Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

September 3rd , 2026

Board Members in Attendance: Charles Taylor, Kayla Starr, Foster Robinson

Other Officials Present: Michael Witham, Ruth Blake, Charles Pease, John Duff

Members of the Public Present: Ann Bridges, Randy Caldwell, Paula Sansousi, Terry Bugay, Kelly Scott, Michelle Tranten

Minutes recorded by: Christy Sockwell

1. **Call to Order:** Chuck called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Consent Agenda**
    a. Approved Minutes from August – Dillon makes motion to approve as written. Kayla Seconded. Passes 3-0
    b. Review Town Warrant – (#36,37) Payroll (#38) –Passes 3-0
    c. Bank Reconciliation- May, June, and July's bank recs all signed.
4. **Appointments and Resignations-** Dillon makes motion to appoint Michael Dolan as Planning Board Alternat Kayla seconded. passes 3-0
5. **Presentation-**
6. **Executive Session-** Dillon makes motion to enter Executive Session 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(A) at 7:41pm Charles seconded. Charles makes motion to exit Executive Session at 7:57, Dillion seconded. Charles makes motion to take no action. Dillon seconded.
7. **Department Officials' Reports**
    a. E-911 – Christy will start training Charles Pease to take on the role of E-911 Addressing Officer next month
    b. Winter Roads – Nunes has started to load winter sand into the shed.
    c. Animal Control – No report
    d. Assessor – Taxes have been committed. The Mill Rate has gone down this year. Last year was 9.30, this year it is 9.05.
    e. Planning Board – The Planning Board is giving the Code Officer the authority to approve or deny Subdivision permits.
    f. Board of Appeals – John stated the reason for canceling the Appeals Board Meeting for the Solar project was that the Board of Appeals does not have appeal authority because the Embden Solar Array Ordinance is not a zoning ordinance and that there is no reference in the ESAO giving appeal jurisdiction
    g. Local Plumbing Inspector – No report
    h. Code Enforcement Officer- A resident that lives in the Shore Land Zone paved their driveway before the Planning Board approved their permit. Charkes is recommending a $500 fine. Kayla motioned to except recommendation, Dillon seconded. Passes 3-0
    i. Health Officer- Charles said the mortgage company reached out to him about cleaning up the drug property on Wentworth Road.
    j. Road Commissioner – Michael said everything is going good! He is in communication with Nitram in regard to the damage created by the new water line being laid. Nitram placed a large rock infront of the electric sign at the town office. It needs to be moved. The mirror for the end of Perkin Road needs a post. Fenwick Construction will be doing tree/mulching on Wentworth Road. Michael will be reaching out to Belanger Tree Care about some problematic trees(in front of the Office). Kayla is hoping for State aid in repaying the Embden Pond Road.
    k. RSU#74 - No report
    l. Town Clerk/Treasurer- Christy has begun training Terry Soosman. She will be replacing Christy as the Clerk, Treasurer, Registrar. We are very lucky to have Terry!! She is going to do great!!!!!!!!
    m. Registrar of Voters – Christy has entered the June Primary VPH into the State. Now she is getting ready for the November Election.

n. Tax Collector – Ruth is working with TRIO on recreating the report the report that she has used in the past. The new version TRIO does not have it ready yet. Taxes have been mailed out. Two people have paid their taxes so far.
o. Rec. Dept. – The Rec Program is doing great!!! Over 100 kids have signed up for soccer. New Portland did not want to participate in the Rec Program.
p. Community Center- The Embden Community Club will be working on a new Job description and contract for the janitor at the ECC. The last two weeks in November the ECC gym will be painted followed by the floor being replaced. The gymnasium will be closed for a month and a half while the work is completed. It will reopen the first of the year. The shed by the ECC has been converted into the bottle donation location. Volunteers are taking the bottles in as well as being picked up by the Solon Greenhouse (Solon Redemption Center)

8. **Unfinished Business** – Final numbers are coming for the Embden Community Day. We spent $6300, leaving $ 7200 for next year's event. The event was a success!!!! Lots of great feedback coming in! Next year the committee is looking at holding it on the 3rd Saturday of August. (tentatively) A big thank you to Foster Robinson for building two picnic tables for the event as well as tree trimming over the playground!
9. **New Business –** Charles asked Christy to add a Building Maintenance line on the agenda for Charles Pease, he has also requested she posted the Planning Board Agenda on the website.
10. **Correspondence-** None
11. **Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum-** None
12. **Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment –**

a. Next regularly scheduled meeting – October 1st, 2026
b. Kayla made motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm, Foster seconded. Passed 3-0.