



**Town of Effingham**  
**Selectmen's Office**  
68 School Street  
Effingham, New Hampshire 03882

## Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

### March 21, 2023

**Present:** Chairman Espie, Selectmen Kirkwood, Selectman Fuller, Sergeant Eldridge, and Town Administrator Fraizer

Chairman Espie called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

#### **Police K9**

Sergeant Eldridge described the goal of the Police Department K9 program. The cost for a new K9 will primarily be by donation and a raffle. Selectman Fuller said to contact the Attorney General's office so it is done correctly. A dog has been identified at a cost of \$5,800. Sergeant Eldridge said the program is helpful, there were 36 calls for the K9 in 2022. There have been 4 to date in 2023. The town of Madison's dog is from the same handler. The company that previously provided food is willing to continue to donate one bag per month and the veterinarian is willing to continue to provide service at cost. Chairman Espie made a motion to proceed with the K9 program. The motion was seconded by Selectman Kirkwood. The motion passed (3-0).

Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the minutes of March 7, 2023. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0).

Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the two sets of non-public minutes of March 7, 2023. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0).

Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the Work Session minutes of March 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0).

Chairman Espie made a motion to approve the manifest dated March 23, 2023, in the amount of \$146,270.81. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0).

#### **Signature Folder:**

Items in the signature folder consisted of a property coming out of Current Use, a property going into current use, and a BTLA settlement. An elderly exemption was withheld from signatures due to awaiting further information.

#### **Review of Mail:**

In the mail folder was the annual NH Department of Revenue ration. For Tax Year 2022 it is 59.4%. NHDoT Land Disposal is looking to sell .7 acres located on Stillings Rd to the abutter. The BoS are not interested in purchasing the property.

#### **Department Reports:**

Police Chief Duchesne will present statistics at the next meeting.

## **Administrator Comments and Selectmen's Reports:**

### Town Administrator Comments:

Administrator Fraizer is having difficulty getting the compactors at the transfer station serviced by Waste Management. She will follow up with an email to the Town's sales representative. The Transfer Station Supervisor is also researching vendors.

Administrator Fraizer is working with Sergeant Eldridge on the computers belonging to the Effingham Police Department. They will bring them up to CJIS compliance.

The Transfer Station Report has to be typed and submitted before the end of the month.

Administrator Fraizer will be out of the office from March 22<sup>nd</sup> until Thursday March 30, 2023. There will be coverage by the Administrative Assistants.

### Selectman Fuller:

Selectman Fuller requested to make an amendment for the non-profit groups desiring to place an announcement board at the Transfer Station. Participating groups should be in good standing with the Attorney General's office of Charitable Trusts before acceptance of use. Chairman Espie and Selectman Kirkwood agreed.

Selectman Fuller is working on four to five grant applications totaling approximately \$450K.

Selectman Fuller will get the wording for a letter to Broadband Communication to advise he has passed the article to participate. Two Effingham representatives will need to be appointed to the committee. Selectman Fuller is willing to fill one of the seats. Also, the Town will have to sign a District agreement which Selectman Fuller will verify the language of.

Selectman Fuller received a quote for repair of the cupola at the Historic Town Hall; the bids were more than \$50K. It may not be accomplished this year. It is an issue, because there are several leaks. Options to "patch" are being investigated.

Selectman Fuller attended the Fire Department Pancake Breakfast, it was a great success.

### Chairman Espie:

Talked to Ron of Evan's Brothers, they submitted an estimate for the cleanup of the March 14<sup>th</sup> storm.

Evan's Brothers is out grading and patching. They have graded Huntress Bridge Road and will continue to apply cold patching and grade where the roads are conducive to it. Some are too wet and muddy for grading.

Selectman Kirkwood questioned if use of legal counsel, still, needs previous BoS approval before contacting. Chairman Espie verified it is required.

### Announcements:

Elections are on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 from 11:00AM until 7:00PM. There will be a food drive held during the elections.

### Public Comment:

Rosemarie Wissenbach inquired about Route 153. She want to know how the Town gets the State to repair it. Chairman Espie replied that they do it routinely every ten years.

Linda Edwards asked about the K9 program and where the previous dog is. Chairman Espie explained that Sean Welch had met his commitment and K9 Faro stayed with Mr. Welch. Sergeant Eldridge is raising donations to procure a new K9 which he will train with.

Mrs. Edwards asked about continuing the work on Bailey Road bridge and the porta-potty. Chairman Espie replied that he will work with the contractor to have the porta-potty, if replaced, put in a better location.

Mrs. Edwards inquired about the overspending of the Legal Budget. Chairman Espie explained that the BoS informed departments to come to the Board for prior approval before contacting counsel. There is nothing that can be done for cases that are already involved in the legal system.

John Meisner doesn't like the idea that the Town exceeds the legal budget and feels there should be a cap placed. Chairman Espie explained the Board tries to manage with a cap, but if there is a case in process there isn't always control.

Chris Seamans asked about the Town meeting date being changed. A resident would not be able to register to vote at the Town Meeting therefore they wouldn't have been able to participate in the Town Meeting. It was the consensus of the discussion that the State would have to re-address the process.

Lawrence Edwards asked about the sediment control on Bailey Road Bridge. The silt fencing should remain in place until vegetation is established. The Town will reach out to HEB, our engineering firm.

Selectman Kirkwood made a motion to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0).

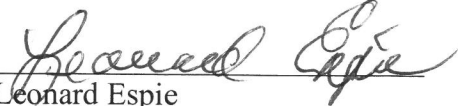
Chairman Espie made a motion to reconvene at 5:31 p.m. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0)

Chairman Espie made a motion to approve a corrected manifest dated March 23, 2023, in the amount of \$148,242.49 in place of the previously approved manifest of \$146,270.81 dated March 23, 2023. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0).

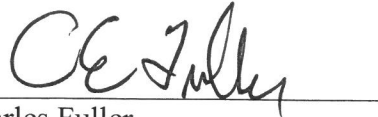
Chairman Espie made a motion to adjourn at 5:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Selectman Fuller. The motion passed (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Audrey Fraizer

  
Leonard Espie

Dated: April 4, 2023

  
Charles Fuller

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Victoria Kirkwood