

TOWN OF EFFINGHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2013

Selectmen present: Henry Spencer
Timothy Eldridge
Theresa Swanick

Minutes transcribed by: Claudia Lamphier

The meeting was called to order at: 5:00 pm

The Mail, Manifest and Signature folders were reviewed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Edith Sharp reported that the Preservation Society will be holding a dinner with entertainment following on October 19th at 5:00 pm. Arthur Surette will be providing the entertainment with his lively storytelling.

Mike Cahalane inquired about the tax deeding process and expressed his support for all taxpayers to be treated fairly and equally. The Board assured him that this is their goal as well, noting that the laws of the State must be upheld unless there is compelling evidence that strict adherence could be a benefit to all.

Maureen Spencer, a Library Trustee and Marilyn Swan, the Librarian were in attendance to report concern about the condition of the heating units at the Library. The Board will be discussing what options are available for replacement of the current heating units.

Fire Chief, Randy Burbank reported that he made his annual presentation to the students and staff at the Effingham Elementary School on fire prevention. He also reported that he has spoken to a grant writing professional. The individual he spoke with charges for his services regardless of whether or not the project is funded. Randy stated he will only consider working with an individual who accepts payment from granted funds.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Selectman Eldridge will be looking into a feature of Google which assists in multiple communications, consolidated in one format. He noted that the School Board uses this application for communication and it seems to work very well. His thought is that this may work well as a communication tool in working with the road contractor.

Selectman Eldridge has requested another plumber provide an estimate for a hot water system replacement. He also responded to a question presented last week regarding a lighting fixture being placed at the intersection of routes 153 south and 25. The DOT will be considering that.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST

The Board approved the Minutes of October 8th and the weekly manifest.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Swanick has been researching the FEMA grant that was discussed at last week’s meeting. She also continues to work on the modification application for DES regarding the upcoming improvements at the transfer station.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board received, reviewed and discussed the budgets of the Police Department, Dog Control, the Fire Department, Emergency Management and the Planning Board.

PLANNED DISCUSSION

Due to the extensive agenda, the road contractor was requested to attend a future meeting instead of his appointed update meeting which would have otherwise been tonight.

Board members voted to enter into non-public session at 7:10 to discuss a contract issue. They spoke with the owner of the Town’s ambulance service. His contract with the Town expires at the end of the year, but some recent issues arising from his agreement with Huggins Hospital may necessitate a change in operating procedures. The discussion lasted until 7:30 when the Board again resumed public session.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Henry Spencer, Selectman

Date

Theresa Swanick, Selectman

Timothy Eldridge, Selectman