

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

October 26, 2021 Selectboard Meeting

The Eden Selectboard met at the Town Office on October 26, 2021. Present: Clayton Whittemore, Jubal Durivage, Candace Vear, Freeda Powers. Ricky Morin arrived at 6:25pm.

1. Open Meeting: Clayton opened the meeting at 6:00pm.
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda: None.
3. Citizens Input: The Board received a written letter of interest from a resident who wishes to join the Eden Planning Commission. The Board requested to have her join them at their next meeting for a brief introduction prior to making an appointment to the position.
4. Sign orders: Five (5) orders were reviewed and signed.
5. Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of 10/12, a regular meeting, and 10/19 the fall walk through at LERA. Ricky made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/12/21 and 10/19/21 as written. Jubal seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.
6. Gihon Trak Packers: The Board reviewed the land use request from the snowmobile club and requested to have two clarifications made prior to agreeing to sign. The document currently has the name of the Town Clerk as the land owner; this should be removed. The Board understands the request to be for use of roads reaching from South Pond Road to the area by the dog sledding place off Square Road and want to be sure that is the case.
7. BCBS Health Plan (ct'd): The Board continued their review of Blue Cross Blue Shield health plan rates by comparing current rates to the coming year. Rates have gone down slightly. Clayton made a motion to move forward with the current BCBS Platinum Plan in 2022. Jubal seconded the motion. The Board voted 2-0; Ricky abstained from this vote.
8. LERA: The Board briefly reviewed the draft contracts for the Beach Manager and the Managers' Assistants for the coming year. Before signing, they requested to have the financials from LERA for the 2021 season to review at their next meeting.

9. Grants Update:

a.) The board authorized a letter of support for the upcoming application of the LCBP Greeter Program at Lake Eden for next summer.

b.) Better Back Roads: Work and submissions are complete for this years' Better Back Roads grant. Stone lined ditch work was completed on Square Road by the Eden road crew; we await final reimbursement of \$19,100.00.

c.) Structures Grant: The Board received and reviewed updated documents and plans for the 4-sided concrete box culvert on Boy Scout Camp Road. This project will require three permits; all of which were provided for the Board to review and sign. Freeda will scan these signed permits back to Tyler Billingsley of East Engineering for submission to the State. We plan to secure grant funds for construction.

d.) FEMA: The Board received and reviewed the 30% cost estimate for a bridge replacement on Paronto Road as part of ongoing FEMA related storm damage repairs. The Board requested bids go out in the spring for more true and fair prices. Freeda will relay this request to Gabe Bolin of Stone Environmental, Inc.

10. Winter Parking Ban: The Board reviewed the current winter parking ban and took into consideration input from the Town Attorney regarding the option to create a town ordinance to address winter road obstructions. The Board felt that the current winter parking ban is adequate and agreed to add citations for the Vermont State Statutes which apply; 23 V.S.A. 1102 & 23 V.S.A. 1126a, which prohibit snow deposits on roadways and permit the Town to contact VT State Police for towing of vehicles left in the roadway.

Freeda will add the state statute citations and the annual winter parking ban will go into effect November 1<sup>st</sup>.

11. Road Commissioner's Report:

a.) Town Office Plowing: The Board discussed plans for plowing of the town office parking lot. Ricky has agreed to take on this task again this year, asking that staff be responsible for clearing of the front steps and back door. All agreed.

b.) Winter ROW letters: The annual winter right-of-way letters will be going out this week to land owners who have property near the town road right of way, asking them to clear their items in advance of snow plowing.

c.) Speed limit sign replacement: The Board viewed photo evidence of a badly faded speed limit sign on East Hill Road, provided by Freeda. The highway department has a replacement sign.

d.) Solar Radar Feedback Sign: In looking to address local concerns around speeding, the Board agreed to review cost estimates for solar powered radar feedback signs, which alert drivers if they are exceeding the posted speed limit. Costs range from a few thousand and up, which the Board agreed is prohibitive. Furthermore, they discussed the reality of possible vandalism or theft and the inevitable driver acclimatization to the device.

e.) Driveway permit extension request: The Board received a written request for a driveway permit extension for property located on North Road. The Board had no objection to this request. Jubal made a motion to approve a 1 year extension to the

driveway permit for Mr. Jones on North Road. Ricky seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

f.) Excess Weight Permit: Ricky made the motion to approve to town specifications, an excess weight permit for Field & Sons Transportation, Inc. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

g.) Cargill pricing: The Board received the annual deicing salt pricing from Cargill Co. Ricky noted that the cost has not increased much.

h.) Other activities of the Highway Dept.: Ricky reports that all sand is put up for the year. They are working hard to complete MRPG grant funded work on South Pond Road before the deadline at the end of the month. He said Pike paving is still running behind schedule and has yet to finish work on Knowles Flat Road. This work may need to be completed in the spring as cold weather approaches but Ricky noted we are under contract for this work and therefore rates are secured.

12. Ratify Additions and Deletions of 10/12/21:

a.) Under #14: Board of Abatement meeting 10/27/21

Ricky made a motion to approve the additions and deletions from 10/12/21, as listed above, #12a. Jubal seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

13. Other Business:

a.) VT Dept. of Health is requesting residents complete a survey regarding alcohol, tobacco and marijuana use and policies. The survey is open until November 10<sup>th</sup>.

b.) Lamoille County meeting with Sheriff Marcoux: The Board received notice of a county round table discussion about community policing needs. The meeting takes place via Zoom on 10/28/21. Ricky said he will participate.

14. FYI: Candace told the Board of upcoming changes to NEMRC, the computer system used for multiple tasks in municipal work.

15. Adjourn: Ricky made a motion to adjourn. Clayton seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Minutes Approved on 11/9/21 by Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Jubal Durivage. Freeda Powers, Town Administrative Assistant