

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

July 26, 2022 Selectboard Meeting

The Eden Selectboard met at the Town Office on July 26, 2022. Present: Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Tim Bullard, Candace Vear, Beth Spaulding, Freeda Powers. Also present: Art Curcillo, Mr. & Mrs. St. Pierre, Chris Donahue and Mr. & Mrs. Smith.

1. Open Meeting: Ricky opened the meeting at 6:02pm.
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda:  
Under #7) THO's June Report  
Under #18) Act250 Permit amendment 5L1058-1
3. Citizens Input:
  - a.) Art Curcillo came before the Board with the results he got from reaching out to Representative Mark Higley; per his recommendation, the Board authorized Freeda to send out a letter expressing the Town's concerns regarding vehicle travel on Rte. 100 by the Fishing Access/Boat launch. Freeda reached out to the VSP per the Board's recommendation at the last meeting in regards to this concern as well. VSP response was that they will alert patrolling officers to the area and increase presence as they are able. Clayton recommended that Art reach out to the state to see about vegetation clearing along Rte. 100 by the Fishing Access to improve visibility as well.  
Art also updated the Board on the status of the invasive water milfoil found in Lake Eden a few weeks ago; there are now a total of 9 locations around the lake where the plants have been identified; these areas are marked by buoys. The State agencies who monitor aquatic invasive species in Vermont waterbodies is prepared to bring in dive teams to pull up the invasive plants near the LERA campground area.
  - b.) Mr. & Mrs. St. Pierre came before the Board. They have property on Camp Road and wanted to address previously submitted driveway access permits for their property. At this time, they request that the originally installed and permitted driveway access be allowed to remain as their primary access. The Board explained that they were agreeable to this so long as the applicants understood that there is a limit of one access to a land parcel and therefore the second access that has been installed must be removed and the area there restored to prior conditions. The applicants acknowledged this. The Board will do a site visit to ensure the access meets town specs.
  - c.) Mr. & Mrs. Smith came before the Board to respond to a letter they received regarding a potential health concern in the area of White Road due to a report of rats. The Smiths stated that there are no rats originating from their property. Since receiving the letter, they have diligently and actively sought out signs of their presence there and found none. They report that if rats are being reported in the area, they may possibly be coming

from another nearby property and suggested the Board and the Health Officer consider notifying all the residents in the area to address the concern.

To accommodate those present, the Board moved to Agenda item #7 next:

7. Health Officer: Chris Donahue, Town Health Officer, submitted a House Inspection Report from a property located on Old Dueso Road. The Board also received a copy of the THO's June Report.

Returning to the Agenda:

4. Sign orders: Five (5) orders were reviewed and signed.

5. Minutes: Tim made a motion to approve the minutes of the 7/12/22 meeting as written. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

6. LERA Update: The Board was updated on the lake water test results which have been fluctuating and peaking with high e coli numbers; likely due to the number of geese in the area, the high heat and heavy flash rains we have had. When a test result shows an e coli reading higher than 235/100mL the water is considered unsuitable for swimming (boating and fishing are unaffected activities) and the LERA beach will close when this happens. Daily tests will be taken until the number is once again suitable for swimming. Updates will be made accordingly to the town website under the Recreation tab.

8. Dog Officer Update: Candace reports that the dog officer, Inga, has begun to canvass the town. Equipment from the previous dog officer has been returned to the town.

9. FEMA Update: The old Blakeville Road bridge deck and footings have been removed. Progress is moving quickly on this project. New footings are being put in, possibly this week.

10. ARPA Funds: The Board began discussing preliminary calculation of costs based on draft plans for a potential future Town Office building.

11. G1 Holdings: The Board reviewed a request for reimbursement of expenses submitted to the Town by the State for the twin culverts replacement project on Knowles Flat Road. Tim made a motion to approve signing the reimbursement request in the amount of \$19,011. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0. Freeda will submit the request for payment.

12. Road Commissioner's Report:

a.) Utility: The Board reviewed a town road ROW Occupancy Application from VT Electric Co-Op, location on Parsonage Lane. The Board reviewed and discussed the application; there were no objections raised. Tim made a motion to approve signing the

town road ROW Occupancy Application from VT Electric Co-Op, location on Parsonage Lane. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

b.) Access Permit(s): The Board discussed the access permits received and reviewed at their previous meeting, for properties located on Shover and Warren Roads. These accesses were given temporary approval for recreational use by VASA riders until August 1, 2023. At that time, Blakeville Road should be reopened and available for riders to use. VASA representative Ethan Hill indicated that the intention behind the applications was for permanent access so that the trail(s) could be kept as part of their regular trail system, keeping ATVs off the roads. The Board was unable to allow this since both trail accesses are located on private properties which have existing access points already permitted; the Board cannot permit permanent access for the trails since this would violate the single access rule.

c.) The Board reviewed cost estimates in anticipation of needing to place an order this fall for a town truck.

d.) Hwy. Dept. Update: Ricky reports the grader broke down last week; they have had it fixed and it is now up and running. They have Albany Road culvert replacement work to do as part of the FEMA projects completion. Pike is prepared to pave a portion of East Hill when the prep work is done.

13. Personnel Policy Review (ct'd). The Board agreed to table this item to their next meeting.

14. Annual Salary Review (ct'd): Ricky abstained from this discussion as an employee of the Town. Clayton made a motion to enter into executive session under 1 V.S.A. § 313. Tim seconded the motion. The Board entered executive session at 7:52pm. Ricky was invited back into the executive session for a portion of this time. The Board exited executive session at 8:44pm. Clayton reported that no decisions were made in executive session. Discussion resumed. The Board provided copies of the proposed FY22 wage rates. Tim made a motion to approve FY22 pay rates as outlined in the spreadsheet provided, retroactively applied to July 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 2-0 with Ricky abstaining from the vote.

15. Document Disposition: The Board reviewed the FY22 list of documents to be disposed of per state guidelines. Tim made a motion to approve and sign the FY22 Document Disposition list. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.

16. Ratify Additions and Deletions of 7/12:

- a.) Under #3: Griggs letter re: survey markers on East Hill Road
- b.) Under #7c) Dog Bite Report
- c.) Under #13: Resident email regarding Highway wages
- d.) Under #16: Lamoille Housing Partnership series 8/3/22

Ricky made a motion to ratify the additions and deletions from the July 12, 2022 meeting as listed above in #16. Tim seconded the motion. Approved.

17. Other Business: None at this time.

18. FYI:

a.) John Schmeltzer with the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation tells us that WCAX news will be reporting on the asbestos mine sometime in the near future.

b.) The Board received notice of an Act250 Permit amendment for 5L1058-1 at the Eden Central School.

19. Adjourn: Tim made a motion to adjourn. Clayton seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:09pm.

Minutes Approved as amended on 8/23/22 by Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Tim Bullard.

Freedra Powers, Town Administrative Assistant