was then ignored. She asked L. Mayo if he had any information on that. He stated he had no further information other than what R. Dunphy had already given them. C. Taylor stated his notes indicated that E. Thebarga might have more information. L. Mayo asked whether Ken Lexier had said he would call R. Dunphy. E. Pratt said yes.

5.9 Health Officer – No Report.

5.10 Road Commissioner – W. Witham stated they would be finishing on the Walker Road tomorrow. She stated M. Witham had gotten an estimate for the shoulders on the Fahi Pond Road.

5.11 M.S.A.D. #74 – No Report.

5.12 Recreational Director –

- 5.12.1** W. Witham stated she had sent out flyers for a Ski Club, and received more than 20 responses. She stated Larry Dunphy would coach. She added that MSAD74 was working with them for a bus for 5 dates. She said she was working with Saddleback Mountain. C. Taylor asked whether she wanted the contact information for the town's insurance underwriter. W. Witham stated that the town of Solon would sponsor some of the expense for the ski club, so scholarships may be available for Embden kids.
- 5.12.2** W. Witham said she sent out 200 flyers for Youth Group, but had only gotten 2 responses.
- 5.12.3** She stated there had not been any soccer in Embden. She said she had offered to sponsor the t-shirts for Solon since Embden kids would be playing there, but Solon had declined.
- 5.12.4** She stated that she would probably fund some pre-season basketball tournaments.
- 5.12.5** W. McLaughlin asked whether she would have much going on at the Community Center. She replied, "Nothing." She said that you can't have basketball going on there with zumba and yoga. W. McLaughlin said that it was only yoga, and that was Tuesdays and Thursdays.

5.13 Town Clerk/Treasurer –

- 5.13.1** B. Baker submitted a Check Reconciliation report. BOS reviewed.
- 5.13.2** She submitted a Treasurer's report.
- 5.13.3** She submitted a list of ballot clerks for the upcoming election. BOS reviewed and signed. B. Baker stated that the election would be November 8. She said the polls would open at 8am, due to a change in state law. C. Taylor asked when absentee ballots would be available. B. Baker answered that they were available now, and the last day to request an absentee ballot would be Thursday, November 3rd.
- 5.13.4** She stated the checking account balance as of close-of-business Friday was \$1,076,198.82.
- 5.13.5** C. Taylor asked if the TAN could be paid on the next warrant. B. Baker said she would try.
- 5.13.6** B. Baker stated she needed to be out Thursday, November 10th for a family issue. C. Taylor stated he was "ok with that." E. Pratt said yes.
- 5.13.7** C. Taylor asked whether she had heard from the auditor yet. B. Baker replied no.

5.14 Tax Collector: R. Blake stated \$1,232,842 had been collected so far.

5.15 Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group – No Report.

5.16 Community Center –

- 5.16.1** C. Taylor stated the BOS had just had a meeting with attorney and MMA to discuss the needs of the Community Center. He added that the meeting had been posted.
- 5.16.2** E. Pratt stated they had a great boiled dinner with either ham or corned beef this week.
- 5.16.3** C. Taylor asked about upcoming events. R. McLaughlin stated there would be Back Porch Blue Grass Saturday night, a craft fair, Pat Libby (country music), and a Christmas fair. E. Pratt said there would be a haunted house. W. McLaughlin stated that the group had been discussing a Thanksgiving meal for Embden residents. R. McLaughlin stated that the Marden's Lady would be doing a show on December 2nd. She said they would sell tickets in advance for \$10/each, or \$11 at the door. W. McLaughlin said the JMG would be putting on a haunted house. R. McLaughlin added that there would be a bake sale there too.
- 5.16.4** C. Taylor asked if the group had developed an action plan. W. McLaughlin replied, "Not yet."
- 5.16.5** E. Pratt stated that people had been working on the backside of the building. She said that it was a "terrible, terrible group that built that addition. Very shoddy."
- 5.16.6** R. McLaughlin said that the thrift shop was going very well. She stated she had \$170 from last week for R. Blake. She stated that Wednesday mornings, a Special Ed. Group sweeps and

vacuums, and some of them work in the thrift shop. She stated that they were allowed to keep whatever they make for Special Olympics.

5.16.7 She said that the TOPS group met in the building on Monday nights.

5.16.8 E. Pratt asked whether the group would accept exercise equipment to sell. R. McLaughlin replied yes, as long as it was working. She added they had had a lot of nice donations.

5.17 Emergency Management Directors – No Report.

6 Old Business:

6.1 Town of Embden Policies: None

7 New Business:

7.1 Board of Selectpersons Concerns:

7.1.1 W. McLaughlin asked whether the BOS needed to do anything about fireworks. C. Taylor stated Anson had mentioned that they would not allow it in their town. He said S. Lehay had brought up the question of what would happen if Embden allowed fireworks and something catches on fire, where our fire coverage is based in Anson. K. Benes said that some communities were only outlawing the air ones. W. Witham asked if Hunnewell Valley got a permit or permission from the town. She asked how that worked if you had ordinances. E. Pratt stated that organizations like Blue Hill Pyrotechnics were bonded. C. Taylor stated he was not sure how the ordinance would read. Discussion continued.

7.1.2 W. McLaughlin asked if they had heard anything from Time Warner Cable. C. Taylor said not since the last e-mail. E. Pratt explained to those present that the contract needed to be signed in December.

7.2 Review & Sign Quit-Claim Deed for Tax Acquired Property: BOS reviewed and signed.

8 Correspondence:

8.1 C. Taylor read a letter about Maine Roads & Easements.

8.2 He listed the Labor & Employment Law workshop to be held October 25th.

8.3 C. Taylor stated that Madison would be voting on the water district consolidation on Tuesday, November 8th. He stated there would be public meetings on November 6th & 20th. He stated he had called regarding the price for hydrants and had never heard back. He read the proposed water rates.

9 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:

9.1 Open Public Forum: W. Witham asked when the BOS would start working on the articles for town meeting. C. Taylor replied probably November-December. He added that they would announce and post those meetings.

10 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment

10.1 Next Regular Selectperson's Meeting – Monday, November 7, 2011.

10.2 Motion to adjourn made by W. McLaughlin (2nd - E. Pratt). Adjourned 20:10 (3-0).

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker*