

EDEN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

02/27/24

Present at the meeting were Tim Bullard, Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Melissa Whitcomb, Leslie White, Jared Lilly

1. Tim opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda, there were none.
3. Beach Update:
 - b) Applications for the manager at the Lake Eden Recreation Area. The Selectboard reviewed the 4 applications for manager and will set up interviews in person or by phone for those applicants that live out of town at the next selectboard meeting 3/12/2024 starting at 5:00 pm.
 - c) Utility Pole on the LERA property across from the beach. The old pole is going to be removed and the question was whether to replace it or not. Tim motioned to not replace the pole as there is no need for electricity at the site. Ricky seconded. Approved.
4. Health Officer Update: no news
5. Citizens Input: Jared Lilly expressed his concerns regarding Camp Road. He does not feel he is being treated fairly regarding plowing and the town right-of-way. A possible solution would be to have the property in question and the adjoining properties on both sides as well as properties across the road surveyed so that there will be no further question on a clear path for the plow trucks. A surveyor will be contacted.
6. Animal Control Officer: Tim returned a call from a citizen regarding a dog(s) that they observed were not being cared for properly. Animal cruelty complaints should be directed to the State Police as the Town of Eden has no official legal means of rectifying that type of situation.
7. Sign Orders (5) All orders were signed including payment #2 of 3 to the LNMUUSD (school) for \$661,486.61.
8. Minutes: Review minutes of 01/23/2024 and 02/13/24. Ricky made the motion to approve the 1/23/24 minutes with corrections, Clayton seconded. Approved. Clayton made the motion to approve the minutes of 2/12/2024 as written. Ricky seconded. Approved. Tim abstained as he was not present at that Selectboard meeting.
9. Highway Department:
 - a) VT Electric Co-Op ROW Occupancy Request. A new pole was installed within the Town right-of-way in an established ditch which will make it difficult to maintain proper drainage. Ricky is in discussion with VEC to have the pole moved out of the town right-a-way.
 - b) Boy Scout Road bids. The bids were opened on January 31, 2024 by the engineer of the project, Tyler Billingsly. There were 7 bids but only 6 were considered as one was not signed. With the recommendation of the engineer, all bids were reviewed and Ricky motioned to accept the bid from Kirk Fenoff & Son's Excavating LLC of Danville for the amount of \$446,698.00. Clayton seconded. Agreed. Construction to take place in 2024.
 - c) Overweight Permits. Overweight permits for Black Ox Trucking, Dale E. Percy Inc., John G French & Sons Trucking Inc., Morse's Directional Drilling Inc., N.A. Manosh Inc., and Scott Brown Trucking were reviewed. Ricky made the motion to approve all permits to the Town Specifications. Clayton seconded. Approved.
 - d) AOT Certification of Compliance. Tim motioned to sign the certificate; Ricky seconded. Approved.
 - e) Other: With the warm temperatures, Ricky made the motion to post the roads effective 2/28/2024. Tim seconded. Approved. A candidate for an extra employee with the highway department has expressed interest and is in discussion with the Road Commissioner.

10. Ratify Additions and Deletions: Additions were Personnel and Overweight Permits for Working Dog Septic and Curtis Lumber. Ricky motioned to ratify the additions to the 2/13/24 meeting, Clayton seconded. Approved with Tim abstaining as he was not at that meeting.
11. Grant Update/Discussion: Some funds that were mistakenly not included in the FEMA 2023 Flood closeout totals will still be charged to the grants and the accounts will be reviewed at the end of the fiscal year.
12. Other Business:
 - a) Investments. Leslie suggested moving some additional funds into a higher interest money market account than we are currently earning at Community Bank which will allow the Town to access the funds on an as needed basis. The Board agreed.
 - b) Town Meeting: Prep and Inquiry from Betzi Goodman. Betsy offered to set up remote video access for Town meeting. The Board declined at this time looking to preserve the tradition of in person attendance at Town Meeting. This form of the annual gathering allows discussion and decision making by the community in real time. Due to some general safety concerns with local elections, the Lamoille County Sherriff will be contacted asking them to provide an official presence in the area during the meeting.
 - c) Support Letter: Trust for Public Land. The Selectboard agreed to sign a letter of support conserving 356 acres of private forestland with the understanding that this new designation will not remove the property from the grand list tax base.
 - d) Annual Certificate of No Appeal or Suit Pending. This certificate relates to the Grand List. Ricky made the motion to sign the certificate. Clayton seconded. Approved.
 - e) Clerk's Office Addition Update: The project will be discussed at the next regular meeting.
13. FYI: Driveway permit for Warren Road. The State allows one driveway access per property and the Town follows the State guidelines.
14. At 7:57 pm, Clayton motion to adjourn the meeting, Tim seconded. Agreed. Meeting adjourned.

Approved Selectboard minutes of 2/27/2024
Leslie White, scribe.