

ATTENDANCE

Chairman Karen Falcone; Selectmen: Rene Archambault, Dianne Gilbert, James McGeough, Bob Jordan; Town Administrator, Dean Shankle; Administrative Assistant: Judith Bielecki.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Falcone called the public session to order at 7:00 PM at the Epping Town Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag followed.

2. MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2010

Minutes from April 6, 2010 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the minutes of April 6, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 3-0. Selectman Sott and Selectman Jordan abstained.

3. MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2010

Minutes from April 12, 2010 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the minutes of April 12, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

4. SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for week ending April 16, 2010 in the amount of \$630,457.44 was presented for approval.

\$500,000.00 was for the school, and \$130,457.44 was the Town.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$630,457.44. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

5. PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending April 15, 2010 in the amount of \$81,432.93.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the payroll manifest in the amount of \$81,432.93. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

6. SEALING OF NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – April 19, 2010

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to seal the Non-Public Minutes of April 19, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7. BUSINESS

7.1 Public Works Issues

Mr. Koch, Public Works requested permission to bid on the purchase of a fifty-yard container from the Town of Lee.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the request from Public Works to bid on a fifty-yard container from the Town of Lee. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Koch requested approval to go to summer hours at the Stump Dump. He requested the hours on Wednesday be changed to 12:00 to 7:00 PM.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the summer hours at the Stump Dump on Wednesday's from 12:00 to 7:00 PM. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Koch requested approval of the agreement between the Town of Epping and Environmental Resource Return Corporation.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the agreement between the Town of Epping and Environmental Resource Return Corporation. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Koch requested approval to have Chairman Falcone to sign Loan Disbursement Request for the Mill Street Pump Stations Project.

Motion by Selectman Falcone to authorize Chairman Falcone to sign the Loan Disbursement Request for the Mill Street Pump Station Project. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Koch requested Mr. Charles Goodspeed and Mr. Chris Albert discuss the removal of the island under Mill Street Bridge.

Mr. Goodspeed discussed the proposed removal of the island under the Mill Street Bridge to alleviate some of the flooding issues associated with that area. He requested permission to schedule a public meeting with all parties including the Historic Resources as some opposition to removing the island was expressed at a prior meeting.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to allow a public meeting to be scheduled with all organizations involved at the Town Hall to discuss removal of the island under the Mill Street Bridge. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Chris Albert advised that he had submitted the Draft By-Laws of the Southeast Watershed Alliance for

review. He requested the Board review the submission and discuss at the next meeting.

Mr. Dave Reinhold, Highway Supervisor submitted a list of roads for paving this year. He requested consideration to pave: Cate Street, High Street, Bartlett Street, Church Street, Shirking Road, East Delaney, and Road Oak Lane. He added that Fireside Drive would be scheduled as well and would be funded from the bond. He advised that the paving would total approximately \$145,000. He stated that the cost to pave the Town Hall Parking Lot would be approximately \$30,000 to \$35,000. Chairman Falcone advised she would check with the Planning Board to see if funds are available.

Mr. Reinhold presented a contract from Wolcott Paving and advised that if the quotation is accepted last years price will be held for the upcoming year. Selectman Gilbert requested the quotation be sent out for bid to insure that the price is the lowest.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to sign the Wolcott Paving Contract and go out and check prices. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion not acted on.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to hire Wolcott Paving based on recommendation from Mr. Reinhold. Seconded by Chairman Falcone. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to request Town Administrator Shankle sign the contract with Wolcott Paving. Seconded by Selectman Falcone. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Reinhold advised that a quotation to remove the five trees at 89 St. Laurent Street from Accu-Cut is \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the quotation from Accu-Cut with an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00 to remove the five trees at 89 St. Laurent St. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Reinhold requested an increase to \$14.02 which is Step 10 for Mr. Derek Roberts, Highway Department.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the increase for Mr. Roberts to \$14.02. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Selectman Archambault requested a review of the Main Street Bridge. He stated that a weight limit of 20 tons should be posted on that and Blake Road Bridge. Mr. Albert stated that to post that limit would require an evaluation of the bridge. Chief Dodge advised that to enforce a weight limit on a bridge is not easy as DOT will not bring in scales. Town Administrator Shankle asked Mr. Albert how long this would take to research and how much it would cost. Mr. Albert advised that he would review and report at the next meeting. Mr. Goodspeed advised that the State monitors the bridges and Mr. Donaldson should be contacted in that regard.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to request Mr. Chris Albert review the report on the Main Street Bridge and recommend a weight limit. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion withdrawn.

7.2 PUBLIC WORKS – Nottingham Square Road

Mr. Koch requested approval to replace a culvert on Nottingham Square Road in the amount of \$6,533.00.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the replacement of a culvert on Nottingham Square Road. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

7.3 RENTAL OF TRANSFER STATION – Epping High School

Request to hold a tag day at the Transfer Station for the Epping High School Prom Committee, Class of 2011 was submitted for approval with a list of dates. Discussion followed and request was allowed with the request to limit it to 4 to 6 children per shift with adequate supervision.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the request for a Tag Day at the Transfer Stations for the Epping High School Prom Committee with a limit of 4 to 6 children per shift. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.4 PURCHASE ORDER – Police Department

Purchase order for Certified Computer Solution for four workstations in the amount of \$7,380.00 for the Police Department was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the purchase order for Certified Computer Solutions in the amount of \$7,380.00. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

7.5 PAY ADJUSTMENTS – Police Department

Pay adjustments for Non-Union Police Department employees was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to discuss the pay adjustments for the Police Department. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Dodge read the employees and percentage of increases.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the pay increases for the Non-Union Police Department Employees retroactive to April 1, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the COLA increases for the Town Employees with a total cost of \$20,472.73 and include the Building Inspector. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.6 HIRING REQUEST – Recreation

Request to hire Ms. Christy Smith for the Recreation Department for the After-School Program was

submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the hiring of Ms. Christy Smith for the Recreation After-School Program. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to recess to Non-Public under RSA 91-A:3 (II) (a)(b)(c) at 8:30 PM. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Public Meeting reconvened at 8:40 PM.

7.7 HIRING REQUEST – Fire Chief

Fire Wards provided a request to hire Mr. Jeffrey LeDuc as the Full-Time Fire Chief effective July 1, 2010.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to hire Mr. Jeffrey LeDuc as the Full-Time Fire Chief and send refusal letters to candidates. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Charlie Goodspeed and Mr. Cliff Cray representing the Fire Wards, introduced Mr. LeDuc to the Board and congratulated him.

Selectman Gilbert asked when Mr. LeDuc would be starting. Mr. LeDuc thanked everyone and stated the warrant article stated July 1, 2010 and requested a formal offer letter in that regard.

7.8 RESIGNATION – EMD

Resignation letter from Mr. Tim Flowers, Emergency Management Director, was submitted to the Board effective May 1, 2010. Selectman Jordan stated that Mr. Flowers did a great job as EMD.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to accept the resignation of Mr. Tim Flowers with regrets. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

7.9 APPOINTMENTS – Recreation Commission

Request to appoint Mr. John DiFrancesco and Ms. Andrea Loving to the Recreation Commission was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to appoint Mr. John DiFrancesco and Ms. Andrea Loving to the Recreation Commission. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.

7.10 VETERAN'S EXEMPTION – Tucker

Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Robert Tucker, 154 Nottingham Square Road, Map 009, Lot 008 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Robert Tucker, 154

Nottingham Square Road. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.11 VETERAN'S EXEMPTION – Garber

Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Richard Gardner, 18 Shepherd Lane, Map 025, Lot 035-002 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Richard Gardner, 18 Shepherd Lane. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.11 ELDERLY EXEMPTION – Meehan

Elderly Exemption for Ms. Marie Meehan, 290 Calef Highway, A-17, Map 023, Lot 039 A-17, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Elderly Exemption for Ms. Marie Meehan, 290 Calef Highway, A-17. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

7.13 ELDERLY EXEMPTION – Drew

Elderly Exemption for Mr. & Mrs. Fred Drew, 290 Calef Highway, A-31, Map 023, Lot 039, B-5, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Elderly Exemption for Mr. & Mrs. Fred Drew, 290 Calef Highway, B-5. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.14 YIELD TAX – Straw

Yield Tax for property owned by Mr. Richard Straw, 336 North River Road, Map 005, Lot 001, in the amount of \$1,299.24 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to approve the Yield Tax for Mr. Richard Straw, 336 North River Road, in the amount of \$1,299.24. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.15 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE – Summer/Fall

Board Meeting Schedule for May 2010 – December 2010 was submitted for approval. Schedule is for meetings every other week on Monday's with the exception of two Monday holidays: May 31 Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 1; September 6 Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 7, respectively.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Board Meeting Schedule for Summer/Fall. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

7.16 LAND USE CHANGE TAX RELEASES

LUCT for properties owned by: R.J. Moreau Communities, Map 014, Lot 014 – 022 for \$7,000; Mr. Paul Thibodeau, Map 035, Lot 001, for \$7,400; R.J. Moreau Communities, Map 014, Lot 014-023 for \$7,000; R.J. Moreau Communities, Map 014, Lot 014-024; were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the LUCT charges totaling \$28,400.00 for three properties owned by R.J. Moreau, and one property owned by Mr. Paul Thibodeau. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Falcone announced that the negotiating team for the Police Department Contract would be hiring a new attorney.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to hire Attorney Hodes, to represent the Town for Police Department Contract negotiations at a rate of \$165.00 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Dodge voiced dissent in regard to changing attorneys.

7.17 GOALS – Board of Selectmen

Selectman McGeough

Find or purchase a place for the Highway Department as current building is in terrible shape and is inadequate. Suggested the Keefe site as an alternative and suggested the Board do a site inspection.

Wants to see the offices at the Town Hall organized to better utilize the space. He said Charlie Goodspeed's students are working on a plan to reorganize the offices which will be presented at a later date.

Selectman Jordan

Leave the Town in a better place and improve the Town Hall and the Highway Department building.

Chairman Falcone

Wants to schedule a meeting with Public Works the Selectman and review the intersection of Prescott Road at Dearborn.

She thought an easy fix would improve that area and suggested a site inspection.

Wants the Planning Board files scanned to preserve them and organize the area.

Selectman Archambault

Wants to be involved with the commercial development at the Waterstone Development and Route 125.

Wants to be involved in the growth of the Fire and Police Departments.

Selectman Gilbert

Wants to continue working to inform the public of why we vote the way we do. She added, for example the vote tonight to hire a new attorney is an attempt to change things as a lot of the people have been in there positions for too long.

8. CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

8.1 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Town Administrator Shankle

Town Administrator Shankle stated that the meetings can be played on computers as they are available on line. He advised that the website is etv22@pegcentral.com.

Town Administrator Shankle reminded everyone that the canoe race is Saturday, the 24th.

8.2 INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Jordan

No issues.

Selectman McGeough

Selectman McGeough reminded everyone that the Canoe Race is Saturday, April 24.

Selectman Archambault

Selectman Archambault stated that he cut the ribbon at the opening of Market Basket.

Selectman Gilbert

Selectman Gilbert advised that the Solid Waste Committee is looking towards changing the recycling system to a single-stream system which eliminates having to sort recyclables.

Selectman Gilbert advised that samples were recently taken at the Transfer Station but no results have been received to date.

Chairman Falcone

Chairman Falcone stated she visited the new Market Basket and had a tour and was advised that this last Saturday was the biggest day at any store they had ever seen.

9.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

Mr. Paul Spidle stated that he had requested the street light at Route 125 and Route 87 be replaced and was told the answer from Public Service is that we have not paid for that light previously.

Motion by Selectman Archambault to pay the fee to install the light at Route 125 and Route 87. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Dodge stated that changing attorneys was

Chief Dodge stated that the Fire Wards do not post their meetings, and no minutes are taken. He added that Board is dysfunctional and that the hiring practices were not followed. He stated that the newly elected Fire Chief is a good choice but the method to hire him was wrong as no interviews were scheduled and the hiring process was flawed. Town Administrator Shankle requested the Board contact their individual Boards and request meeting agendas be posted and minutes taken.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPOINTMENTS

8:00 PM

STAR SPEEDWAY - Webber

Tabled.

10.

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Jordan to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Bielecki
Administrative Assistant

Karen Falcone, Chairman

Rene Archambault, Vice-Chairman

Dianne Gilbert, Selectman

James McGeough, Selectman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Date _____