

# Town of Embden



## Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

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August 3, 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.** Leo Mayo

**Members of the Public Present.** Frank Nile & Rachel Ohm (Morning Sentinel)

**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 20, 2015 as written (3-0).
  - 2.2. Reviewed Warrant #2015-015 totaling \$34,491.13. (3-0).
3. **Appointments & Resignations:**
  - 3.1. **Planning Board Alternates (2)** – Tabled until next meeting.
4. **Department Officials Reports.**
  - 4.1. **E-911** –
    - 4.1.1. E. Pratt stated E. Ketchum had called her with the following report:
      - 4.1.1.1. She had ordered 3 Katie Crotch Road signs, one of which had already been placed. Discussion continued.
  - 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 reported they had received an application for an individual requesting permission to demolish & expand an existing cottage.
    - 4.5.2. C. Taylor asked about the SLZ ordinance. L. Mayo replied that the PB had not done much with it this summer. C. Taylor asked whether they would be ready for the March ATM. L. Mayo specified that it would instead be a STM next year. C. Taylor asked whether the Town could, “Just adopt State standards, plain and simple.” L. Mayo responded that according to DEP, the Town must amend its ordinance instead. He went on to explain that Embden was unique in that the last ordinance changes had been approved, however the Town needed to look at State standards, which were stricter.

**4.6. Local Plumbing Inspector –**

4.6.1. L. Mayo advised that he had nothing to report.

**4.7. Board of Appeals – No Report.**

**4.8. Code Enforcement Officer – No Report.**

4.8.1. F. Nile declared that he had spoken to the CEO regarding a potentially hazardous house near him that was caved in. He stressed that twice now R. Dunphy had promised to get back to him, and instead just kept putting him off. He explained that he had attempted to contact the current owner, with no response. He revealed that the derelict property was infested by porcupines and other wildlife, and his dog had been harmed by them twice while chained in his yard. He voiced his concern that the building was ready to fall into the brook, and offered to demolish it if someone could get him in touch with the owners.

**4.9. Health Officer – No report.**

**4.10. Road Commissioner – No report.**

4.10.1. E. Pratt commented that she had called M. Witham about the spot on Fahi Pond Road that he had fixed previously. She added that the spot had washed out completely down to the two ponds.

4.10.2. C. Taylor said he had spoken with E. Ketchum and she was concerned that the crews were not brushing out far enough.

**4.11. R.S.U. #74 – No report.**

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

**4.13. Town Clerk/Treasurer –**

4.13.1. B. Baker requested to attend the MTCCA Networking Class scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup> in Waterville. C. Taylor disclosed that B. Baker was being awarded her Clerk re-Certification at this training. He made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – S. LeHay) that she be allowed to attend this event. (3-0)

**4.14. Registrar of Voters.**

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

**4.15. Tax Collector –**

4.15.1. BOS reviewed written report.

4.15.2. F. Nile asked how the audit worked, and whether the issue going on in Anson could happen in Embden. Discussion continued.

**4.16. Community Center –**

4.16.1. E. Pratt announced the following upcoming events:

Stuffed Chicken Dinner – August 8<sup>th</sup>

Breakfast Buffet 07:00-11:00 – August 22<sup>nd</sup>

4.16.2. S. LeHay reported there had been about 100 people per week attending the Sunday Open Mic.

4.16.3. He stated the fans had been installed.

4.16.4. He said the plumbing repairs had been completed.

4.16.5. C. Taylor told them that the Lions Club had been unable to pick up the bleachers, but would pick them up after UBM weekend. F. Nile offered to pick them up with the pulp truck and deliver them.

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

**4.18. RSU Withdrawal Committee .**

4.18.1. E. Pratt said the Committee met on July 27<sup>th</sup>. She added the lawyer had attended. She said they had gotten all of the information needed for the proposal to take to the School Board.

4.18.2. She expressed that they would not be doing anything with the State funding, because the lawyer recommended letting the RSU pay to get the numbers.

4.18.3. C. Taylor stated the W/D Committee was hoping to stay with RSU74 if they could negotiate with them.

- 4.18.4. E. Pratt declared that both Madison and Bingham were interested in talking with us, but Bingham wanted Embden to join their district, but Embden was only interested in tuitioning its students.
- 4.18.5. F. Nile asked whether the Town had looked into the cost of tuitioning students to different districts. E. Pratt replied that they had only had one meeting so far, but did plan to look into that. She added that many of the town's parents want their kids to stay with RSU74. F. Nile said he was sure people wanted numbers.
- 4.18.6. E. Pratt stressed that of the 4 towns in the School District, Embden pays 28% of the budget, and 78% of our taxes go to fund the school.

**4.19. RSU Cost Sharing Formula Committee.**

- 4.19.1. C. Taylor announced that Mark Eastman had been chosen to be the state mediator.
- 4.19.2. He explained that they were trying to get the Cost Sharing formula changed to 100% population.
- 4.19.3. He said the next meeting would be held August 5<sup>th</sup> at CCS at 18:30.
- 4.19.4. He specified that the change in Cost Sharing formula, if approved, would only apply to the Additional Local funds. He informed the BOS it would most likely be about a \$100k savings for the town.

**5. Board of Selectpersons Concerns.**

- 5.1. C. Taylor made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> – S. LeHay) that the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting be canceled, and all items be included on the August 17<sup>th</sup> warrant. (3-0)

**6. New Business.** None

**7. Old Business.** None

- 7.1. **Limited Maintenance of Eames Road.** Tabled.

**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 17, 2015.
- 11.2. There will be no meeting held September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 11.3. Motion to adjourn made by E. Pratt (2<sup>nd</sup> – S. LeHay). (3-0) Adjourned 19:49.

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