

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
February 22, 2021**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Adam Munguia; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau and Joe Trombley; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard. Selectman Bob Jordan arrived late.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Adam Munguia called the public meeting to order at 6:30 PM via ZOOM.

ENTER IN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A II. (e) litigation

Motion by Selectman Belanger to enter in to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried -0.

NON-PUBLIC

Motion by Selectman Belanger to seal the non-public meeting minutes in accordance of 91:A from February 22, 2021. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from the February 8, 2021 Selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2021 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

PAYROLL MANIFEST

Payroll manifest for the pay period ending February 18, 2021 in the amount of \$139,484.49 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the payroll manifest for the pay period ending February 18, 2021 in the amount of \$139,484.49. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST

Accounts payable manifest for the week ending February 18, 2021 in the amount of \$968,709.78 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the accounts payable manifest for the week ending February 18, 2021 in the amount of \$968,709.78; \$272,671.75 is for the Water Treatment Plant, \$233,225.40 is for WWTF Membranes, \$259,908.31 is for Eversource Property Tax Abatement and \$202,904.32 is for the Town. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

EOC CHIEF DON DEANGELIS

Chief Don DeAngelis reported the COVID numbers from the state; 73,413 positive COVID cases, 69,319 recovered cases, 1,154 deaths, 2,940 active cases, 109 in the hospital and 5 active cases in Epping.

To schedule a vaccination, call 211. Those with medical issues, caregivers and 65 and over are level 1B and being scheduled until the end of March. The first of April is level 2A and that will be K-12 staff and teachers allowed for vaccines. The next level will be for those 45-65 years of age.

For those receiving the Pfizer vaccine (2 shots) there are not as many side effects than the Moderna vaccine (2 shots). Johnson and Johnson have a 1 shot vaccine that is 80% effective. With either shot you can still get COVID and spread the virus but it will be a milder version and hospitalization will not be needed. There are no new guidelines to report.

FIRE CHIEF LOMBARDO

Chief Lombardo has met with the School Maintenance Department to find the best place to utilize the donated generator that will create a shelter and provide emergency power.

Chief Lombardo reported the oil spill created by a valve malfunction in the boiler room has been cleaned up. There is still replacement construction ongoing. The insurance claim was denied and expenses will come out of the Safety Facility budget which will cause a deficit.

POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL WALLACE

Chief Wallace explained the State Park and Ride has been closed on the right-hand side of the parking lot. Due to the trailer trucks dumping their trash the State set up jersey barriers.

BUSINESS

POLICE

Purchase Order #312 to Lexipol for 1 enrollment to the Police Academy in the amount of \$1,600 was submitted by the Police Department for approval. Chief Wallace explained this is on line training for the police officers.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the purchase order #312 to Lexipol for 1 enrollment to the Police Academy in the amount of \$1,600. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

7:15 PUBLIC HEARING – SOLAR RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY AT NEW ENGLAND DRAGWAY

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge read the public hearing notice and reported the town's attorney has reviewed and approved the PILOT Agreement, (Payment In Lieu Of Taxes). Andrew Provencher and Dominic LeBel, representatives from Olive Wood Energy were present at the ZOOM meeting to answer any questions regarding the "renewable generation facility". Discussion and comments followed with the Selectmen. Selectman Jordan joined the meeting.

Chairman Munguia opened the Public Hearing. Resident Glen Frederick asked if the company had enough equipment for this project. Mr. LeBel answered they are in full support and ready for this project. Chief DeAngelis asked if there would be on-site storage of lithium. Mr. LeBel

said “not at this time and they would need site plans for storage if the plan changes”. As there were no further comments or questions from the public, Chairman Munguia closed the public comment portion of the meeting. Due to some unanswered questions; a rate comparison, comparison of taxes and a term limit in the contract the signing of the contract will be tabled for 2 weeks. The March 8th meeting will be the time line for approval. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:47 PM.

FIRE

Request to accept the resignation of Lt. Jonathan J. Markey as submitted from the Epping Fire Department. Mr. Markey will remain with the department as a permanent part time Lieutenant. He had taken a position as a Medic at the Exeter Hospital.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to accept the resignation of Lt. Jonathan J. Markey as submitted from the Epping Fire Department with regrets. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ABATEMENTS

Abatements to PSNH DBA Eversource due to BTLA appeals and decision: 2014 in the amount of \$50,208, 2015 in the amount of \$67,953 and 2016 in the amount of \$77,042 plus applicable interest for each year was submitted for approval. This has been reviewed by the Town Attorney for approval.

Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the abatements to PSNH DBA Eversource due to BTLA appeals and decision: 2014 in the amount of \$50,208, 2015 in the amount of \$67,953 and 2016 in the amount of \$77,042 plus applicable interest for each year. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

TRAVELING POLICY FOR COVID EMPLOYEES

No new updates.

VETERANS CREDIT

Veterans Tax Credits for James Young at map and lot 023-039-007-A was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the Veterans Credits for James Young at map and lot 023-039-007-A. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

TIMBER TAX

Timber Tax for Willard and Erica McPhee for maps and lots 014-21, 014-023-001 and 021-029 in the amount of \$563.39 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve Timber Tax for Willard and Erica McPhee for maps and lots 014-21, 014-023-001 and 021-029 in the amount of \$563.39. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

INTENT TO CUT

Intent to Cut for John, Renee and Billy Victoria on map and lot 029-046 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to approve the Intent to Cut for John, Renee and Billy Victoria on map and lot 029-046. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0. Discussion followed regarding Intent to Cut permits on water and clear cutting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge received a letter from the Town of Fremont. They would like to meet with the Epping Board of Selectmen to discuss Shirkin Road. The consensus of the Board was to meet on March 1st or March 8th an hour prior to the regular BOS meeting.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge discussed the insurance claim that was denied at the Safety Complex. He will be following this up with more communication.

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Mike Yergeau

Selectman Yergeau discussed the Water Main Extension down Martin, Fremont, Jenness, Windbrook, Rachel, Hackett, Fuller and Depot Roads along with Colt Lane. The State plans to reconstruct half of the road after they lay the water pipes. This will leave the Town of Epping with a million-dollar project to fix the other half of the roads. Selectman Yergeau has contacted the State regarding the road issue and has offered the State a different plan of action.

Selectman Joe Trombley

No Report except he wants to look into the Intent to Cut procedure.

Selectman Cody Belanger

Selectman Cody Belanger thanked the Selectman Yergeau for the information on the Water Main Extension project.

Selectman Cody Belanger announced Town voting on March 9th at the Middle School Gym, 8AM – 7 PM.

Selectman Bob Jordan

Selectman Jordan thanked JJ (Lt. Jonathan J. Markey) for his years of Full Time Service with the Epping Fire Department. He is grateful JJ is willing to work part-time. Mr. Markey will surely be missed.

Selectman Jordan heard Mr. Pelletier is home from rehab and doing better.

Selectman Adam Munguia

Chairman Munguia wished Cody Belanger tremendous success in Concord as March 8th is his last meeting with the Board of Selectmen.

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Belanger to adjourn after 30 seconds. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan, Mike Yergeau and

Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Joe Trombley voting nay.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Adam Munguia, Chairman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Cody Belanger, Selectman

Joe Trombley, Selectman

Dated: March 8, 2021