

EDEN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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Selectboard Meeting 12/26/2023 at 6pm

Present at the meeting were Tim Bullard, Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Melissa Whitcomb, Teleia Pastore, Brent Lanpher from the North Hyde Park/Eden Fire Department, and Leslie White

1. Tim opened the meeting at 6:00pm.
2. Additions & Deletions to the Agenda: None.
3. Health Officer Update: the SB discussed next steps.
4. Citizens Input: None at this time.
5. Animal Control Officer: None.
6. 911 Address Update: the resident affected by the proposed address change is fine with it.

To accommodate those present, the SB moved to #14b on the Agenda.

14b) The Fire Department bought a Ford 550 Mini-Pumper previously approved by the voters for \$358,163, of which Eden will pay half. We have a \$110k loan to pay and Ricky made a motion to use the New Equipment Fund to pay the remaining \$69,081.50. Clayton seconded, approved. Also discussed were the purchase of battery-powered Jaws of Life and new accessible bathrooms at the Fire House. They are also in need of radios with repeaters to have reliable communication across Eden.

The Board returned to Agenda #7.

7. The Board signed five (5) orders and Tim signed the orders from the previous meeting.

To accommodate those present, the SB moved to #4.

4. Citizens Input: Leslie White came to talk to the SB about the Town Report dedication, investing the beach surplus, investing the "ARPA" money, and using the interest earned to reduce taxes.

The Board returned to Agenda #8.

8. Minutes: Ricky motioned to accept the minutes of the 11/28/23 regular meeting, the 12/12/23 regular meeting, and the 12/19/23 special meeting as written and the minutes of 12/5/23 with a cost correction on the Jaws of Life. Clayton seconded, approved.

9. Highway Update:
 - a) Comcast/Eustis Update: None.

b) Pike: Ricky contacted Norm at Pike tomorrow to confirm Jeff Avery from Eustis has contacted him. Norm said he hadn't.

c) Update of Other Activities:

-Ricky received a call from Tyler Billingsly about the Boy Scout Camp bridge.

-The new truck went to Viking last Friday.

-Eden weathered the big storm well from earlier in the week. There was some shoulder washing, so the Highway Department graded and added gravel to several roads, particularly East Hill and Blakeville Roads.

10. Ratify Additions & Deletions: None.

11. Grant Update/Discussion:

a) MERP: Results from the energy audit came in. The recommended steps for the Town Clerk's office would cost approximately \$14,000 and take 50 years to realize the return on investment.

b) Ricky motioned to accept and sign the LCBP/NEIWPC \$25k milfoil grant for next summer. Clayton seconded, approved.

c) There is a grant that may cover all the costs of remodeling the Fire Departments' bathrooms to be accessible. Teleia will speak with Hyde Park to find out their thoughts.

d) There are a couple of grants to fund AEDs that would go at the school. Teleia will forward it to the appropriate people.

12. Ricky motioned to sign the Grand List Errors & Omissions sheet. Clayton seconded, approved.

13. Budget Update: Lamoille County's Final Budget and Financials arrived.

14. Other Business:

a) Town-wide reappraisal: The deadline was December 21 and we received only two responses. One declined to bid and the other is Appraisal Resource Group for 2026.

b) Equipment quote: \$42k or \$46k for the Jaws of Life depending on the battery.

c) Bullard Award candidates were discussed.

15. Beach Update: Ricky will put together a quote for taking down the caretaker's cottage.

16. FYI:

a) The state officially decided to leave the speed limit by the boat launch at 50 mph but they will fix a few things such as turning the passing lane into a no-passing lane.

17. Clayton motioned to adjourn at 8:00pm. Tim seconded, approved.

Teleia Pastore, Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer