

Town of Eden  
71 Old Schoolhouse Rd  
Eden Mills, VT 05653

Minutes of Emergency Selectboard Meeting  
May 19, 2021

The Eden Selectboard held an emergency meeting on May 19, 2021 at the Eden Town Office at 5:00PM. Present at the meeting were: Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Virginia Parker (by phone), Candace Vear, Freeda Powers.

Ricky opened the meeting at 5:04PM. The Board called this emergency meeting under 1 V.S.A. § 312(c)(3). The purpose of this meeting was to clarify what the Boards obligation is under Open Meeting Law as it pertains to public access to municipal meetings and to come to a consensus on the platform the Town wishes to use in order to meet the requirements and intent of the law.

The Board recognizes its' obligations under Vermont's Open Meeting Law, 1 V.S.A. § 312(a). Specifically, they discussed their responsibilities as they pertain to Allowing public comment at meetings, 1 V.S.A. § 312(h) and Accommodating board members who attend electronically, 1 V.S.A. § 312(a)(2).

The Board discussed some of the methods of technology that can be used for remote meetings. The law does not specify methods for electronic participation, except to say that it can be through electronic or other means, and by telephone whenever feasible. The Board agreed that while the current Eden approach of using the telephone does meet the legal obligation, they could do more to ensure members of the public have options for public access and to allow Board members to participate remotely if needed. The Board agreed to have Freeda establish a Town Zoom account and to allow audio only at this time in that format. Information to join the upcoming Selectboard meetings via Zoom will be added to the warned agendas. Clayton made a motion to approve Zoom audio access to Selectboard meetings going forward. Virginia seconded. The Board voted 3-0.

The Board discussed the upcoming meeting, May 27<sup>th</sup>, regarding ongoing concerns on Camp Road. It was agreed that Ricky would attend on behalf of the Selectboard, so long as no decisions are made at that meeting. Anticipated to be present are: Town Attorney James Barlow, Lamoille County States Attorney Todd Shove, VSP Lieutenant Bob Lucas.

Clayton made a motion to adjourn. Ricky seconded the motion. The emergency meeting adjourned at 6:25PM.

Minutes Approved as written on 5/25/2021 by: Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore.

Freeda Powers  
Town Administrative Assistant