

Town of Edgecomb Select Board

AGENDA

September 25 2017, 6:00pm

Attendees: Jack Sarmanian, Ted Hugger, Mike Smith, Katie Wurtzell (Recording Secretary), Gerry Audibert (MDOT), Kyle Hall (MDOT), Sheriff Todd Bracken, Maggie Connelly (West Boothbay), Kathy Orne (President, Edgecomb Historical society), Deb Boucher (VP, Edgecomb Historical Society), Reverend Azut (Pastor, Barters Island Baptist Church), Roy Potter (Fire Chief), Stan Waltz (Code Enforcement Officer)

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Minutes from 9/11/17 - Approved 3-0
- 3. DOT Meeting, Gerry Audibert & Sheriff Todd Bracken; Kyle Hall (Regional Manager, Region 2 MDOT)**
 - a. Follow-up on Eddy Rd Situation
 - i. Gerry Audibert brought a memo describing Eddy Rd issue
 1. Speed limit and signs will be updated and changed to 30 mph
 2. Stumps along edge of guardrail will be removed and guard rail extending
 - ii. Two options for limiting trucks
 1. Put in request for time of day heavy commercial vehicle use. This takes buy-in from neighbors and trucking company (public process).
 - a. Gerry is unaware of anyone in the past 10 years being successful in getting a time of day restriction
 2. State turns road over to town
 - a. Gerry feels this has a good likelihood of being successful
 - b. There are some strings
 - i. Road is in good condition, though there may be drainage issues. Any deficiencies would be repaired prior to handing over. However, after that it is the town's responsibility including plowing and maintenance.
 - c. Timeline could be within a month
 - d. In this situation town could disallow trucks, reduce speed limit, etc.
 - iii. Gerry brought additional information about reportable crashes (if there is no injury and/or less than \$1000 in damage, it is not reportable)
 - a. There were 12 total crashes in 3 years; 5 occurred at Eddy rd / Rt 1 intersection; 1 at Cross Point Rd; 1 failure to yield out of a driveway; 4 crashes at Rt 27/Eddy Rd intersection
 - b. No reportable crashes in Eddy Rd section of interest

- iv. Jack brought up that reducing the amount of ledge was not mentioned in memo. Gerry responded that this does not qualify under the hazard elimination program as there have not been crashes at this site. Road is not a priority (#4 priority) - most roads that are part of this program are #1 and #2 priority. Only changes that happen on #4 typically is paving. Jack responded that he believes this is an accident waiting to happen.
- v. Kyle brought up the Municipal Partnership Initiative (MPI), where a capital improvement would be split 50%/50% between town and MDOT. It might cost \$200-300k total (half to Edgecomb). To bring all of Eddy Rd up to modern standards could cost \$3.5 million per mile. Currently grants are being awarded for 2019. There is no federal money, only state and local money.
- vi. Mike asked Sheriff Bracken what could be done regarding enforcement. Sheriff Bracken stated speed and speed related complaints are his number 1 cause of concern and 14 of the towns do not have their own police department. 22,000 calls for service were responded to last year. Challenge is consistent enforcement, county is divided into sections and typically 3 officers are on duty at a time. Sheriff mentioned that it may be time to hire an enforcement officer to focus solely on traffic. Sheriff Bracken encouraged people to speak up when they have a complaint.
- vii. Mike asked if state is willing to provide a cost estimate to remove ledge on Eddy Rd.
- viii. Maggie Connelly asked the Sheriff if they've ever had to back people out of this curve; he responded and said yes it has happened though occasionally. Roy Potter mentioned that it is against the Edgecomb fire department's policy to not redirect trucks down this road due to risk factors.
- ix. In summary, Edgecomb selectboard asked MDOT for a formal cost estimate to adjust ledge.
- x. Ted thanked Maggie for bringing this issue forward to the selectboard. Gerry and Kyle will bring cost estimate to selectboard.

4. Reverend Azut, Bible Study at Town Hall

- a. Reverend Azut came to meeting to ask permission to have weekly bible study at the town hall. Flexible on day of week and time (likely in evening). There used to be an Edgecomb Baptist church, though this has been closed. The Reverend mentioned he is not sure if there will be interest or not or how many attendees. He also mentioned the church has liability insurance. He mentioned that a fee may be cost prohibitive. Mike mentioned that he does not think it is likely to waive fee as it is not a town event.
- b. Selectboard will table discussion until Oct 10 meeting and Reverend Azut will bring proof of insurance.

5. Historical Society

- a. Asking for use of upstairs town hall on October 26 (Thursday) from 7-9pm for a quilt presentation by Wendy Caton Reed. Mike made suggestion that they waive fee - approved 3-0.

6. Fire Department

a. Open House & Dedication

- i. Fire Department open house is 10/5/17 at 5:30pm for fire prevention week. Trucks will be out and serving hot dogs and popcorn. Presentation of plaque to dedicate station will be at 6:30pm.

b. Fire Department Tanker

- i. Truck from 2004, dump shoot issue rendering it useless. This has happened before. Truck has been brought back to Greenwood (Brunswick) to be fixed, possibility of switching from automatic / electrical switch to manual switch which would be less prone to break - but this will have a cost. Roy will keep selectboard updated.

7. Meeting with School Committee

- a. Selectboard will go meet with the school committee, meet new principal, get a walk through of the school. There are 80 students (12 tuition students from Alna, Westport and some from full pay communities nearby). Selectboard will meet with school committee at 4:30pm (TBD) before school meeting and town is invited. Meeting is Monday October 2nd.

8. Stan Waltz, Code Enforcement Officer

- a. Stan sent letters to two properties about trash issues and has gotten responses. Properties are getting cleaned up.
- b. Stan received another complaint for a property on Middle Rd. and is responding.
- c. Sign has been ordered for Winding Brook Rd (off of River Rd).
- d. 110 Fort Rd - Pine trees hanging over deck, Stan said they have permission to cut them and replant new trees in place.
- e. Gorilla is down for the winter - Selectboard will revisit issue if needed in Spring
- f. Blueberry signs (and signs in general) are not allowed in state right of way (along Rt 1). Over the winter Selectboard will have a conversation about vendors and responsibilities and public health.

9. Old Business

- a. Foreclosed Properties
 - i. Result of Bid process - Israel Property (Rt 1).
 - 1. Two bids were received for properties from two abutters
 - a. Ann Harford - \$15,000
 - b. Jeff Hoening - \$15,100
 - 2. Selectboard made motion to approve Jeff's bid. Approved 3-0.
 - 3. Jeff made feedback on process that the silent bid process is stressful and difficult to know what to bid but overall favorable.
- b. Annie Colby Chase Award update
 - i. Mike will have typed letter before next Selectboard meeting 10/10

10. New Business

- a. State has requested to meet 10/10 (Tuesday) (Ernest Martin MDOT) for public hearing update on Rt 1 and Rt 27 update. MDOT has requested a large audience to present project. MDOT has incorporated feedback from prior Selectboard meeting. Boothbay Register will advertise.

- b. Economic Development Committee is putting on a Charlie Brown Christmas tree competition for peninsula. Idea is that charlie brown christmas trees will be on display on Edgecomb town hall land. Dec 9 - trees will be unveiled followed by town bonfire in January. Mike made motion to approve display of trees at town hall, approved 3-0.
- c. Ted received an email (Ben Stover) that a house was built that the town did not realize was built. He received tax bill from 2014, 2015, and 2016. Ben asked the town to relieve him of interest on taxes but is willing to pay taxes (interest total \$84). Ted made motion to waive \$84 (interest for 3 years) if possible (must be confirmed by Claudia), Jack seconded. Motion passes 3-0 (dependent on response of Claudia).

11. Warrants

- a. General Warrant #7
 - i. School Payroll: \$29,305.44
 - ii. School Payables: \$9,832.70
 - iii. General Expenses: \$31,371.30
 - iv. Total: \$70,509.44
 - v. Mike makes motion to approve, Jack seconded. Approved 3-0.
- b. Road Reconstruction Warrant #406
 - i. Total: \$625.64
 - ii. Mike makes motion to approve, Jack seconded. Approved 3-0.

12. Public Comment

13. Adjourn

- a. Meeting adjourned 7:27pm