

# EDEN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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Minutes of the Regular Selectboard Meeting April 9, 2024. Present at the meeting were: Tim Bullard, Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Scott Griswold, Jeff Johansen, Ryan Nolan, Melissa Whitcomb, and Leslie White

1. Open Meeting; Tim opened the meeting at 5:10pm directly following the beach campsite lottery meeting.
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda: none.
3. Newport Ambulance Contract and Update: Scott Griswold and Jeff Johansen were here to present the contract for Newport Ambulance Service for \$59,635.00. Ricky motioned to sign the contract; Tim seconded. Approved.
4. Beach Update: Melissa spoke of possible up-grades at the Lake Eden Recreation Area switching from Consolidated Communications to Comcast for better connectivity and higher internet speeds for campers. The costs between the two services and additional equipment needed were compared in addition to who would be able to access the service and if there would be an additional charge for users of the service. Rental of the shelters regarding possible cancellation policy was also clarified. There will be a non-refundable deposit for 1/2 of the cost of the shelter upon making the shelter reservation.
5. Animal Control Officer Update: There have been multiple complaints about 2 dogs on North Road running loose and the constable has been called to address the situation as the town does not have a dog officer at the moment. The first offense is a written warning and after 10 days, the second time dogs are found running loose, a fine will be issued. Owners of dogs that are issued a warning have 10 days to make sure their animals are vaccinated and licensed.  
There were 3 dog bites in the last week. All animals involved have submitted proof of vaccination. One of the bites was on a 4-month-old child. That animal is in home quarantine until further steps can be taken. In connection with a dog bite in Hyde Park, their dog officer offered to assist Eden in an emergency. More information on if that could work and how Hyde Park could be monetarily compensated need to be reviewed. Melissa will send letters, on behalf of the Selectboard, to the owners regarding protective measures.
6. Health Officer Update: Faye Cochran will officially take over as the health officer in Eden as of May 1, 2024 when she is registered with the state. She is currently acting as the unofficial Health Officer until May.
7. Citizens Input: Due to a mix up with the time, Ryan Nolan, representing Chasity Fagnant, came late to the Lake Eden Recreation Area campsite lottery after it was over. Since there were still sites available after the lottery, the Selectboard agreed to offer one of the remaining sites to Ryan. Ryan chose site #4 for Chasity.
8. Sign Orders (5)
9. Minutes: Review minutes of the meeting on 3/26/24. On agenda item #14, change Tom to Tim. Clayton motioned to approve the minutes with corrections; Tim seconded. Approved.
10. Highway Department:
  - a) Overweight Permits. Ricky made the motion to approve the overweight permits for E.C Morrison Trucking, Fred's Plumbing & Heating, Harrison Redi-Mix Corp., Harrison Concrete Construction, Inc., Grimes, Inc., VT Outdoor Services, Vermont Well & Pump according to Town specs. Clayton seconded. Approved.
  - b) Other: There have been some calls about sand on people's property after a winter of plowing the roads. It is spring time clean-up for everyone.  
Jim Parkhurst has been hired as a third person for the highway department starting April 1, 2024. The office will call VTrans District 8 to set up the meeting with Steve Stanley for the Annual Financial Plan and ask that any centerline painting wait until the roads are cleaned up from winter sand.  
No additional plans for paving projects at this time.
11. Ratify Additions and Deletions: none
12. Grants:
  - a) Grant-in-Aid letter. Ricky made the motion to sign the letter, Clayton seconded. Agreed.
  - b) Other: The Class 2 Municipal Highway Grant Applications for the replacement of culverts, ditching and paving on North Road were reviewed.
13. Assessor Contracts: The contracts for Russ Beaudoin, the town assessor, were reviewed. One is the annual contract working one day per week and the other is for the town wide re-appraisal for \$61,800.00 to be completed by 2026. Clayton made the motion to sign both contracts, Tim seconded. The contracts were signed.
14. Auditors: Leslie asked to hire Melanie Rodjenski, CPA to consult with the town auditors to clarify the best practices moving forward as to be in line with any future outside audit. The board agreed.
15. Other Business:
  - a) Proposal from TextMyGov. The Selectboard is not interested in this service at this time.
  - b) Hillside Trash has been sold to Sylvester from Richford and the new owner of the business will hopefully be taking over the town accounts for trash pickup.
  - c) Clerk's Office Addition Update. Testing for asbestos and lead was done at the Town Office to prepare for the construction of the addition. There is no asbestos present in the building. Lead was detected but the amount was so small that it is not going to be a concern moving forward. More specifications need to be decided regarding windows, siding and roofing. The septic tank also needs to be replaced.
  - d) The school budget re-vote will be on Tuesday, April 16th from 10am to 7pm at the Eden Central School. School will be in session that day but the Town Office will be closed as personnel will be at the polling site.
16. FYI
  - a) The budget status report for the Highway department was reviewed. Expenses are at 83% for the fiscal year.
  - b) Information on the state bridge on Route 100 near Eden Fields Lane that is scheduled to be replaced in 2026 and

the temporary access that the state will need to negotiate was presented to the board for informational purposes.  
17. Clayton made the motion to adjourn at 8:26 pm. Tim seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Leslie White, scribe

Approved Selectboard Minutes