

**TOWN OF EFFINGHAM  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES**

December 8, 2015

Selectmen present: Tim Eldridge  
Lawrence Edwards  
Henry Spencer

Minutes transcribed by: Cheryle A. Feirick

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

The Mail, Manifest and Signature and Action Folder were reviewed.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES and WEEKLY MANIFEST:**

The Board approved the minutes of December 1, 2015 and weekly manifest in the amount of \$311,424.85.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Resident Eric Potter announced the Center Effingham and So. Parsonsfield Churches will host their first Christmas Concert at the Center Effingham Church on December 20, 2015 at 4pm.

Resident Tim Murphy asked for an update on road grading. Selectman Spencer reported he was in touch with the road maintenance contractor and was told grading would be completed by Saturday, December 5, 2015. Tim asked for clarification on where the panic buttons would be located at the Municipal Offices. Selectman Spencer responded they would be located in each of the offices.

Resident Richard Hidu asked the Select Board why the town does not maintain the road he lives on, Riverwood Circle, yet he pays the same amount of property taxes as a town maintained road. Selectmen Edwards noted the development is private and the property owners are required to form an association to pay for road maintenance.

Emelyn Albert, Chair of the Effingham Conservation Commission requested permission to speak to the Town's Attorney about the property the commission is interested in purchasing. She was given permission.

**PLANNED DISCUSSION WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

The Road Maintenance Contractor was not available for his monthly discussion with the Board.

**SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS:**

Selectman Eldridge reported a representative of H.E. Bergeron Engineers will attend the December 15th Selectmen's meeting and the online credit card service with the Tax Collector's office goes live January 19, 2016. Residents will be able to pay their property taxes and renew their vehicle registrations online. New vehicles registrations will have to be done initially at the Town Clerk's office.

Selectman Spencer reported re-construction on Granite Road is still in progress and the road contractor will be contacted to complete the ditch line paving on Town House Road. Selectman Spencer acquired the pole number on Plantation Road so he can report the damaged pole to Eversource. Dirt roads will be checked for freezing by Selectman Spencer who will then contact the winter road contractor if the roads need treatment. Clarification was made, the winter road contractor will be checking the road maintenance phone line allocated for residents to call and leave messages regarding road issues.

Selectman Edwards reported he has not received a response from the Department of Environmental Services to his numerous calls regarding his question of the Town's need for a culvert permit.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **Selectmen reported the following:**

Road re-construction on Granite Road is still in progress. The hot water tank at the Transfer Station is on schedule for installation. The Cost of supplies is being researched for construction of a roof over the propane tanks at the library.

Discussion took place over pending use of the Lakeview property. It was reported interested parties have applied for a license to operate a substance abuse facility at the property. An announcement was made that a representative from Lakeview will be available at the Selectmen's meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting @ 6:00pm to answer questions. Auction of town owned property located at 94Wilkinson Swamp Road Property is scheduled for Saturday, December 12 at 11:00 am and will be held at the property.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Molly Philbrick Road encroachments will cost approximately \$600.00(six-hundred) to \$800.00(eight hundred) each to repair. There are 23 (twenty three) encroachments remaining in need of work.

Demolition of a town owned structure on School Street will take place the week of December 14<sup>th</sup>.

An auction of town owned property located at 192 Elm Street is scheduled for Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at the Municipal Office Building.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Resident Dave Strauss presented grant writer information to the Board of Selectmen in anticipation of the proposed parking lot and drainage work to be done at the library.

Resident Tom Thompson expressed the change of use at Lakeview will have a different impact on town services if a substance abuse facility were to conduct business in Effingham. Resident Scott Leonard expressed his concern over Lakeview becoming an alcohol and drug rehab facility. Selectman Eldridge stated there are still several hoops to get through before the opening of a new facility and he expressed that the select board also has concerns. Resident Dan Felix said he isn't overly excited for a substance rehab facility opening in town. But where do we stand, there is a need out there for those services.

Several residents expressed their concerns over the cost to the town to repair the property encroachments on the property at Molly Philbrick Road created by the road contractor. The consensus was the town shouldn't be paying to have them repaired. It was stated, the property owners were not asked for permission nor did they give permission for the encroachments to be made on their property.

**NON-PUBLIC:**

At 6:17pm the Board voted to enter into non-public regarding a transfer station personnel matter and upcoming town owned property auctions

Non-Public adjourned at 6:50 pm

**WEEKLY DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:  
Ongoing Budget Meetings**

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Timothy Eldridge

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Henry Spencer

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Lawrence Edwards