

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

September 21, 2022 Selectboard Special Meeting

The Eden Selectboard held a special meeting on September 21, 2022 at the Eden/North Hyde Park Fire Station at 6:00 pm. Present: Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Tim Bullard, Freeda Powers. Hyde Park Selectboard: Brian Shackett, Matt Morin, Roland Boivin, Chasity Fagnant. Hyde Park Clerk: Ron Rodjenski. Also present: John Savage (Fire Chief), Brent Lanphere (Asst. Fire Chief), Marvin Whitcomb (Captain) Scott Audet (Captain), Ethan Griggs (Lieutenant) and Dakota Aither (Lieutenant).

The purpose of this meeting was to continue discussions regarding the new Fire Truck purchase, approved at Town Meeting 2021 and plans for replacing the existing rescue truck.

1. The meeting opened at 6:02pm.
2. Additions and Deletions: None.
3. The Boards of Eden and Hyde Park met with fire department members to continue discussion around a new Fire Truck purchase and plans for replacing the existing rescue vehicle. Both Boards have already had the item on regular meeting agendas and came together to go over questions from both towns.

The existing 2013 Rescue Vehicle is due to be replaced by 2028. The Fire Department wishes to sell that vehicle and put the proceeds towards a replacement vehicle of a different sort; a 3500 pick up truck that would better suit the department's needs. Additional benefits of this replacement plan were discussed. The pick up truck would be able to access more properties that are harder and harder to get to with the larger trucks. Furthermore, more people are capable and confident driving a pick up truck vs. a larger rescue vehicle. Overall, the department members feel the pick up truck would increase manpower at scenes and makes sense for efficiency of operations.

Ricky voiced his concern with the capacity of a pick up truck. He cautioned that replacing the larger rescue vehicle with a smaller vehicle like a pick up truck will leave the department without adequate room for equipment needed on scenes. Brent responded that this is a reasonable concern and said they will put some of that equipment onto the large fire engine. John agreed, saying this is not an apples-to-apples trade, they recognize that,

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

but still feel that this will better outfit the department in a way that will be of the most use to them. When asked to estimate the percent of calls that they anticipate the pick up truck to be used at, the response from the Department was 50-60%.

Cost to each town will depend upon the total captured in selling the existing 2013 Rescue Vehicle. Minimum regained from that sale will be \$50,000 while the potential is up to \$80,000. The Department will work out the sale of that vehicle and the balance due will be divided between the two towns. Current estimated maximum cost to each town is \$14,000. Funding sources were discussed. ARPA funds can be used for this purchase, if the Boards decide to use that money.

Both Boards will put this to vote at their next regularly warned meeting and report back to the Fire Department with the results of their decisions.

4. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

Minutes Approved as amended on 9/27/22 by Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Tim Bullard.
Freeda Powers, Town Administrative Assistant