

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

November 22, 2022 Selectboard Meeting

The Eden Selectboard met at the Town Office on November 22, 2022. Present: Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Tim Bullard, Freeda Powers, Melissa Whitcomb, Tracey Morin. Also present: Alec Jones and Salvador Morales (Lamoille County Planning Commission). Joining by phone: Gabe Bolin (Stone Environmental).

1. Open Meeting: Ricky opened the meeting at 6:05pm.
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda: None.
3. Citizens Input: None.
4. Hazard Mitigation Plan: Alec Jones and Salvador Morales from Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) came before the Board to begin the process of reviewing the Eden Hazard Mitigation Plan. Eden's current HMP expires in June, 2023 and is due to be updated. The HMP is not a legal document, and the Town is not held to it by any party; having the HMP in place opens funding opportunities in the event of emergency. The Board reviewed tables from the HMP, updating Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment items and Priority Hazard Mitigation Actions 2023-2028 (the next five years the plan covers). This review process will continue for the next several months, with draft revisions ready for public review by early January. LCPC will take on a majority of the document update with input from stakeholders including the Town Emergency Director, Selectboard, Planning Commission and residents. The Board thanked Alec and Sal for their time and assistance in the plan update.

Ricky made a motion to go into executive session under 1 V.S.A. § 313. The Board entered executive session at 6:35pm. The Board exited executive session at 7:13pm. Ricky reports that no decisions were made.

5. FEMA: Gabe Bolin from Stone Environmental joined by telephone to discuss the Blakeville bridge replacement project which wrapped up recently. The Board had several facets of the project that required addressing which were gone over with Gabe. This FEMA funded project must be finalized to the Board's satisfaction no later than December 31st for reimbursement of expenses. A site visit with the Road Commissioner, Selectboard member(s) and Engineer will take place next week as we work out an acceptable resolution to the remaining project details.

The Board discussed the Paronto Road project slated for next year, also a coordination between Stone Environmental (engineers) and CCS (construction). The Board emphasized the importance of the contracted oversight visits outlined in Task 3.2 – Construction Oversight with the Engineers, saying the schedule of those visits is imperative.

6. Sign orders: Five (5) orders were reviewed and signed.
7. Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of the 11/8/22 special and regular meetings. Clayton made a motion to approve both minutes of 11/8/22 as written. Tim seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.
8. ARPA: Tim said he had plans drafted by a contact of his; they are looking at an estimated cost of \$340 per sq. foot all included (earthwork, etc.) for construction of a new town building. This discussion will continue at a future meeting.
9. Grants:
 - a.) PACIF Grant: This will be available in the spring for safety related equipment.
 - b.) BBR: Griggs Rd. culvert replacement project. The Board reviewed the Better Back Roads grant application and ANR stream alteration permit. This grant would award \$60,000 towards replacing and undersized plastic culvert with a larger metal corrugated one that meets the hydro study for the site. Tim made a motion to approve and sign the BBR grant application and associated ANR permit application for a culvert replacement project on Griggs Road. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.
 - c.) Class II Grant: The Board reviewed the final paperwork for the Class II grant which partly funded the paving work on East Hill Road this summer. Tim made a motion to approve and sign the request for reimbursement in the amount of \$150,983.28 for paving of East Hill Road. Clayton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0.
10. Road Commissioner's Report: Ricky reports that the Highway Department has switched fuel suppliers at the Town Garage to secure lower fuel rates, saving money as a result. The Board recommends inquiring to see if the town office can also save money by seeking lower priced propane suppliers in the region. A quote is being sought for a new fuel line to the garage itself and for a blower heater unit. All town trucks are up and running for the winter season.
11. Ratify Additions and Deletions of 11/08/22: None.
12. Other Business:
 - a.) The Board was asked if they could provide a quote/cost estimate on lumber for a new boat rack at Lake Eden Rec Area. Money may be available for this project in the Spring as part of the G1 funds being spent around Lake Eden. Freeda will reach out to local referrals offered by the Board.
 - b.) The Lamoille County draft budget was provided for the Board prior to the Dec. 1st meeting.
 - c.) The Board began review of a draft Selectboard Report for the upcoming town report.

13. FYI:

- a.) Annual Green River Reservoir newsletter is available upon request.
- b.) VT Trails & Greenways Council has invited Eden to join. The Board declined.
- c.) VLCT Annual Dues have been proposed for FY23-24. This will be used in formulating the '23-'24 proposed town budget.

13. Adjourn: Ricky made a motion to adjourn. Clayton seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Unapproved minutes.

Freedra Powers, Town Administrative Assistant

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