

# Town of Embden



## Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

~

August 4, 2014

19:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

**Board Members In attendance.** Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor

**Board Members Absent.** None

**Other Officials Present.** Robert Dunphy

**Members of the Public Present.** None

**Secretary.** Bonnie Baker

1. Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:04.
2. **Consent Agenda.**
  - 2.1. Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated July 21, 2014 as written (3-0).
  - 2.2. Reviewed Warrant #2014-015 totaling \$16,919.47. (3-0).
3. **Appointments & Resignations:**
  - 3.1. Planning Board Member & Alternates – Tabled until next meeting.
  - 3.2. Appeals Board Members – Tabled until next meeting.
  - 3.3. W. McLaughlin announced that F. Rounds would be unable to serve as school board director due to health issues. He asked that the vacancy be posted. R. Dunphy asked, “Do [the current school board directors] even attend the meetings?” E. Pratt responded, “How could we lose out if they don’t go? Truth is there is really no point in going.”
4. **Department Officials Reports.**
  - 4.1. **E-911** – No Report.
  - 4.2. **Winter Roads Contractor** – No Report.
  - 4.3. **Animal Control** – BOS reviewed written report. Accepted as written. (3-0)
  - 4.4. **Board of Assessors** – No Report
  - 4.5. **Planning Board** – No Report.
  - 4.6. **Local Plumbing Inspector** –No Report.
  - 4.7. **Board of Appeals** – No report.
  - 4.8. **Code Enforcement Officer** –
    - 4.8.1. R. Dunphy disclosed that there were only 4 items for the next agenda. He added that one of them needed to be checked to see if it was in violation. He stated that it should be an easy meeting.
    - 4.8.2. He announced that Jutras wished to cut 2 trees and explained the process of replanting.

4.8.3. C. Taylor asked if there were any “carryover violations” that [R. Dunphy] was aware of. R. Dunphy emphasized, “No. Definitely not!”

**4.9. Health Officer –**

4.9.1. R. Dunphy had nothing to report.

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

4.10.1. C. Taylor reported that they were still trying to find someone to mow the roadsides in town.

**4.11. R.S.U. #74 – No report.**

**4.12. Recreational Director – No Report.**

4.12.1. B. Baker communicated that T. Murray had made the following report:

*“There were no complaints during swimming lessons.*

*The swim docks have been taken out.*

*The Summer Rec. program is done for the year. The kids attended the following field trips: Giffords Mini Golf, Bowling, Movies, Funtown/Splashtown, and 2 days of waterslides at the Madison Playground.*

*Signups are out for soccer, football, and cherering. They will go out again when school starts.*

*The Rec. Department issued scholarships for Embden kids to attend dance camp, soccer camp, and Boy Scout camp.”*

4.12.2. R. Dunphy announced that the float would be removed after Labor Day weekend.

4.12.3. W. McLaughlin asked about the soccer goals. He stated that S. LeHay wanted them given to Carrabec High School. E. Pratt declared, “Let them have them.” W. McLaughlin agreed.

**4.13. Town Clerk/Treasurer –**

4.13.1. B. Baker remarked that she had nothing to report.

**4.14. Registrar of Voters.**

4.14.1. She advised she had nothing to report.

**4.15. Tax Collector – BOS reviewed written report.**

4.15.1. C. Taylor inquired, “Nobody with issues?” R. Blake replied that people have had issues with their assessments. C. Taylor pointed out that the letter sent with the taxes explained the changes made this year. W. McLaughlin interjected, “They changed mobile homes to rural, same as a house.”

4.15.2. C. Taylor asked R. Blake, “Do you have any complaints or concerns, or any direction that you want the town to go in?” R. Blake responded that she would like to see another week of vacation for next year. C. Taylor replied that she already got 3 weeks now, and R. Blake argued that she only had 2 weeks of vacation per year. B. Baker explained that they had 2 weeks of vacation plus 5 days of sick/personal time. R. Blake asserted, “My husband has business trips that I would like to go on, but if I do that then he has two more weeks of vacation without me able to go with him.” She argued that her job had “almost doubled” due to the town going to a two payment system for real estate taxes. R. Dunphy commented that most towns base the amount of vacation and sick time you get on how many hours you work. C. Taylor remarked, “You have to give them something to keep people in here. Quite frankly we have a great office staff.” Discussion continued.

**4.16. Community Center –**

4.16.1. W. McLaughlin mentioned that the ECC would be holding a steak tips supper Saturday night. R. Blake noted that they would be using Black Angus beef.

4.16.2. W. McLaughlin asked why BCF had brought another gas tank, and whether it had been discussed with the town first. B. Baker said that BCF had informed her that it was not worth it to them to come to the ECCtr as often as they were. C. Taylor agreed that that was probably true, and added that BCF had been very fair with the town as far as pricing. Discussion continued.

- 4.16.3. W. McLaughlin inquired about the tickets for the game up to the fair.
- 4.16.4. He announced that they had lost the refrigerator in the kitchen. C. Taylor asked if they needed to buy another one. W. McLaughlin responded that it would be brought up Thursday night at the ECC meeting about purchasing a chest freezer. E. Pratt revealed that she was against it. She suggested to W. McLaughlin that they wait and talk about it Thursday night.
- 4.16.5. She informed the board that there would be no open mic while the floor was being done.

**4.17. Emergency Management Directors –**

- 4.17.1. R. Dunphy mentioned the BOS that the CERTeam needed to use someone's tax id number, because if they were formed through Somerset County then the county would control their money. C. Taylor asked B. Baker to get him a copy of the certificate tomorrow.

**5. Board of Selectpersons Concerns:**

- 5.1. W. McLaughlin reminded the board that they were asked to look into air conditioning for the town office. R. Blake pronounced, "I don't need one. With the two fans in my office and this A/C out here, my office is fine." R. Dunphy asked how many BTUs it would take to cool the building. Discussion continued. E. Pratt made a motion that W. McLaughlin purchase a small air conditioning unit for this year. C. Taylor directed that the money be taken out of the Assessors' budget. R. Dunphy suggested splitting the cost between each of the departments that utilize the building.
- 5.2. W. McLaughlin stated that he was not sure if Maine Fire Equipment could inspect the ancil system at the ECctr.
- 5.3. He mentioned that he had not heard anything yet on the lights.

**6. New Business.** None

**7. Old Business.**

- 7.1. **Purchase of AED for Community Center.** W. McLaughlin expressed that the ECC had decided it was interested in having the town purchase an AED for the ECctr. R. Dunphy asked why the town didn't purchase two, one for the ECctr, and one for the Town Office. C. Taylor specified, "We were trying to save money." R. Blake interjected, "Have we ever actually had an incident where we have needed it?" E. Pratt declared, "All it would take is one! To save a life, \$2,000 is nothing!" She made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – C. Taylor) to purchase 2 AEDs, one for the ECctr and one for the Town Office. B. Baker asked which budget line they wanted the AEDs taken from. E. Pratt suggested that the next check from the ECC pay for the AED that would be placed at the ECctr. R. Blake asked why the ECC couldn't pay for both. Discussion continued.
- 7.2. C. Taylor announced that the Hancock Pond Source Water Protection Plan had been drafted. He noted that they had gotten a tour of the plant at the last meeting. E. Pratt told that it was very informative. C. Taylor stressed that R. Dunphy had been "very instrumental in coming up with ideas." Discussion continued.

**8. Correspondence.** BOS reviewed correspondence.

**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 Selectperson's Meeting – Monday, August 18, 2014.
- 11.2. Motion to adjourn made by E. Pratt (2<sup>nd</sup> - W. McLaughlin). (3-0) Adjourned 20:32.