

Town of Embden



Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

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March 16, 2015

19:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

Board Members In attendance. Scott LeHay, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor

Board Members Absent. None

Other Officials Present. Ruth Blake, Robert Dunphy, Eleanor Ketchum, Leo Mayo

Members of the Public Present. Larry Andrews, Joe Creamer, Paul Fortin, Larry Witham,

Secretary. Bonnie Baker

1. Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 19:03.
2. **Consent Agenda.**
 - 2.1. Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated March 2, 2015 as written (3-0).
 - 2.2. Reviewed Warrant #2015-006 totaling \$148,175.65. (3-0).
 - 2.3. Review Article results from Annual Town Meeting held March 7, 2015.
 - 2.4. Choose Board of Selectmen Chair –
 - 2.4.1. E. Pratt nominated C. Taylor as BOS chair. 2nd – S. LeHay. (2-0) C. Taylor appointed as BOS Chair.
3. **Appointments & Resignations.**
 - 3.1. **General Assistance Officer** – S. LeHay made a motion (2nd – E. Pratt) to appoint Charles Taylor as GA Officer (3-0).
4. **Department Officials Reports.**
 - 4.1. **E-911** – (*E. Ketchum was present, but left before the BOS returned to agenda item 4.1.*) No Report.
 - 4.1.1. R. Dunphy submitted an appointment form for Assistant E911 Addressing Officer. BOS reviewed & signed.
 - 4.2. **Winter Roads Contractor** – No Report.
 - 4.3. **Animal Control** – No Report.
 - 4.4. **Board of Assessors** – No Report.
 - 4.5. **Planning Board** –
 - 4.5.1. L. Mayo stated it had been “pretty quiet.”
 - 4.6. **Local Plumbing Inspector** –
 - 4.6.1. L. Mayo said there would be a few to look at once the nonresidents arrive.
 - 4.7. **Board of Appeals** – No Report.
 - 4.8. **Code Enforcement Officer** –
 - 4.8.1. R. Dunphy advised there was one application in.

4.9. Health Officer –

4.9.1. R. Dunphy stated he had nothing to report.

4.10. Road Commissioner – No Report.

4.11. R.S.U. #74 – No Report.

4.12. Recreational Director – No Report.

4.13. Town Clerk/Treasurer –

4.13.1. B. Baker advised there were currently 47 known unlicensed dogs.

4.13.2. She revealed that the town would pay \$694.56 in Workers Compensation charges due to the use of contractors who did not carry workers compensation coverage.

4.13.3. She said that she and R. Blake wished to attend the MMTCTA Annual Conference on May 14th and 15th in Orono. She added that she would try to bring more documentation for the next meeting if available.

4.14. Registrar of Voters.

4.14.1. B. Baker voiced that she had nothing to report at this time.

4.15. Tax Collector –

4.15.1. BOS reviewed written report.

4.15.2. R. Blake expressed that she planned to wait to mail 30-day notices until May 4th, and put the liens on June 11th. She declared she was too busy to do it the weeks she covered for Claudia Viles (Anson Tax Collector).

4.15.3. She reported that she had spoken with both TRIO and the State regarding going electronic. She affirmed that the Town would not incur any additional costs in the long run by going electronic now. She said the purchase and sales agreement needed to be signed before the town could move forward. She said she had been thinking of the last week in April and first week of May for the install, but had decided to do it the last week of June and first week of July instead. S. LeHay asked the price. R. Blake responded that it would be approximately \$6,000, including the training and software.

4.15.4. She announced that she would be taking off a week in April, school vacation week (April 20-24), in addition to Friday April 17th.

4.15.5. She revealed that she would be covering for the Anson Tax Collector for the 3 weeks prior to her vacation.

4.16. Community Center –

4.16.1. E. Pratt announced the following events:

Land Owners' Supper – March 28th

Weight Watchers – Every Wednesday

April Supper (Turkey) – April 11th

Steve & the Good Ole Boys – April 25th

Picking Parties – Sundays 13:00-16:00

4.17. Emergency Management Directors –

4.17.1. R. Dunphy asserted nothing would move forward until spring.

5. Board of Selectpersons Concerns.

5.1. C. Taylor asked the Town Clerk to publicize the positions open for appointment and make a form for those requesting reappointment.

5.2. He stated T. Taylor had given her notice, and would cease cleaning the office at the end of the month. Discussion continued.

6. New Business. None.

7. Old Business.

7.1. Discussion Regarding Future Options with RSU#74.

- 7.1.1. C. Taylor commented that there had been a fair amount of constructive conversation at the last meeting, and those present had “hashed over things,” but still had some speculation on the best course of action moving forward. He added that he had spoken with the attorney. He presented typed points from the conversation to the BOS and some others present. He noted that according to the attorney, an exploratory committee was legal, and went on to explain the options and suggestions as presented by the attorney.
- 7.1.2. He specified that the earliest the Town would see results would be July 1, 2016.
- 7.1.3. He told that D. Barron was willing to serve on an exploratory committee.
- 7.1.4. He passed around an engagement letter for the attorney and read the letter aloud. He asked whether the BOS wanted to sign the letter “just to have representation going forward.” He remarked, “[The Town] need[s] someone who knows something. I’m not saying we are going to call tomorrow and start the 22 step process. The makeup of the exploratory committee is relatively inexpensive, but I want the committee to be able to pick up the phone and call this attorney if they have questions.” He stressed that they needed to make sure this process was done correctly.
- 7.1.5. There was an extensive discussion on this subject.
- 7.1.6. A discussion ensued on the makeup of the proposed ‘RSU Withdrawal Exploratory Committee.’ E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – C. Taylor) to form the RSU Withdrawal Exploratory Committee, comprised of 7 Embden residents, 2 of those being parents of children currently attending schools within the district, and to appoint the following members (additional 2 members to be selected and appointed from those parents who volunteer to participate):

Larry Andrews
 Dwight Barron
 Robert Dunphy

Elizabeth Pratt
 Larry Witham

Motion Carried 3-0.

- 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, April 6, 2015.
 - 11.2. Motion to adjourn made by E. Pratt (2nd – S. LeHay). (3-0) Adjourned 21:00.

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