

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

March 22, 2022 Selectboard Meeting

The Eden Selectboard met at the Town Office on March 22, 2022. Present: Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Tim Bullard, Candace Vear, Freeda Powers. Also present: Gabe Bolin (Stone Environmental), and Town Auditors Tracey Morin & Leslie White.

1. Open Meeting: Ricky opened the meeting at 6:02pm.
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda:
Under #12a:
 - xi. Fred Vance/Fred Vance Trucking, LLC.
 - xii. Ernest P. Krusch
 - xiii. Suburban Propane
 - xiv. S.D. Ireland
 - xv. Dale E. Percy, Inc.
 - xvi. Camp Precast Concrete Products, Inc.
3. Citizens Input: Tim relayed a residents inquiry, asking if the Town can use any Rainy Day funds for the purchase of the new fire truck for the Eden/North Hyde Park fire department, which was voted on at Town Meeting Day. The Board said no, the vote which was approved was to take out a loan for the purchase.
Leslie talked about the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, saying the Board should consider both options of a single larger project and also of a list of several smaller projects that the funds can be used towards. All recognized that the current economy and costs of supplies and materials means that the funds will not go very far in construction terms. There was some discussion on the costs associated with keeping the Town Office in its' current building with retrofits, upgrades and improvements as funding allows vs. a new location and building. Clayton and Tim agreed to work with Leslie in coming up with a design and estimate for possible building replacement.
4. Sign orders: Five (5) orders were reviewed and signed.
5. Liquor License for Eden Mini Mart: The Board reviewed the Liquor License Application from the Eden Mini Mart. Clayton made the motion to sign the liquor license for Eden Mini Mart. Tim seconded the motion. So voted; approved and signed.

6. FEMA: The Board welcomed Gabe Bolin from Stone Environmental to the meeting to review draft plans for the Paronto Road culvert and Blakeville Road Bridge replacement structures. Gabe also provided the Board with the 90% cost estimates for the Blakeville Road bridge replacement. Addressing the Board's concerns regarding adequate clearance, Gabe provided a clearance summary for the Blakeville Road bridge replacement structure. The numbers bear out an increase from existing clearance and improved flow allowance in all storm modeling applied. The Board inquired on the expected timeline for the project to move forward. Gabe indicated that the RFP can be ready soon and provided to the Selectboard for review prior to their next meeting of April 12th. He predicts the Request for Proposals (RFP) can go out to bid around mid-April. He said he would provide the Board with the CSI quote shortly and asked if they had contractors they would like contacted in particular. The Board gave the ok to allow Stone Environmental to share the engineers' estimates with contractors to ensure more comparable bids come in. The Board provided Gabe a list of preferred contractors they would like to have contacted for this RFP: N.A. Manosh, Blow & Cote, G.W. Tatro and St. Onge. Gabe said they will also post the RFP on the VT Business Registry & Bid System, operated by VT DEC. The Board thanked Gabe for his time and await the clearance summary for the Paronto Road structure, the CSI quote and the RFP for the Blakeville Road structure.

7. Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of 3/8/22. Ricky made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2/8/22 meeting as written. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

8. Personnel Policy (ct'd): The Board agreed to table this discussion to a special, warned meeting, April 12th at 5:00pm with the regular meeting to follow at 6:00.

9. Sick Time (ct'd): The Board resumed its' discussion regarding employee sick time. Tim made a motion that, in consideration of input from the town attorney, Town records, and the current HR policy guidelines, unused accrued sick time pay is not payable on an employee's voluntary separation from employment. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 2-0 with Ricky abstaining from the vote as a Town Employee.

10. Eden Planning Commission: In light of the need to update the Eden Town Plan prior to December 26, 2025, the Board has requested a status update on the current standing of the EPC. Freeda will reach out to a member of the Commission for a status update.

11. Beach Update:

a.) Spring Lottery: The Board agreed to April 12th at 6:00pm for the Spring Lottery for remaining seasonal campsites at LERA. There are three sites remaining: #5, #12, #14.

b.) The Beach Manager's Assistants have rescinded their resignation. We look forward to them working with Craig Rounds to manage LERA for a second year.

12. Road Commissioner's Report:

a.) Excess Weight Permits: Ricky made a motion to accept to town specifications, excess weight permits for the following: Working Dog Septic Service, Inc., Desrochers Excavating, Inc., Black Ox Trucking, Pike Industries, Inc., Blow & Cote, Inc., Grimes, Inc., Cota Trucking Co., Harrison Concrete Construction, Inc., Structural Wood Corp., Curtis Lumber Company, Inc., Fred Vance/Fred Vance Trucking, LLC., Ernest P. Krusch, Suburban Propane, S.D. Ireland, Dale E. Percy, Inc., Camp Precast Concrete Products, Inc. Tim seconded the motion. Approved and signed.

b.) Highway Dept. Update: The Highway Crew has been working hard and very long hours trying to manage this historic mud season. Crooks Road is closed from Baker Road to Della-Corte Drive to all vehicle traffic at this time due to muddy conditions. All other roads in the Town of Eden are POSTED for spring conditions. The Highway Department asks that large trucks not use East Hill Road as a thru road until conditions improve.

13. Ratify Additions and Deletions of 3/08/22:

a.) Under Dog Officer:

i. Response to loose dogs on Ash Lane

ii. Stray cat brought to Lamoille Valley Veterinary Service 3/5/22

b.) Under 8b: NA Manosh Inc. and Cardinal Logistics Management Corp.

c.) Under 12: LERA Managers Assistants notice of resignation.

Tim made the motion to ratify the additions and deletions from the 3/08/22 meeting as listed in #13 (a-c). Ricky seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

14. Grants update:

a.) We will be submitting two separate Class II grant applications for work on North Road.

b.) After further reading and inquiries, we found that Truck #1 did not meet the requirements for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant opportunity noted at the previous meeting. We will keep this new grant opportunity in mind for future replacement of aging highway equipment.

15. G1 Holdings: The Board reviewed the beginning draft list of potential projects related to the Eden Road Erosion Inventory (REI) report as directed by the Trustees. This draft list will be added to until we reach at least the full remaining fund amount. This list will then be submitted to the Trustees for consideration. Projects on this proposal should relate to the REI and will also act to meet MRGP compliance on hydrologically connected road segments which is a mandate by the State of Vermont. In this way, the Town can leverage the remaining G1 funds to accelerate their compliance with the MRGP mandate.

16. Other Business: The Board requested that Freeda contact Eden School Board Members Jeff Hunsberger and David Whitcomb to further discussion around the Town use of the school as an emergency shelter.

17. FYI: None.

18. Adjourn: Tim made a motion to adjourn. Ricky seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.

Minutes Approved as written on 4/12/22 by Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Tim Bullard.

Freeda Powers, Town Administrative Assistant