



## Town of Effingham

### Selectmen's Office

68 School Street  
Effingham, New Hampshire 03882

## Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes November 1, 2022

Present: Chairman Espie, Selectman Fuller, Selectmen Kirkwood, Town Administrator Fraizer, Police Chief Duchesne, Fire Chief Harmon and several members of the public.

Chairman Espie called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Signature Folder:

Chairman Espie made a motion to approve and sign the Selectmen's work session minutes for October 11, 2022. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller, the motion passed (3-0).

Also in the signature folder was an intent to cut, a timber tax and a land use change tax bill.

Chairman Espie made a motion to approve and sign the manifest dated November 3, 2022, in the amount of \$337,399.63. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller, the motion passed (3-0). Chairman Espie mentioned \$207,705 was related to the school.

### Mail Folder:

- Notice of violation
- A request for a temporary occupancy extension.
- A renewal of Waste Management Contract for 2023.
- Carroll County Local Welfare group letter.
- Burke Quarry 2022 Winter Product Rates.

### Administrator Comments and Selectmen's Reports:

#### Town Administrator Fraizer

- The Town received the highway block money from the State in the amount of \$24,808. It is not the additional money the State is sending for highway projects. Chairman Espie asked about the bridge money from the State. Town Administrator Fraizer corrected her statement that the Town has received the State money for highway projects but not for bridges.
- Town Administrator Fraizer provided the Selectmen with a 2009 Animal Control Policy for them prepare for a work session on an animal Control Ordinance.
- Town Administrator Fraizer compared the salt quotes with what the State contracted amount. She will have them ready for signature later this week.
- Town Administrator Fraizer has responded to a half a dozen 91-A requests from Mr. Cahalane in the last week.
- Background checks for potential employees are still outstanding.
- Chairman Espie asked Town Administrator Fraizer to request the legal files from NHMA instead of have them destroyed.

#### Selectman Kirkwood

Selectman Kirkwood announced the rails for the metal and glass containers have arrived. Chairman Espie discussed not making the gates permanent until the wall is repaired.

Selectman Kirkwood attended classes with Transfer Station staff for their annual certification requirements.

### **Chairman Espie**

Chairman Espie discussed a request for an extension to a temporary occupancy permit. The applicant has the foundation scheduled to be installed in November and septic is installed. The landowner sent a letter explaining their situation since they started the building process in 2020. Selectman Fuller had a concern that the Health Office had not signed off on it. Health Officer Cahalane said he would look at it after the Board of Selectman's meeting. Chairman Espie asked that he let the office know as soon as they had reviewed the application.

### **Selectman Fuller**

Selectman Fuller reported the powder post beetle repairs are still underway. There was a change order submitted for electrical in the amount of \$7,500. This was required as a result exposing the ceiling and walls. Selectman Fuller stated the money comes from the Historic Town Hall funds and not the General Fund. Selectman Fuller made a motion to approve the change order in the amount of \$7,500. The motion was seconded by Chairman Espie. The motion passed (3-0).

### **Chairman Espie**

Chairman Espie asked about the pickup time for the electronics on Thursday. Town Administrator Fraizer is expecting a follow-up email from the vendor and will let Chairman Espie know.

Chairman Espie discussed closing Bailey Road on November 10<sup>th</sup> while the contractor sets the second half of the culvert. The power company anticipates four hours in the morning for the closure. He asked Fire Chief Harmon if they could put a truck on the closed side. The contractor said they would get an ambulance through if necessary. Chief Duchesne felt that an emergency would be fairly remote but if an ambulance could get through then a police vehicle could do the same. Chairman Espie made a motion to close the road on Thursday morning. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0)

Selectman asked the Town Administrator to post it on the web site, advertise it in the local paper, contact the Province Lake Association, and let the school know.

Chairman Espie met with Laurie Dunn about her concern about the rush of water when the pilings are removed at Bailey Road. Chairman Espie recommended to the engineer that the water be pumped into the dry side to prevent the rush of water. Chairman Espie also queried if it would be worth paving it this fall. Selectman Fuller was concerned with plowing. Chairman Espie said the engineer would look into that as well.

### **Selectman Fuller**

Selectman Fuller asked for a legal review of a draft contract between Ossipee and Effingham Recreation Contract. Attorney Serge represents both towns and drafted a conflict-of-interest waiver for himself to review the contract. Selectman Fuller made a motion to approve the waiver. The motion was seconded by Chairman Espie. The motion passed (3-0).

### **Transfer Station Strategy Committee**

Selectman Fuller reviewed the process and the list of topics the Transfer Station Strategy Committee suggested.

- Engineered plan will be required before a grant can be applied for. The committee recommends moving forward with this.
- Enlarging the Transfer Station footprint, the committee does not recommend a change.
- Adding a Weight Scale to have more accurate fees. The committee does not recommend due to the expense.
- Purchase of a used loader/backhoe. The pros did not outweigh the cons. The committee could not justify purchase.
- Adding a staggered, poured, container wall and footings to improve the dumpsters. The committee recommends moving forward with this recommendation.
- Adding dumpster rails to prevent the trucks from pushing the dumpsters into the wall when they put them down. The committee recommends moving forward with this recommendation.
- Installing pitched roof cover 25' high opening over the containers. It should help reduce the cost long term because of weight from ice and snow in containers. The committee recommends moving forward with this recommendation.
- Review of household trash compactors. The committee does not recommend anything at this time.
- Expanding the burn area. The committee does not recommend at this time.
- Wood chipper for burn pile. The committee does not recommend at this time.
- Remove shed near demo dumpsters. The committee recommends removal.
- Waste oil recycling. The committee does not recommend at this time. The Town will have to talk to the State about the grant they had received and if it needs to be returned.

The next step is to look into hiring an engineer. Chairman Espie asked if the grant money would be available in 2023. Mr. Cahalane wasn't sure or if it would be worth it to submit a partial application to get in the queue. He is going to research it if the Board wants to pursue it.

Selectman Kirkwood asked about selling the 500-gallon oil drum. The sale was put on hold a few months ago while the Transfer Station Committee was doing their assessment. After discussion, all three Selectmen agree to sell it. Selectman Fuller made a motion to move forward with the items the Transfer Station Strategy Committee recommended and get a quote for the engineering. The motion was seconded by Chairman Espie. Selectman Kirkwood expressed concerns with the cost. The motion passed (3-0).

## **Budget Review**

Police Chief Duchesne presented the **4210 Police** budget. Fuel was increased but not significantly because the two cruisers are hybrid. The police details were removed from the budget with the intent to set up a Police Special Detail Revolving Fund. Salaries were increased 3%. Software was decreased from 2022 because the second license for software is not a repetitive cost. Vehicle maintenance was decreased due to a new vehicle. Tires were broken out from vehicle maintenance because it is a recurring expense. Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the 4210 Police 2023 budget in the amount of \$234,267. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller, the motion passed (3-0).

Police Chief Duchesne presented the **4414 Dog Officer** budget. It is recommended to increase the weekly stipend by \$50 per week based on the activity, there is an average of two to three



calls per week and on-call 24 hours. The Dog Officer is dedicated, loyal and doing a terrific job. The mileage was broken out into its own line item. The equipment and supplies line was reduced because they have already been purchased. The line item for the Humane Society was kept flat. Budget Chairman Strauss explained the difference in the \$1,000 payment to paying for actual usage. He recommended the Town pay up to \$1,000 at the end of the year for their services. Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the 4414 Dog Officer 2023 budget in the amount of \$10,050. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller, the motion passed (3-0).

Fire Chief Harmon presented **4220 Fire and Rescue**. Several items remained the same. The Chief explained the increase in fuel due to price and call increase. After discussion, there was a decrease to the fuel line item by \$1,000. Medical supplies increased by \$500 because of the increase in medical calls and the increase cost of supplies. Member pay was increased \$1,000 to cover the increase in calls and a 3% wage increase. Mutual Aid Dues has a significant increase. The line item includes the Ossipee Mutual Aid Dues and IamResponding software to track calls, firefighter certification and equipment maintenance. It will make the department compliant and reduce risk that inherent in the manual process. Town Administrator Fraizer recommended the Fire Chief break out the software line on his budget. The Budget Chairman concurred. Selectman Fuller asked for a copy of the software agreement for cost and annual maintenance be sent to the office. The Secretary line item was also for software. The Board asked him to roll it into the software line item. The Fire Chief line item was increased by one day per week. Budget Chairman Strauss had concerns with the Fire Chief line item because the budget was not approved at the Town Meeting. There was agreement to move the Fire Chief budget to the daytime fire coverage line. The phone line was increased for a cell phone for the Chief, an iPad compatible to existing equipment to transmit information to the hospital, the internet speed was also increased. The budget for 2022 should be in the day-time salary line. The truck maintenance was increased \$1,000 to cover associated increased costs. Part time coverage was planned at \$20 an hour for coverage to cover increases to existing staff and attract new members. Software new total will be \$14,600. Chief Harmon presented a chart of the call volume increasing consistently. Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the 4220 Fire and Rescue 2023 budget in the amount of \$187,075. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller, the motion passed (3-0).

Fire Chief Harmon Presented the **4290 Emergency Management** budget. There is a small increase over the prior year due to a change of the generator exhaust at the fire station. Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the 4290 Emergency Management 2023 budget in the amount of \$2,500. The motion was seconded by Selectman Kirkwood, the motion passed (3-0).

Fire Chief Harmon Presented the **4290 Forest Fire Warden** budget. The Firefighter Reimbursement line was deleted as it isn't used. The Fire and Rescue budget covers all responses. Selectman Kirkwood made a motion to approve the 4290 Forest Fire Warden 2023 budget in the amount of \$2,000. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller, the motion passed (3-0).

**Announcement:** Elections are Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup>. The Town Clerk/Tax Collector office will be closed for the day. The polls are open 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Public Comment**

John Davis expressed his concerns about the school bus. He goes through the intersection at 6:45 a.m. and in the evening 4:10-4:15 all make a U-turns which seems dangerous. He is just asking for public safety not citations. Town Administrator Fraizer will ask Police to be there.

Dave Garceau asked what the amount of revenue the Town collects in timber cut tax. Town Administrator explained the timber cuts have until April 1, 2023 to submit their cut paperwork. Mr. Garceau complained that the boats are still being stored on Green Mountain Road, Green Mountain Road shouldering still hasn't been done near his property. More work is being done at #981. He asked about other properties with campers. Mr. Garceau requested a list of properties in current use and send the owners a letter explaining the laws and letting them know he would be coming out to inspect them. Mr. Garceau also asked if the Board has given any more thought to meeting weekly and changing the time. The Board does meet every week because of work sessions.

D Strauss reminded everyone that next Wednesday is budget meeting.

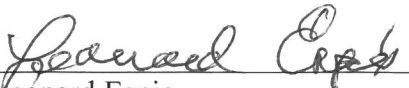
Maria Crocket asked about the status of Green Mountain Road. Chairman Espie has spoken with the Road Contractor who has it on his schedule.

Vicki Garceau complained about a neighbor using a trailer on Green Mountain Road.

Mike Cahalane asked about the work session topic. He also clarified the categories for current use. He has been frustrated about what the board is reviewing in the folders. Reviewing the folders prior to the meeting is not transparent. He asked the Board to put it back into the posted meetings. He claims under RSA 91-2, it is a public meeting and the Board is in violation and is exposing themselves and the Town to legal action.

Selectman Fuller made a motion to adjourn at 6:41. The motion was seconded by Selectman Kirkwood, the motion passed (3-0)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Audrey Fraizer

  
Leonard Espie

Dated: November 15, 2022

  
Charles Fuller

  
Victoria Kirkwood

