

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
March 8, 2021**



**MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM**

**ATTENDANCE VIA ZOOM**

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

**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. (b) hire (e) litigation**

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to enter in to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 5-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Selectman Belanger to exit the Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the February 22 and March 1, 2021 Selectmen's meeting was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Yergeau to approve the minutes from the February 22 and March 1, 2021 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

**PAYROLL MANIFEST**

Payroll manifest for the pay period ending March 4, 2021 in the amount of \$144,170.35 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the payroll manifest for the pay period ending March 4, 2021 in the amount of \$144,170.35. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST**

Accounts payable manifest for the week ending March 5, 2021 in the amount of \$1,236,974.59 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the accounts payable manifest for the week ending March 5, 2021 in the amount of \$1,236,974.59; \$1,000,000 is for the school and \$236,974.59 is for the Town. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **NON-PUBLIC**

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to seal the non-public meeting minutes in accordance of 91:A from March 8, 2021. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **FIRE CHIEF LOMBARDO**

Chief Lombardo reported there are 12 active COVID cases in Epping. The school has an increase of cases.

Chief Lombardo announced the CDC has new guideline to be reviewed regarding quarantining and gathering without masks. After the review, the Emergency Management Director will make recommendations if needed for the town buildings and staff.

Chief Lombardo stated there have been 191 incidents since January. The average is 3 calls per day and they have had a very busy season.

The Epping Fire Department answered a mutual aid call in Brentwood for a structure fire. One of the Epping Fire Fighters sustained burns on his head and hand. He was released from the hospital and reported back to the fire station.

Chief Lombardo will be meeting with Chief Wallace, Brentwood Fire and Police Departments and a representative from the State Troopers to review the NE Dragway Schedule regarding traffic scenarios.

Chief Lombardo announced the new ambulance is scheduled for delivery on April<sup>st</sup>. Depending on the quarantine restrictions he may go to the factory building the ambulance in NJ for a pre-delivery inspection.

The Epping Fire Department has advertised for a full-time paramedic/fire fighter in 3 places. One application has been received at this time.

Chief Lombardo and Deputy Rodier will be at the polls at screening the entrance. If anyone needs a mask, they will be available. Unmasked voters will be escorted into the cafeteria and the town clerk will be notified to bring the voter a ballot.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked Chief Lombardo to give an update on travel for town employees. Today the CDC announced that after 14 days from the second COVID vaccine you may travel outside the area. The new update needs to be reviewed by the Epping Emergency Management Director. Recommendations will be emailed to the Board of Selectmen.

## **POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL WALLACE**

Chief Wallace announced the radios and speakers have been installed in the police department. The new cruisers have arrived which makes a full fleet for the department including the cruiser in the budget.

## **BUSINESS**

### **DRAGWAY FUNDRAISER**

A request to use the New England Dragway for a "Car & Truck Show" as a fundraising event for a Brentwood youth who is terminally ill, "Bash for Nash" was submitted. The event will take place on March 27th from 11 AM – 4 PM. There will be a DJ but the noise will be kept low. Jim Michaud is hosting the event and explained the need for the fundraiser along with organizing raffles, trash containers, no alcohol and volunteers. Ron Heath from NE Dragway is in full support of the fundraiser. He said the raceway will be blocked off with concrete barriers.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the onetime event "Bash for Nash" fundraiser. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried**

5-0. Chief Wallace added he will speak to the Police Chief in Brentwood to discuss the event on Wednesday.

## **SOLAR RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY AT NEW ENGLAND DRAGWAY**

A PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreement between the Town of Epping and Dragway Solar, LLC was submitted for approval. There was a public hearing on February 22 but the vote was postponed for this meeting to answer more questions. Selectman Trombley thanked Mr. LeBelle and Mr. Provencher for all the information provided and answering his questions.

**Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreement between the Town of Epping and Dragway Solar, LLC. 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.** Selectman Bob Jordan could not be heard for the vote.

## **RECREATION**

Request to Hire Logan Snyder for the Recreation Department as a part-time After-School Program Jr. Staff member at \$9.00 an hour was submitted for approval. Mr. Snyder is under 18 years old and does not need a background check.

**Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the Request to Hire Logan Snyder for the Recreation Department as a part-time After-School Program Jr. Staff member at \$9.00 an hour. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.** Selectman Bob Jordan could not be heard for the vote.

Recreation Director Nicole Bizarro is going to hold a modified Easter Egg Hunt the morning of March 27, from 9 AM – 11AM. There will be a scavenger hunt through town ending at the Elementary School for a drive by to see the Easter Bunny and receive a goodie bag.

Recreation Director Nicole Bizarro updated the board about summer camp registrations. Registrations will be open tomorrow at the polls. The guidelines will be similar to last year following state guidelines and recommendations. She will meet with the Emergency Management Director before camp starts.

## TRANSFER STATION

Selectman Trombley asked to have this item on the agenda so the board doesn't lose sight of planning for changes at the Transfer Station. He believes an increase for dump stickers is needed and would like to check with DPW Director Dennis Koch and Transfer Station Supervisor David Reinhold. Selectman Yergeau believes enforcement of having dump stickers and stopping non-residents from using the Transfer Station should start before raising the price of dump stickers. Discussion continued including who would to handle the enforcement, data points, survey and new signs encouraging purchasing a "Dump Sticker". The purpose of the increase and or changes is to fund the Stump Dump closure near the future.

## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge explained the American Legion Post 51 asked if the Selectmen thought the Town of Epping should/could hold the Memorial Day Parade. Last year the parade was cancelled. A decision doesn't have to be made tonight as the legion needs a 30 day window for parade plans.

## LOAN RESOLUTION ADOPTION/GRANT APPROVAL

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge said the Board of Selectmen needs to adopt the USDA loan for the lagoon closure formally.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to adopt the USDA loan resolution for the lagoon closure in the amount of \$5,730,000. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.** Mr. Dodge stated the Water and Sewer Commission voted to have him sign the documents at their meeting this afternoon.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked the board to approve the DES grant for a fencing and security system at the Water and Sewer Plant in the amount of \$15,000.

**Motion by Selectman Bob Jordan to enter into and approve a Soft Water Protection grant agreement with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$15,000 to install fencing and a security system for the Town of Epping Water & Treatment Plant and to authorize the Town Administrator, Gregory C. Dodge to sign paperwork associated with said grant on behalf of the Town of Epping, NH. Seconded by Selectman Cody Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **TIMBER TAX**

Timber Tax Levy for Phyllis Harvey, map and lot 015-005 in the amount of \$1,074.67 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the Timber Tax Levy for Phyllis Harvey, map and lot 015-005 in the amount of \$1,074.67. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **APPOINTMENTS**

Appointments for Michael Daley Sr. as the Town Treasurer and Joe Foley as the Deputy Town Treasurer were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the appointments for Michael Daley Sr. as the Town Treasurer and Joe Foley as the Deputy Town Treasurer. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Joe Trombley, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

Appointment for Neal Folsom as Cemetery Trustee Alternate for a 1-year term was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Trombley to approve the appointment for Neal Folsom at Cemetery Trustee Alternate for a 1-year term. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **VETERAN CREDITS**

Veteran Credits for Dwight Ayles at map and lot 015-003-028, Todd Goudreau at map and lot 30-054, Joseph Leary at map and lot 023-039-004-A and Stephen Mortensen at map and lot 017-014 were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Belanger to approve the Veteran Credits for Dwight Ayles at map and lot 015-003-028, Todd Goudreau at map and lot 30-054, Joseph Leary at map and lot 023-039-004-A and Stephen Mortensen at map and lot 017-014. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **ABATEMENTS**

Three abatements for Buckingham Farms Assoc. of Homeowner c/o Martel Realty tax years 2017-2020 in the amounts of \$5,241.00, \$1,355.48 and \$69.73 were submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Yergeau to deny the three abatements for Buckingham Farms Assoc. of Homeowner c/o Martel Realty tax years 2017-2020 in the amounts of \$5,241.00, \$1,355.48 and \$69.73 pending further information. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Mike Yergeau, Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

### **Town Administrator**

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge announced Election Day is tomorrow at 8 AM - 7 PM. He needed to know which Selectmen would be at the polls.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked how the board felt about the Knights of Columbus holding the fishing derby this spring. Last year it as cancelled due to COVID. As the derby is an outside event the consensus of the board was the fishing derby could be held.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge inquired about the Shirkin Road Committee. Mr. Dodge has a list of interested people that would like to serve on the committee. Discussion on how many should be on the Committee continued.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge thanked Selectman Cody Belanger for 3 years of service on the Board of Selectmen. He wished him well as a State Representative.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge acknowledged Chairman Munguia and thanked him for his leadership during this trying year. There were many more meetings and issues than in previous years. Thank you for serving on the Board of Selectmen.

## **INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

### **Selectman Joe Trombley**

Selectman Trombley recognized the town hall employees for handling their recent test from a non-resident visit, it went well. The visit was challenging and the staff stayed professional

during this interaction. The policies that are in place are there for the safety of all and should be followed.

Selectman Trombley thanked Selectman Belanger and Chairman Munguia for their service and the level of effort they provided. This board is dedicated to this town showing integrity even though they don't always agree with each other.

### **Selectman Mike Yergeau**

Selectman Yergeau thanked Selectman Belanger and Chairman Munguia for their service to the town.

### **Selectman Cody Belanger**

Selectman Belanger expressed his thanks to the board but he is not going away. It was an honor to serve on the Board of Selectmen. It was a rewarding experience and important to his growth as a person. Selectman Belanger thanked Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge and the town hall staff along with the people in town.

### **Selectman Bob Jordan**

Selectman Jordan reported on the firefighter Cam Beauchesne that was injured at the Brentwood Fire. Cam's hand was significantly burned with 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns. He is doing well and Mr. Jordan wished him the best.

Selectman Jordan thanked Selectman Belanger for his service to the town. He looks forward to more of his service as a State Representative.

Selectman Jordan thanked Chairman Munguia for stepping up and taking the Chairman's position. Mr. Munguia contributed a great amount of dedication, time and work during this difficult year. Mr. Jordan hopes the voters understand his commitment to Epping tomorrow.

### **Selectman Adam Munguia**

Chairman Munguia spoke of the extraordinary year COVID brought to the town, it changed everything. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the town as it has been to serve with the present board. He thanked the Board for their leadership along with the Police and Fire Departments.

Chairman Munguia wished Cam Beauchesne the best.



Chairman Munguia looks forward to hearing from the Fremont Board of Selectmen. That will continue to be a lengthy negotiation.

Chairman Munguia hopes everyone goes to the Dragway on March 27 to help "Team Nash". It will be such a positive event.

Chairman Munguia thanked Selectman Belanger for his service. Best of luck to John Cody and Steve Thomas and wished everyone good luck who is running tomorrow.

The next meeting with the Fremont Board of Selectmen is March 29, 2021.

**ADJOURN**

**Motion by Selectman Belanger to adjourn after 30 seconds. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Roll Call Vote; Selectmen Cody Belanger, Joe Trombley, Mike Yergeau, Bob Jordan and Chairman Adam Munguia all voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Joyce Blanchard  
Executive Secretary**

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**Adam Munguia, Chairman**

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**Bob Jordan, Selectman**

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**Mike Yergeau, Selectman**

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**Cody Belanger, Selectman**

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**Joe Trombley, Selectman  
Dated: March 22, 2021**