

Town of Embden



Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

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January 5, 2015

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. Ruth Blake, Terriann Lamontagne, Leo Mayo, , Michael Witham, Raymond Young

Members of the Public Present. Scott LeHay

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 December 15, 2014 as written (3-0).
 - 2.2. Reviewed Warrant #2014-025 totaling \$18,650.93. (3-0).
 - 2.3. Reviewed Warrant #2015-001 totaling \$42,515.73. (3-0).
3. **Appointments & Resignations.**
 - 3.1. Planning Board Alternates – Tabled until April 6, 2015.
 - 3.2. Registrar of Voters – Tabled until January 19, 2015
4. **Department Officials Reports.**
 - 4.1. **E-911 – No Report.**
 - 4.1.1. C. Taylor commented that he had promised E. Ketchum that he would research deeds to see if he could find any reference to the Katie Crotch Road. Discussion continued.
 - 4.2. **Winter Roads Contractor – No Report.**
 - 4.3. **Animal Control –**
 - 4.3.1. BOS reviewed written report. Accepted as written (3-0)
 - 4.4. **Board of Assessors –**
 - 4.4.1. T. Lamontagne pronounced, "It's all good back there."
 - 4.4.2. She announced, "We got all these Sales Analyses to do on these ponds."
 - 4.4.3. She told about the Assessors' recent meeting with Bill VanTuinan in Madison regarding excess pond frontage.
 - 4.5. **Planning Board –**
 - 4.5.1. L. Mayo stated he needed to contact DEP about the ordinance changes. He added that the PB was still looking to re-do the entire ordinance, for approval at a future STM, most likely in 2015.

4.6. Local Plumbing Inspector –

4.6.1. L. Mayo revealed that he had recently issued an After-the-Fact Permit for a dwelling which had “kind of been done for 10 years.”

4.7. Board of Appeals –

4.7.1. C. Taylor said that he had spoken with J. Duff.

4.8. Code Enforcement Officer – No Report

4.9. Health Officer – No report.

4.10. Road Commissioner –

4.10.1. M. Witham reported that he had placed the ‘No Parking’ signs on Fahi Pond Road.

4.10.2. He noted that he had been out Saturday night to deal with downed trees on Dunbar Hill & Fahi Pond Roads.

4.10.3. He added that he had taken care of the tree on the Bert Berry Road “a week or so ago.”

4.10.4. He advised that the expenses on the most recent warrant included the following, gravel placement on the end of the Murphy Road; and placed rip rap on the East Shore Road.

4.10.5. M. Witham communicated that he had sent E. Creamer to the Wentworth Road, but the loggers had “pretty much” diverted the water before he arrived.

4.10.6. He stated that there was a spot on the Dunbar Hill Road by Wyman’s where water was running into the road and freezing.

4.10.7. He commented that the water running into the road was not bad near K. Ingalls house this year.

4.10.8. He expressed that he had placed the Embden sign on the Hancock Pond Road.

4.10.9. C. Taylor revealed that he had been contacted regarding brushing along the roadsides. He added that some taxpayers were requesting an article for Town Meeting specifically dedicated to ensuring that brushing was done. He asked whether there was an outfit that M. Witham could hire to do this. M. Witham replied, “If that is what the people want, we can definitely dedicate more time for brushing.” C. Taylor asked if a separate article was necessary. E. Pratt said no. C. Taylor asked if M. Witham had enough money in his budget for that. M. Witham answered, “Absolutely.”

4.10.10. Discussion ensued regarding Worker’s Comp. coverage and the Predetermination from the State.

4.11. R.S.U. #74 – No Report.

4.12. Recreational Director – No Report.

4.13. Town Clerk/Treasurer –

4.13.1. B. Baker submitted the following:

EOY Revenue Report

Treasurers Report of Liened Taxes

Check Reconciliation Report

Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer’s Expense Report

TRIO Expense Report (for comparison and verification purposes)

4.14. Registrar of Voters.

4.14.1. B. Baker declared that she had nothing to report.

4.15. Tax Collector –

4.15.1. R. Blake submitted a written report. BOS reviewed.

4.15.2. She disclosed that she had pulled a report on 12/9, which showed 354 accounts with balances due for 2014. She told the BOS that 42 of those accounts had a balance of less than \$0.50, and a total of 59 accounts had balances less than \$1.00. She added that she had paid these amounts out of her own pocket to avoid the individuals appearing in the Unpaid Taxes List in the Town Report. She specified that 284 accounts had

remained at that point, and she had sent e-mails, phone calls, and written notices to remind those taxpayers that they still had an outstanding balance on their taxes. Discussion continued.

4.16. Community Center –

- 4.16.1. W. McLaughlin announced that there would be a dinner Saturday night.
- 4.16.2. He expressed that he did not know what the entertainment for the month would be yet.
- 4.16.3. He noted that D. Barron wanted to start basketball for little kids on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.
- 4.16.4. C. Taylor asked if they had contacted R. Morrill to set up AED training. W. McLaughlin replied that they would bring it up at the next ECC meeting.
- 4.16.5. R. Young reported that they had not held the Country Sunday last week due to inclement weather.
- 4.16.6. W. McLaughlin remarked that they were still waiting on Nate from BCF on the hot water at the ECCTR. He said he had called him numerous times and was told that he would be up. R. Young disclosed that since last April the cold water faucet in the kitchen has put out very hot water.
- 4.16.7. W. McLaughlin stated that Bingo would resume on January 13th. E. Pratt remarked, “What an enthusiastic bunch of people.”

4.17. Emergency Management Directors – No Report.

- 4.17.1. C. Taylor inquired, “What’s happening with the CERTeam?” W. McLaughlin replied, “Nothing that I know of.” Discussion continued.

5. Board of Selectpersons Concerns:

- 5.1. BOS discussed possible articles for inclusion in the ATM warrant.

6. New Business.

6.1. List of Foreclosed Properties.

- 6.1.1. B. Baker submitted list of foreclosed properties. Tabled until next meeting.

6.2. Budget Preparation & Review for 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

- 6.2.1. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding proposed Assessing budget and pay increases.
- 6.2.2. Proposed budget amounts were reviewed and finalized.

7. Old Business. None.

8. Correspondence. BOS reviewed correspondence.

- 8.1. C. Taylor stated that 201A would be paved from Milk Street in North Anson to the Solon Bridge in 2016.

9. Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum.

- 9.1. **Open Public Forum.** None.

10. Executive Session (Non-Public) (ME §405),

- 10.1.C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – E. Pratt) to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405-6 (A) to read information from the Town’s insurer. (3-0).

Entered executive session at 21:43

- C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to come out of executive session. (3-0)

Meeting resumed 21:48.

- C. Taylor made a motion to leave the matter in the hands of the insured.

11. Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment

- 11.1. Next Regular Selectperson’s Meeting – Monday, January 19, 2015.
- 11.2. Motion to adjourn made by W. McLaughlin (2nd – C. Taylor). (3-0) Adjourned 20:38.

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker, Town Clerk*