

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2013

Selectmen present: Henry Spencer
Timothy Eldridge
Theresa Swanick

Minutes transcribed by: Claudia Lamphier

Meeting called to order: 5:00 pm

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Edith Sharp asked if the Board was aware of a camper close to her home.

Pam Doherty protested the removal of the street light near her home. She reported that other neighbors also shared her concern about the safety of their homes without lighting. Selectman Spencer explained that the intent of removing some of the street lights is to keep only those that are needed for safe travel of the roadways, not for personal safety of residents and told her that she and her neighbors could keep the fixture there if they wanted to pay for it. She said she intended to obtain signatures from her neighbors that wanted the street light to remain at the Town's expense and present it to the Board.

Erik Jones asked if the remaining street lights will be LED lighting. Selectman Swanick noted that LED lights are not currently offered by PSNH and a delay in transitioning to other lighting may be considered to see if that option becomes available in the near future.

Linda Edwards reported that a large tree on the side of Champion Hill Road appears to be in danger of falling. She was informed that the Town is not responsible for the tree removal, but could require the property owner to remove the tree. Selectmen will look at the tree and decide what should be done. Linda noted that the tree has a red tape around it. PSNH will be contacted to see if the red tape indicates the tree is going to be removed for utility line purposes.

Randy Burbank would like to post an ad in the newspapers requesting heating contractors provide bids for installing a propane heating system at station #2. That notice will be posted.

Jonathan Burbank displayed an array of ribbons awarded for his achievements in a recent Special Olympics event. All applauded his success. He then gave his weekly call report.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Eldridge reported that there will be a fund raising dinner to benefit the local Girl Scouts troop to be held at the Elementary School on Thursday, from 5:30 to 7:30.

Selectman Swanick reported that the PSNH lighting report is completed. PSNH will also be auditing the Town Hall/Library. That is not scheduled yet.

Selectmen Spencer recently attended a running rascal race. He was surprised to see that there were 47 runners.

The Department of Environmental Services has contacted the Selectmen's office to advise the Board that they will be in the area soon and will do an inspection of the Town's transfer station. They will advise of the date when it is determined.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the Minutes of April 30th and the weekly manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

With Selectman Eldridge back from vacation, the proposals submitted for the road maintenance contract were reviewed. Selectmen Eldridge and Spencer will be inspecting equipment next week.

The heating contractor that installed the municipal building wood pellet heating system has concluded that the hot water issue should be addressed by a plumbing contractor. While here, he checked to see what pellet usage took place during the winter months. The pellet silo is one third full. It was noted that there was a significant saving in heating cost utilizing the pellet system, perhaps as much as 60% savings as compared to the former oil fueled system.

NEW BUSINESS

Selectmen administered the oath of office to Deanna Amaral as Town Clerk and Tax Collector. She replaces Marilynn Maughan who recently resigned.

Selectmen discussed a report of incident filed by Mark Bussiere. An altercation with a transfer station patron took place when he attempted to dispose of a computer monitor without obtaining a coupon to do so. The patron was verbally abusive and demanding. Selectmen discussed developing a written procedure to deal with unruly patrons.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

Chief Butts attended the meeting for his monthly department update. He reported that there is a group of scammers targeting elderly homeowners. The group is soliciting

paving projects. In an effort to get notification out to residents, Sergeant Sacco developed a Facebook page for the Effingham Police Department. The department is very busy. Some calls are from returning seasonal residents which have found that their camps have been broken in to. There are still many calls from Lakeview Neurorehabilitation. Chief Butts is looking for more part-time officers. The current part-time staff is not consistent in covering shifts.

At 7:10 the Board entered in to non-public session to discuss an upcoming legal hearing and a personnel issue.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Henry Spencer, Selectman

Date

Theresa Swanick, Selectman

Timothy Eldridge, Selectman