

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
December 7, 2020**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Adam Munguia; Selectman Bob Jordan, Mike Yergeau and Joe Trombley; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard; Selectman Cody Belanger joined the meeting via ZOOM.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Adam Munguia called the public meeting to order at 6:30 PM at the Epping Town Hall.

ENTER IN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A II. (a) personnel

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

PUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Adam Munguia called the public session to reconvene at 7:10 pm at the Epping Town Hall.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

NON PUBLIC MINUTES

Motion by Selectman Jordan to seal the non-public meeting minutes in accordance of 91:A from December 7, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from the November 30, 2020 Selectmen's meeting were submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2020 Selectmen's meeting. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0-1. Selectman Belanger abstained.

EOC DIRECTOR DON DEANGELIS

ECO Director Don DeAngelis has been working with an organization in town with reopening and guidelines to follow when they do reopen.

COVID-19 numbers increased by 1,800 just over this weekend. There are 1,159 new positive cases and 33 are in town, although he thinks there are more not reported. On Channel 9, Dr. Chan said to "prepare for some dark months". Mr. DeAngelis stressed the importance of consistently wearing masks.

FIRE CHIEF JOE LOMBARDO

Chief Lombardo reported there have been 1,196 incidents, which is 106 more than last year at this time.

Chief Lombardo announced the Fireman Association had a very successful toy drive at Wal-Mart. Toys will be distributed December 19th to brighten children's Christmas. There is a giving tree set up outside the town clerk's office with wish list's written on ornaments if you would like to help local families. The deadline for those gifts is December 14th so there is still time.

Selectman Jordan reported on a recent structure fire. He was impressed with how fast the response was and luckily no injuries.

POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL WALLACE

Police Chief reported he had 2 employees that tested positive for COVID and they are in quarantine. He informed the board that 4 other employees were sent home with negative tests and are in quarantine. They will be back to work on Thursday. Other staff members have filled their rolls and services have not been affected.

BUSINESS

INTENT TO CUT

Intent to Cut for Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire off of Jacobs Well Road, map and lot 025-003-001 was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Intent to Cut for Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire off of Jacobs Well Road, map and lot 025-003-001. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0. Selectman Belanger's vote could not be heard on ZOOM.

STAR RACEWAY SCHEDULE

The Star Speedway 2021 Race Track schedule was submitted for approval.

Motion by Selectman Jordan to approve the Star Speedway 2021 Race Track schedule contingent on complying and adhering to health orders from the NH guidelines. Seconded by Selectman Yergeau. Motion carried 5-0.

2021 BUDGET DISCUSSION

A lengthy detailed discussion regarding the 2021 Default Budget and Town Budget ensued, with the following motions made.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to remove \$37,000 from the Transfer Station Budget for the compacter. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0. Selectman Belanger's vote could not be heard on ZOOM.

Motion by Chairman Munguia to remove the full-time position in the Tax and Clerk office from the 2021 budget. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0. Selectman Belanger's vote could not be heard on ZOOM.

Motion by Selectman Yergeau to remove the Selectmen's salary stipend from the 2021 budget. Seconded by Chairman Munguia. Motion carried 3-2. Selectmen Trombley and Jordan voting nay.

Motion by Selectman Belanger recommending the Road Reconstruction be increased to \$500,000.00. Seconded by Chairman Munguia. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Trombley recommending the Property Valuation be increased to \$48,510.00. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator

No Report

INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Mike Yergeau

No Report

Selectman Joe Trombley

Selectman Trombley asked if a decision was made about holding ZOOM meetings? He stated if we can avoid closing the town hall by having ZOOM meeting he thinks we should.

Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge asked for clarification regarding paying employees that are quarantining from exposure to COVID outside of work. Discussion continued.

Motion by Selectman Trombley to pay employees during quarantine provided the employee can prove it is a job-related exposure. Seconded by Chairman Munguia. Motion carried 5-0.

Selectman Trombley added any scheduled meetings can be held in person as meetings are transitioned back into ZOOM.

Selectman Bob Jordan

No Report

Selectman Adam Munguia

Chairman Munguia asked the public for patience during the budget season. Sometimes self-government isn't pretty but we are making the best of it.

Selectman Cody Belanger

No Report

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Jordan to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Belanger. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary

Adam Munguia, Chairman

Bob Jordan, Selectman

Mike Yergeau, Selectman

Cody Belanger, Selectman

Joe Trombley, Selectman

Dated: December 14, 2020