

Town of Embden



Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

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January 19, 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, Eric Morrill

Members of the Public Present. Dave Adams, Bill King, Amanda Morrill, Ron Nunes

Secretary. Bonnie Baker

1. Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:07.
2. **Consent Agenda.**
 - 2.1. Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated January 5, 2015 as written (3-0).
 - 2.2. Reviewed Warrant #2015-002 totaling \$151,936.40. (3-0).
3. **Appointments & Resignations:**
 - 3.1. Planning Board Alternates – Tabled until April 6, 2015.
 - 3.2. School Board Member – Tabled.
 - 3.3. Registrar of Voters – E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to appoint B. Baker as Registrar. (3-0)
4. **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 4.1. E-911 – No Report.
 - 4.2. **Winter Roads Contractor –**
 - 4.2.1. E. Morrill commented that it had been “one of those winters.” E. Pratt responded that she had no complaints.
 - 4.2.2. E. Morrill admitted that this last storm had taken everyone by surprise, coming in much faster than expected.
 - 4.3. **Animal Control** – No Report.
 - 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** – No Report
 - 4.9. **Health Officer** – No report.
 - 4.10. **Road Commissioner** – No Report.
 - 4.11. **R.S.U. #74** –

4.11.1. B. Baker told that there would be a School Utilization & Consolidation Committee Meeting Thursday night.

4.12. Recreational Director – No Report.

4.13. Town Clerk/Treasurer –

4.13.1. B. Baker submitted a Treasurers Report of Liened Taxes.

4.13.2. B. Baker requested February 5th off. She advised that R. Blake would also be out of the office on that day, so she was asking to close the office. BOS approved.

4.14. Registrar of Voters.

4.14.1. B. Baker asked to attend the Town Meeting & Elections Class to be held February 23rd in Bangor. She pointed out that the class was scheduled for a Monday, so it would not require any loss of business hours. BOS approved. C. Taylor asked if one of her regular election officials might be available to attend with her. She promised to check with those ballot clerks who consistently worked the elections with her.

4.15. Tax Collector –

4.15.1. BOS reviewed written report.

4.15.2. R. Blake advised that \$16,540 had come in since the first of the year.

4.15.3. She stated she had contacted MMA regarding a petty cash account to pay the small tax amounts that resulted when taxpayers failed to send interest owed. Read email received from MMA Legal. MMA does not recommend setting up such an account. Discussion continued.

4.15.4. B. Baker suggested including an article in the Town Meeting Warrant to allow a voluntary Tax Club for those interested. R. Blake emphasized, "We let people pay monthly if they want to without the extra expense and work of a tax club." A. Morrill pointed out that Pittsfield offered such a program, and it worked out great for those, for example the elderly, who were on a fixed income. She added that participants were very good about sending in their payments the first of every month.

4.15.5. C. Taylor asked if the 165 accounts, with a total due of \$129,550, was all that remained outstanding for 2014. R. Blake affirmed.

4.15.6. R. Blake declared that she would like to attend a MOSES training for Recreational Vehicle licensing to be held in Bangor on February 19th & 20th. She added there was no cost to the town for the training. A. Morrill observed that it was "a wonderful system" that, like any software, had times when it was down, but there was always the option of doing a paper backup. She added that the system did the reports for you.

4.16. Community Center –

4.16.1. W. McLaughlin announced there would be a Stuffed Chicken supper on February 14th including rice pilaf and salad.

4.16.2. He stated that Doug Mathieu, Danny Taylor, & Adam Cates would perform on February 28th.

4.16.3. He revealed that the ECCtr had been having issues with water.

4.16.4. He reported they had a leak in the cellar; one of the furnaces had shut off and the filter was leaking.

4.16.5. He said he and J. Stephens had worked on the alarm system.

4.16.6. W. McLaughlin mentioned that Bingo had started again on Tuesdays from 10:00-11:00, but he was not sure about Country Sunday.

4.16.7. C. Taylor asked if they had installed the AED yet.

4.16.8. B. Baker said the Girl Scouts had requested permission to sell Girl Scout cookies before Town Meeting from 11:00-13:00 at the ECCtr. BOS approved.

4.17. Emergency Management Directors – No Report.

5. Board of Selectpersons Concerns.

5.1. C. Taylor said there would be a Worker's Comp. Hearing on February 5th.

6. New Business.

6.1. Open Winter Roads Contract Bids.

6.1.1. BOS opened and read bid amounts from the following bidders:

- #1 J&R Davenport Trucking
\$245,000 per year
- #2 David Adams
\$235,000 per year
- #3 Josh Nunes, American Construction Services
\$228,500 per year
- #4 Nitram Excavation
\$258,614 (2015-16) / \$259,814 (2016-17) / \$261,014 (2017-18)

Contract will be chosen by the voters at the Annual Town Meeting to be held March 7, 2015 at 13:00.

6.2. Schedule Public Hearing – General Assistance Ordinance & Appendices

6.2.1. Public Hearing was scheduled for February 2nd at 19:00, preceding the Selectmen Meeting.

7. Old Business.

7.1. Foreclosed Properties.

7.1.1. B. Baker stated they only had 1 property that remained unpaid.

Owner: Raymond & Denise Gagnon & Lester & Gail Townsend
Map 004 Lot 064
Unpaid Taxes: \$1,057.79
Property Value: \$8,600.00

1.6 BOS discussed minimum bid amounts. W. McLaughlin made a motion (2nd – C. Taylor) to set the minimum bid amount at \$4,000. (3-0)

7.2. Preparation & Review for 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

7.2.1. E. Pratt pronounced, "I have thought long and hard about article 24, and the more I thought about it, the more adamant I became that it should be two articles."

8. Correspondence. BOS reviewed correspondence.

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

9.1. Open Public Forum.

10. Executive Session (Non-Public) (ME §405), None.

11. Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment

11.1. Next Regular Selectperson's Meeting – February 2, 2015

11.2. Motion to adjourn made by W. McLaughlin (2nd – E. Pratt). (3-0) Adjourned 20:30.

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