

# Town of Embden



## Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

August 5, 2013

19:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

**In attendance was:** Robert Dunphy, Leo Mayo, Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor, and Bonnie Baker.

1. Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:02.
2. **Consent Agenda:**
  - 2.1. Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated July 15, 2013 as amended. (3-0)
    - 2.1.1. C. Taylor stated he would like 2.2.1 changed to “would contact.” B. Baker replied that she thought T.Lamontagne had made the phone call during the meeting and left a message.
    - 2.1.2. C. Taylor requested that the word “meeting” be added to 4.4.3 after March, to clarify.
  - 2.2. Reviewed Warrant #15 totaling \$183,795.21. (3-0)
3. **Appointments & Resignations:**
  - 3.1. **RSU#74 School Board Director:** No applicants.
    - 3.1.1. E. Pratt said, “I think the people here are just so jaded by that school system that nobody wants to deal with them.”
    - 3.1.2. C. Taylor stated perhaps at the next town meeting they would add a stipend paid by the town per meeting.
    - 3.1.3. Discussion continued.
    - 3.1.4. Tabled until next meeting.
4. **Department Officials Reports:**
  - 4.1. **E-911 –**
    - 4.1.1. E. Ketchum asked, “What about these roads that we are going to have big signs, little signs? I have about 12 roads that I think ought to have big signs: Kennebec River Road, Bert Berry Road, Moulton Road, Cross Town, Dunbar, Fahi, East Shore, Wentworth, Embden Pond, Katie Crotch, Barron; and Perkins I don’t know.” She stated she felt the bigger signs should be used on only the biggest and most travelled roads in town. She added that the signs would be changed as they needed to be replaced. C. Taylor asked if all of the BOS agreed with E. Ketchum on her list. He asked for a vote by the board. (3-0)
    - 4.1.2. E. Ketchum stated that there were rules for the placement of signs (how far back, etc.).
    - 4.1.3. She stated that with the expense of the signs, if any were found, she felt the sheriff needed to be called. C. Taylor stated one had recently been found behind someone’s house in New Portland.
  - 4.2. **Winter Roads Contractor –**No Report.
  - 4.3. **Animal Control –**
    - 4.3.1. BOS reviewed written report. W. McLaughlin stated he did not see anything about the pit bulls he had asked her to check on the Getchell Road. E. Pratt made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – C. Taylor) to accept as written. (3-0)
  - 4.4. **Board of Assessors –**
    - 4.4.1. W. McLaughlin stated that the other assessors were in tax school this week.
    - 4.4.2. BOS reviewed and signed abatements.
  - 4.5. **Planning Board –**
    - 4.5.1. L. Mayo asked whether the BOS had found out the status of the Slipp Road easement from Jed Spear. C.Taylor stated it had been accepted 2 years ago at the annual town meeting.
    - 4.5.2. L. Mayo stated there was a very light agenda this month.
    - 4.5.3. He stated that the Internal Plumbing permit form needed to be updated on the town website.
  - 4.6. **Plumbing Inspector –**
    - 4.6.1. L. Mayo stated he needed to meet with LaFlamme. He stated they had the pipe buried in a stone area, but it still needs to be finished. He added that it had been that way for many years.
  - 4.7. **Board of Appeals –** No Report.
  - 4.8. **Code Enforcement Officer –**
    - 4.8.1. R. Dunphy stated it had been a slow month. C. Taylor stated, “We haven’t seen you in awhile, but you have a list if you get bored.”

- 4.8.2. W. McLaughlin asked about the deck on the edge of the pond in Spring Hill. R. Dunphy replied, "That was taken care of the second week you told me." He stated it was now a float.
- 4.8.3. W. McLaughlin asked about the Megarry property. R. Dunphy stated, "The only thing I had to check with is if I said that, which I may not have. I checked the Assessors bill from last year, and the Assessors bill this year, and there's no proof that there was 50%, or less than 50%, increase in value because the assessment is still the same. It is exactly. That was my proof."
- 4.8.4. W. McLaughlin asked what had happened to the complaint form. B. Baker stated she had not had a chance to get it done yet. She added that she would try to get it done this week.
- 4.8.5. C. Taylor stated they also needed new graph paper on the Planning Board application.

**4.9. Health Officer –**

- 4.9.1. R. Dunphy stated that he had not had any reports, other than ticks.

**4.10. Road Commissioner – No Report.**

- 4.10.1. E. Pratt stated M. Witham had said at the last meeting he would be fixing the ditching on the Dunbar Hill Road. She said she had gone up Sunday and it looked really good.

**4.11. R.S.U. #74 – No Report.**

**4.12. Recreational Director - No Report.**

- 4.12.1. B. Baker stated the Summer Rec-Swim Program had ended last Wednesday with a trip to Funtown.
- 4.12.2. She stated that T. Murray had called to say she had loaned out the soccer goals.
- 4.12.3. She stated the Rec. Director had issued 7 scholarships to Embden kids, 6 to attend dance camp, and 1 for Boy Scout camp.

**4.13. Town Clerk/Treasurer –**

- 4.13.1. B. Baker submitted an Expense Report.
- 4.13.2. She stated the new phone system was now up and going. She stated it had gone online Thursday afternoon. She stated there was some disagreement in the way the greeting should be worded. BOS listened to the voice greeting. Discussion continued. BOS decided to leave the greeting as it was for now. W. McLaughlin stated he didn't want anything changed until the entire BOA had come back.

**4.14. Registrar of Voters:**

- 4.14.1. B. Baker stated she had nothing to report at this time.

**4.15. Tax Collector – No Report.**

**4.16. Community Center –**

- 4.16.1. W. McLaughlin asked whether they had heard a price for the A/C yet.
- 4.16.2. W. McLaughlin asked about the status of internet service for the building. Discussion continued.
- 4.16.3. W. McLaughlin stated S. LeHay was trying to get someone to look at the gym floor.
- 4.16.4. W. McLaughlin stated someone had torn up the lawn again a couple of weeks ago, but there was only the one camera out back, and it didn't pick anything up that they could make out. R. Dunphy advised that Mike Smith from the County might be able to enhance the video for them.
- 4.16.5. W. McLaughlin listed the following upcoming events:  
Bob Marley – Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>  
Spare Rib Supper – Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>
- 4.16.6. W. McLaughlin stated, "As of right now, I still don't know what time he is going to start... The sign over here says 7:30pm, and the one that he put in the paper says 7pm." L. Mayo asked if tickets could be purchased at the door. W. McLaughlin replied, "If there are any left. I'm not sure what's going on. I don't dare to make any promise." He explained that tickets were being sold at the Thrift Store, R. Blake was selling them at the Town Office, Pam Stephens had some, and Bob Marley was selling them online. He stated, "As of today, we don't know how many [tickets] Bob Marley has sold. There is a limit to how many people we can put in that building." He said they thought they could get about 300 people in there.
- 4.16.7. W. McLaughlin stated they should get Nate (from Bob's Cash Fuel) to inspect the new heating system and show them how it worked.

**4.17. Emergency Management Directors –No report.**

**5. Board of Selectpersons Concerns:**

- 5.1. C. Taylor stated they had just gotten a letter from MMA with the results of the recent insurance inspection. He stated with the new heating system, the value of the ECCtr building increased by \$94,621. He stated the Sand Shed had gone up \$2,300, and the Town Office had increased \$26,000. He added that the Town House had decreased in value by \$20,000. He stated that MMA had waived the additional \$159 cost for this year.
- 5.2. E. Pratt stated she had received many calls from people wanting to drop the height of the new spillway another foot. She said, "There are places that maybe the houses are sinking, because I went up and the water wasn't even up to the log and their camp were underwater." L. Mayo replied, "They have just gotten used to the water being low, and people have done things they shouldn't have." E. Pratt stated she had stood up at the last informational

meeting and asked if anyone had an issue with the height they had set, and no one complained, but now they were calling her and saying it should be lowered a foot. She said, "Well, too bad. Why didn't you bring it up at the meeting."

**6. New Business:**

**6.1.** Workplace Smoking Policy: BOS reviewed and signed.

**7. Old Business:**

**7.1.** Dam Committee:

**7.1.1.** E. Pratt asked if the project would be done this year. C. Taylor stated the Dam Committee had a meeting last week with DEP, ACoE, the members, and the engineer. He stated there was going to be some compromise with the water going down the Mill Stream. He said S. Govoni had redesigned the spillway with a "V", but now DEP wanted 5CSM/minute flowing down the Mill Stream at all times. He added that if they could get the plans approved, then Mike Mullin had promised to get it turned around so they could get the project done in September.

**7.1.2.** He stated Luce had called him and said they were doing work on the Mill Stream Bridge, and offered to put the coffer dam in for free. C. Taylor stated he had advised him to contact S. Govoni to see if that could be coordinated. R. Dunphy replied, "But who gave him the authority to work within 75' of the brook?" He explained that DEP and DOT both said it was ok, but what about the townspeople. He stated, "I don't want it to happen, not that I want to stop that, but DEP plays games with the town...If they can do it, then why can't I? Why can't you just go build the dam right now?" He stated he didn't know what to do. L. Mayo suggested that he could issue a stop-work order. R. Dunphy replied, "I don't want to mess with DOT or we will never get that dam built."

**7.1.3.** C. Taylor stated, "I think there is still a fair amount of concern."

**8.** Copier Lease Agreement: C. Taylor stated he had been able to dicker down the price to pretty much the same as the old machine, \$90 plus taxes, including the maintenance agreement. BOS approved the new contract 3-0.

**9. Correspondence:** None.

**10. Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:**

**10.1. Open Public Forum:**

**10.1.1.** C. Taylor explained that W. Atwood had the bulletin board for the Town Office completed and would prefer to mount it onto the building instead of on a post. E. Pratt made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – C. Taylor) to have the bulletin board mounted onto the building. (3-0)

**11. Executive Session (Non-Public) (ME §405):**

**11.1.** C. Taylor made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – E. Pratt) to enter into executive session (non-public) pursuant to M.R.S.A. §405(h) regarding a legal matter. (3-0) *Entered executive session at 20:21.* C. Taylor made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – E. Pratt) to come out of executive session and to enforce SLZ on this legal matter. (3-0)

*Meeting resumed at 20:57.*

**12. Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment**

**12.1.** Next Regular Selectperson's Meeting – Monday, August 5, 2013.

**12.2.** Motion to adjourn made by E. Pratt (2<sup>nd</sup>- C. Taylor). (3-0) Adjourned 21:02.

*Minutes submitted by:  
Bonnie A. Baker*