

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

July 30, 2013

Selectmen present: Henry Spencer
Timothy Eldridge
Theresa Swanick

At 2:00 pm Selectmen met with officials at Lakeview Rehabilitation to discuss escalating problems with clients leaving the grounds of that facility. Discussion concerned proposed changes in procedures, staffing, systems and physical changes to the grounds to alleviate the problems that have been affecting the safety and security of Lakeview clients and Effingham residents. Selectmen recessed at 3:15.

Minutes transcribed by: Claudia Lamphier

Meeting called to order: 5:00 pm

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Reporter Damon Steer asked how the meeting with Lakeview officials went. Each Board member spoke of how productive they felt the meeting was. Many changes that have already been made and others they plan to implement sounded to be practical remedies to the problems that have been the root of most of the problems. It was stated that the discussion was candid and forthcoming. Randy Burbank noted that Lakeview has been advertising for employment of emergency medical responders for evening and weekend shifts. Selectmen had been informed of this during the meeting at Lakeview and reported that applicants are currently being interviewed to fill those positions. They expect the EMS personnel will vastly improve the oversight of clients by trained professionals. Weekday staff includes sufficient medical professional coverage, and the increased number of trained medical providers on evenings and weekends should alleviate that gap.

Edith Sharp told of a recent visit from out of state relatives who used their GPS system to find her home. With all attendees aware that in this rural area these systems are most commonly inaccurate, there were nods of awareness of how the story was going to end. Expectedly the story told of the visitors being lead through many unnecessary miles including impassable roadways.

Mr. Potter stated he has been impressed with the newspaper coverage on the Lakeview issue. He noted that with so many journalists looking at creating drama in reporting, he thought this issue had been handled honestly and thoroughly by the reporter of the Conway Daily Sun. That reporter was in attendance and thanked Mr. Potter for sharing his thoughts.

Erik Jones inquired about a house that had been auctioned last week. He asked if the auction resulted in a purchase of the property and was told the house had sold.

Erik Jones inquired about the rails that used to be mounted on the cupola at Town Hall. He saw the unused rails and questioned why the rails were not included in the recent restoration of the cupola.

Tom Thompson reported to the Board that he was saved many hours of work on mailing labels for the Agricultural Commission, when Gwen English, the assessing clerk volunteered to produce them for him from her database. He was most appreciative of her making a special effort to help him with this.

Jonathan Burbank gave his weekly report.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Eldridge asked if the office has received any information regarding the remedy for the lack of hot water at the Municipal Building. When informed nothing had been received, he decided he will discuss the issue with the plumber directly.

Selectman Eldridge met with a resident of Storage Road, where the Town's winter road material storage shed is located, about a recurring concern of hers that the road contractor is leaving road materials on her property. It was decided that the property line will be demarked with large rocks. It was noted that this property is for sale and perhaps the Town should consider purchasing it.

The general assistance administrator job description has been completed, but the person filling that position has not seen it to provide feedback. She will be provided a copy for her review.

Selectman Swanick reported that the T2 Center evaluation of town roads should be completed this week. It was noted that this agency and/or report may help with crack sealing specifications. The Library/Town Hall energy audit information should also be in soon.

Selectman Swanick has found that the power supply for the proposed compactors does not need to have a constant heat source if electrical power was interrupted.

Selectman Eldridge is checking on where Board members can receive NIMS training.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the Minutes of July 23rd and the weekly manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Spencer met with an arborist to discuss the removal of several trees on the grounds of the Library/Town Hall. He was given a quote of \$1500. The Board approved this expenditure unanimously. Vaughan English will be hired to remove the trees. It is hoped he can complete the tree removal on a day the Library is not open.

Mr. Potter has provided a map of cemeteries throughout Town. Selectman Spencer and Eldridge will try to find all these cemeteries and get GPS coordinates for them.

LifeStar EMS will remain Effingham's emergency response resource through the end of the year at which time Selectmen will look at available options.

Selectman Eldridge will schedule a time to drive the Town's roadways with the road contractor to look at necessary pending and future roadwork.

The Board voted unanimously to have Clearwater Well Drilling start work on the well to be drilled at the Transfer Station.

NEW BUSINESS

Selectman Spencer, in his review of roadways noticed that the Maine side of Pratt Road seems to be in better condition than the New Hampshire side. He noted that there is a crown on the road in Maine and will discuss this issue with the road contractor.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

NONE

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Henry Spencer, Selectman

Date

Theresa Swanick, Selectman

Timothy Eldridge, Selectman