

ATTENDANCE

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Archambault called the public session to order at 6:30 PM at the Epping Town Hall.

2. ADJOURN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A:3 II. (e)negotiation;

Motion by Selectman Archambault to adjourn to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.

3. RECONVENE

4. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Motion by Selectman McGeough to hold a moment of silence for the shooting victims in Arizona. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Selectman McGeough stated that there are great differences in Town and Country but violence against a judge, congressman, and a nine year old girl is unacceptable.

5. SEAL NON-PUBLIC MINUTES –January 10, 2011

Motion by Selectman Jordan to seal the Non-Public Minutes of January 10, 2011. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 4-0.

6. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 23, 2010

Minutes from December 23, 2010 were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the minutes of December 23, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0.

7. SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for week ending January 7, 2011 in the amount of \$634,278.43 was submitted for approval. \$500,000.00 was the school portion and \$134,278.43 was the Town.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$634,278.43. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Accounts payable manifest for final December 2010 in the amount of \$147,420.37 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$147,420.37. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0

8. SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for pay period ending January 8, 2011 in the amount of \$80,700.83 was presented for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$80,700.83. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

9. BUSINESS

9.1 RECREATION ISSUES

Mrs. Nicole Bizzaro advised that the two AmeriCorps employees currently at the Recreation Department are subject to a thirty-day suspension as the funding agency Plus-Time has closed. She advised that after reviewing the funds available they are able to offer the employees 18½ hours per week for the thirty-days or until another agency is contracted under Volunteer NH. Selectman Gilbert asked the amount of money owed to the Town by Plus-time. Mrs. Bizzaro advised they owe around \$2,300.00. Selectman McGeough requested Town Administrator Shankle contact the Attorney General to see if they are aware of the issue and advise the classification of the company.

Mrs. Bizzaro provided a draft of the proposed Recreation Sign. Town Administrator Shankle advised that the wording should be sent to the Recreation Commission.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to propose the wording on the sign be 'Epping Recreation Center'. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

9.2 PURCHASE ORDER – International Salt

Purchase order for International Salt in the amount of \$16,776.00 for 300 tons of salt was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the purchase order for International Salt in the amount of \$16,776.00. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

9.3 PUBLIC WORKS ISSUES

Mr. Dave Reinhold advised that the new purchase order policy requires approval by the Board and asked what to do if salt is needed in an emergency.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to request Town Administrator Shankle approve any emergency purchases and advise the Board via e-mail. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

Selectman McGeough asked if the Highway Department had ever used Magic Salt. Mr. Reinhold advised that they utilize it in certain areas in Town but not on the roadways.

Selectman McGeough requested consideration to reverse the motion to cut surplus wood at the Transfer Station and make it available to residents. He stated that the distribution of the wood would be an issue and suggested a lottery or a procedure to fairly distribute the wood be developed. Mr. Reinhold advised that the wood would not be able to be burnt until next year. Town Administrator Shankle requested the wood be held until the procedure is in place for distribution.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to remove the previous motion to cut up and place surplus wood at the Transfer Station for residents pending the development of a procedure approved by the Board. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Reinhold advised that one employee would be leaving at the end of the month and requested approval to hire two part time employees until the spring.

9.4 WARRANT ARTICLE – Fire Department

Warrant Article for the installation of an exhaust system in the amount of \$69,900.00 was presented for approval by the Fire Department.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the warrant article for the purchase of an exhaust system in the amount of \$69,900.00 and forward to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

9.5 SIGNING OF DEFAULT BUDGET

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Default Budget and sign the MS-D. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

9.6 VETERAN'S EXEMPTION – Archie

Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Stephen Archie, 35A Gatchell Way, Map 028, Lot 062, 012-001, was presented for approval. The dates listed for Mr. Archie's service disqualifies the request for the exemption.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to deny the request for a Veteran's Exemption for Mr. Stephen Archie, 35A Gatchell Way. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 4-0.

9.7 VETERAN'S DISABILITY EXEMPTION – Towne

Veteran's Disability Exemption for Mr. Fred Towne, 60 Hunter Drive, Map 033, Lot 048, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Veteran's Disability Exemption for Mr. Fred Town, 60 Hunter Drive. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

9.8 VETERAN'S DISABILITY EXEMPTION – Grenier

Veteran's Disability Exemption for Mr. Francis Grenier, 17 Depot Road, Map 027, Lot 184, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Veteran's Disability Exemption for Mr. Francis Grenier, 17 Depot Road. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

9.9 VETERAN'S & ELDERLY EXEMPTION – Vets

Veteran's Exemption and Elderly Exemption for Mr. Robert Vets, 14 Pearson Way, Map 030, Lot 017, was presented for approval. The Veteran's Exemption was able to be approved, but the residence requirement for an Elderly Exemption was denied.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Veteran's Exemption and deny the Elderly Exemption for Mr. Robert Vets, 14 Pearson Way. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

9.10 VETERAN'S DISABILITY EXEMPTION – O'Neill

Veteran's Disability Exemption for Mr. Gary O'Neill, 6 Algay Drive, Map 033, Lot 045, was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Veteran's Disability Exemption for Mr. Gary O'Neill, 6 Algay Drive. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0

9.11 YIELD TAX – Harvey

Yield Tax for Ms. Phyllis Harvey, 40 Nottingham Square Road, Map 015, Lot 005, in the amount of \$1,175.87 was presented for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Yield Tax for Ms. Phyllis Harvey, 40 Nottingham Square Road in the amount of \$1,175.87. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 4-0.

9.12 REVIEW & SIGNING OF EXEMPTION FORMS FOR DRA

Request from the Department of Revenue to sign PA-35 forms for exemptions previously signed were submitted for approval after review by MRI. This requirement was as a result of revaluation and a requirement of DRA for all existing exemptions.

9.13 FILING FOR OFFICE & VACANCIES

Town Clerk submitted a list of vacancies to be filled at the next election. Also submitted was a list of Town voting information and voter checklist information.

WARRANT ARTICLES

Request to reaffirm warrant articles as additional Board of Selectmen members are present. The following 2011 Warrant Articles were reviewed:

2011 Operating Budget in the amount of \$5,464,763.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

2011 Default Budget in the amount of \$5,370,755.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Town Hall Improvement Expendable Trust Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Landfill Engineering Design/Closure Expendable Trust Fund in the amount of \$5,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$5,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$5,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Police Department Vehicle to be leased in the amount of \$16,300 for the first year and a total of \$48,900.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Additional Full Time Police Officer in the amount of \$43,500.00 for the first year and a total of \$195,730.00 to be funded by the Federal COPS Hiring Grant. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Ambulance lease in the amount of \$35,000.00 for the first year and \$180,000.00 as a total. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

New Highway Building in the amount of \$180,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Land Purchase in the amount of \$2,300,000.00 for the purchase of 60 acres +/- at Epping Crossing funded by a bond in the amount of \$2,150,000.00 with a term of twenty years for the Water & Sewer Commission. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Part Time Town Clerk in the amount of \$11,400.00 to hire a part-time Town Clerk. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Library Renovation in the amount of \$12,000.00 to install a Handicap Accessible/ADA approved rest room.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Police Department Equipment in the amount of \$8,010.00 to purchase six automated external defibrillators. Recommended by the Board of Selectman 4-0.

Safety Complex Exhaust System in the amount of \$68,900.00 for the installation of a Vehicle Exhaust Extraction System. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Ambulance Equipment in the amount of \$63,292.00 for a Life-Pak 15 for the ambulance. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Lamprey River Youth Soccer in the amount of \$2,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Epping Youth Athletic Association in the amount of \$3,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels Program in the amount of \$3,988.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-1. Selectman Gilbert voted nay.

Lamprey Health Care in the amount of \$3,800.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-1. Selectman Gilbert voted nay.

By Petition: Sexual Assault Support Services in the amount of \$1,250.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 2-2 Selectman Gilbert and Selectman Archambault voted nay.

Child and Family Services in the amount of \$4,000.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 1-3.
Motion by Selectman McGeough to delete the lines on the warrant article that stated resident services provided for last year. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

10. CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

10.1 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Town Administrator Shankle stated that the Budget Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday night at 6:30 PM. Also, a tentative Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday in case any petition warrant articles are submitted.

Town Administrator Shankle submitted a Raffle Request from St. Joseph's Church to hold a raffle from February 13 through July 3, 2011.

Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve the Raffle Request for St. Joseph's Church. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Administrator Shankle advised that the recent Town Revaluation by Vision Appraisal was completed three months later than the contract specified and incurred a \$100.00 per day penalty. Vision has proposed to compensate for the delay by providing one year free maintenance and two years web hosting at no charge to the Town. Judith Bielecki advised that the proposal totals approximately \$11,000.00 and covers the \$9,000.00 penalty.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to accept the proposal from Vision Appraisal to provide one year free maintenance, and two years of free webhosting in lieu of the \$9,000.00 penalty. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Administrator Shankle advised that a letter of interest to join the Recreation Commission by Tony Loving. The letter stated that Mr. Loving would like to be appointed as his wife would be resigning.

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the appointment of Mr. Loving to the Recreation Commission subject to the resignation of Mrs. Loving. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

10.2 INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Jordan

Selectman Jordan advised that residents have been expressing apprehension about the pan-handler at the entrance to the plaza at Wal-Mart. Selectman Archambault requested an ordinance be written in this regard. Selectman Gilbert asked Town Administrator Shankle to contact LGC about this issue.

Selectman McGeough

Selectman McGeough asked about the pending storm and whether the dump would be closed. Town Administrator Shankle suggested consideration of a policy whereby if the schools are closed the transfer station would be closed. Selectman McGeough requested that Channel 9 be contacted if it is closed. He suggested the Highway Department be contacted to develop a policy.

Selectman McGeough advised that there is a Budget Committee Meeting on Wednesday and the Public Hearing is Saturday starting at 9:00 AM.

Selectman McGeough stated that the tragedy in Arizona is a shame with the loss of a young child, a Federal Judge, and the shooting of the Congresswoman and others. He added that violence is wrong and a nine year old trying to learn about politics was gunned down trying to learn about government.

Selectman Gilbert

Selectman Gilbert asked about the Town's financial position at the end of the year. Town Administrator Shankle stated that Finance will advise.

Selectman Gilbert asked about the status of an explanation of the assessment on property owned by the Cloutier's.

Selectman Archambault

Selectman Archambault advised that the pending snow storm looks like it will be substantial and the Town is prepared and we also have a capable Emergency Management Director, Tim Flowers.

11. COMMENTS BY VISITORS

Mr. Paul Spidle stated that if the Budget Committee Meeting is cancelled what would be available to get the word out. Town Administrator Shankle advised that he should contact him and he would contact ETV and Channel 9. He advised that the Budget Committee Hearing is 9:00 AM on Saturday and residents should attend to make their feelings known.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPOINTMENTS

7:30 PM - Building Permit on Class VI Road – Cantichi

Mr. Cantichi addressed the Board for an answer to a request to build a home on Birch Hill Road. Selectman McGeough stated that the road was closed due to Town Vote and did not want to grant the request unless it was voted on. Mr. Cantichi advised that the road was not closed and the lot is buildable and would improve the road for access. He added that an agreement could be prepared by the lawyer to address any outstanding issues. Selectman Gilbert asked if he would be coming in from Route 87. Mr. Cantichi stated yes and would improve the road. Selectman Gilbert asked the classification of the road be reviewed. Town Administrator Shankle stated that the road classification will be reviewed for discussion at the next meeting.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to table until the next Board Meeting. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 4-0.

12. ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Gilbert to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Bielecki

Administrative Assistant

JB/

Karen Falcone, Chairman

Rene Archambault, Vice-Chairman

Dianne Gilbert, Selectman

James McGeough, Selectman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Date _____