

# Town of Eddington

906 Main Road Eddington, Maine 04428

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY  
May 31st, 2016  
6:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE:** Joan Brooks called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** All Selectmen present.

**MINUTES:** Meeting of April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Motion to approve as written.

**P. Lyford / M. Shepherd      Vote 5-0.**

**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:**

**Fire:** Chief Ellis submitted reports for April. Ellis reminded us that the spring season brings grass fires, referring to a recent incident at the elementary school involving a small fire, started by a juvenile. The Maine Forest Service is handling the incident. Chief Ellis was happy to report that the lead engine is back from N. Attleboro MA, where it was being repaired. This gives the department full strength with all trucks being available and ready to go.

**Police:** Deputy Chris Watson gave his report for the month of April– Watson said he has been keeping up with his one car per hour goal. Other than being called to one accident, and a late burglary reported, there were no big incidents. Watson said he continues to run traffic details, on heavily traveled areas such as Route 9 and Routes 46 and 178.

**ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT:** Report copies were given to board members for the month of April.

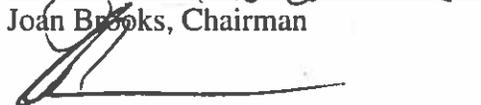
**SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:** Rusty Gagnon's monthly report included statistical information as well as figures for the upcoming budget year. (Report attached)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The Clifton Fire Contract will be revisited in September.

**A motion was made by P. Lyford, seconded by M. Carreira, to extend the current contract, with an increase of \$1000.00.**

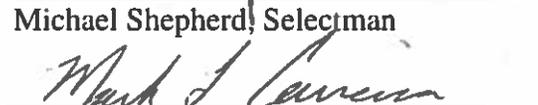
**Vote 3-2 ( Baker and Shepherd opposed)**

  
Joan Brooks, Chairman

  
Charles Baker, Jr., Selectman

  
Peter Lyford, Selectman

  
Michael Shepherd, Selectman

  
Mark Carreira, Selectman

**NEW BUSINESS:** MRC Presentation - by Cathy Conlow, Bangor's City Manager and board member on the MRC Committee. The current 30yr. contract with PERC, ends in December 2018, deeming the Orrington PERC Plant unsustainable, past 2018. Conlow pointed out several reasons why she feels that Fiberight is the best option, being economically viable, environmentally sustainable and scalable to our region. The MRC represents 187 municipalities, 79 of them have chosen the Fiberight option vs. the PERC Plan. Municipalities have until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, to decide whether or not they will commit to the MRC/Fiberight Plan. Ben Breadmore, Town Manager of Holden, attended the meeting, in full support of the MRC / Fiberight option. (Refer to the handout, from C. Conlow, for more detailed facts & figures.) *This will be an Article, to be voted on, in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, recommended by Selectmen 4-1. ( Baker opposed)*

Veterans Memorial Committee – Selectmen M. Shepherd said he wished the Baillargeon family was present for this discussion, that they have been the ones who have voluntarily taken care of the monument, understanding protocol with the flags, etc. Shepherd would like to see each volunteer take a month and be responsible for flag lowering, or whatever else needs to be attended to during that month. He figures once the committee forms, meetings would include discussions on the maintenance and flag detail schedule, the memorial brick garden. It was estimated that they could meet 2 -3 times a year after the initial meeting, to discuss ceremonies or future plans.

Planning Board Alternate Resignation – A motion was made by C. Baker, Jr, and seconded by M. Shepherd, to accept the resignation of David Johnson, as an alternate member, with regret. **Vote 5-0.**

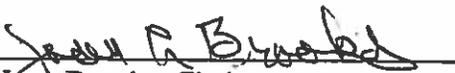
Road Name Change – Eddy Heights to Country Pine's Way (the complex was recently purchased and renamed as Country Pines) A motion was made by C. Baker, Jr., seconded by P. Lyford, to approve the road name change. **Vote 5-0.**

Emera vs. Eddington – State property tax board. Russell explained that the \$80,000 tax abatement, which was previously denied to Emera Maine, was taken to the Property Tax Board and they ruled in Emera's favor. Russell said the town's attorney will appeal the decision.

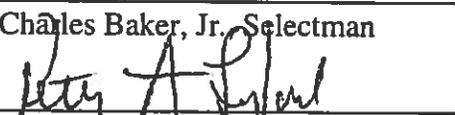
Countersign School Referendum Warrant – A motion was made by M. Shepherd, seconded by M. Carreira to sign the warrant. **Vote 5-0.** \* Referendum Vote, held on 06/14/16.

Sign Warrant for Municipal Election - A motion was made by P. Lyford, seconded by M. Shepherd and passed to sign warrant. **Vote 5-0.**

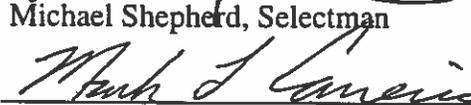
Sign Results of the December 15, 2015 Special Town Meeting - A motion was made by P. Lyford, seconded by M. Shepherd and passed to sign Special Town Meeting warrant. **Vote 5-0.**

  
Joan Brooks, Chairman

  
Charles Baker, Jr. Selectman

  
Peter Lyford, Selectman

  
Michael Shepherd, Selectman

  
Mark Carreira, Selectman

Budget Request from Historical Society – The historical society submitted a letter of request for \$5000.00 (for a total of \$6000.00 in the Budget line, as they already receive \$1000.00). Margaret Dougherty spoke on behalf of the society, which started in 1973 and has no space for items donated, only a small space at the municipal office for documents. The society has held many events and fundraisers and has about \$15,000.00 to date, in a reserve account. They would like to purchase a small building, or a piece of land to erect a building on, something they can call their own and have everything together under one roof. A motion was made by P. Lyford, seconded by M. Carreira, to double the current amount they receive, for a total of \$2000.00, motion dies. (to be reviewed at next meeting, 06/07/2016)

2015-2016 Budget – Russell said the budget is not been finalized yet, noting a few areas of increase such as health insurance and the sheriff's contract. He hopes to have all figures available and balances in reserve accounts by the next meeting, which is set for Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Town Meeting Date Change – The original date of the meeting was for June 15<sup>th</sup>. The new date is set for Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Elected Officials Workshop, Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, Black Bear Inn, Orono.  
RSU #63 Annual Budget Meeting, Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.  
Candidates Night, Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. (meeting reminders are info only, no action needed.)

**WARRANTS:** A motion was made, seconded and passed to sign warrants.

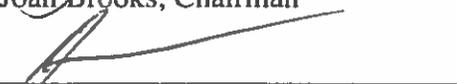
**M. Carreira / M. Shepherd    Vote 5-0.**

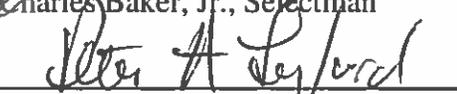
**PUBLIC ACCESS** – Rusty Gagnon suggested checking with the superintendent of the school before confirming it as the place for the Annual Town Meeting, due to the fact that school will be out for summer and they use the gym for storage.

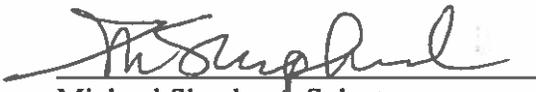
Residents, Rusty Gagnon and Hilma Adams, both asked if the Candidates night event could be put on the sign out front. Russell informed them he already planned on it.

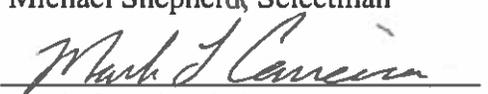
Resident Theresa Woznik asked if the \$5000.00 request from the Historical Society had anything to do with the windows fundraising for Comins Hall. Susan Shane explained that the windows fundraiser was being done by Comins Hall, and that they are two separate entities. Susan then thanked the board and townspeople for the yearly donations, also mentioning that Comins Hall was an all-volunteer organization and they run on a very tight budget.

  
Joan Brooks, Chairman

  
Charles Baker, Jr., Selectman

  
Peter Lyford, Selectman

  
Michael Shepherd, Selectman

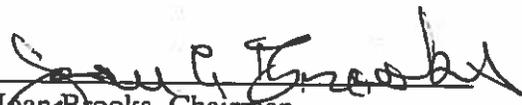
  
Mark Carreira, Selectman

Resident, Brad Goodwin, first said that it pains him to be critical of the board and/or the town manager, because he does appreciate the efforts of all municipal boards. However, he expressed disappointment due to the fact that there has not been any budget hearings as of this date, with Town Meeting in two weeks. He is concerned with the whole budget process itself, pointing out that he had looked through previous year's minutes for budget meeting notes, and how one meeting he attended last year only lasted 13 minutes in which there was very little, if any, discussion on budget figures. Joan Brooks said some of the figures can't be negotiated or discussed, it is basically an invoice, so we just have to pay it. Goodwin said he understood that, yet there were things that the board did have control over and those things can't, or shouldn't be, decided in 13 minutes.

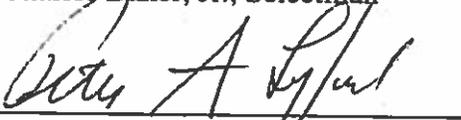
Selectmen M. Shepherd addressed Mr. Goodwin, saying there has been meetings and discussions on the budget and that he feels the minutes are sometimes too generalized and vague, perhaps not reflecting the budget discussions.

Brad Goodwin referred to the way the school does a budget, noting that they start much sooner than two weeks before it is to be presented to the taxpayers. Rusty Gagnon said that the school's budget and finance committee meets monthly. They start building a budget in January and start having informational meetings in May.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.      C. Baker, Jr. / P. Lyford      Vote 5 -0.

  
Joan Brooks, Chairman

Charles Baker, Jr., Selectman

  
Peter Lyford, Selectman

  
Michael Shepherd, Selectman

  
Mark Carreira, Selectman