

Town of Edgecomb Select Board
MINUTES
Nov. 4, 2019, 6:00 PM

Attendees:

Jack Sarmanian, Ted Hugger, Mike Smith – Select Board Members
Barbara Brennan – Recording Secretary
Chris Cossette – Director of Wiscasset Water District
Samantha Hinman – Graphic Designer of brochure
Bill Witzell – Director of EMA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Minutes
 - Ted motion to approve 10/21 Minutes; Mike second (with correction of spelling of Lallis); Approved 3-0.
3. Chris Cossette, Director of Wiscasset Water District, gave an update and suggestions for Edgecomb
 - Since his last visit with the SB, the Water District has completed a replacement of water main pipes on the streets of Wiscasset Village. This year they are completing a system evaluation that will lay the groundwork for future long-term (50-100 years) planning for the region.
 - The WWD collaborates with area water districts covering several surrounding towns, studying their Comprehensive Plans to develop a system plan that will meet the future needs of the region.
 - Chris confirmed that the WWD has an agreement with Edgecomb for reading meters and billing, but they do not set rates.
 - Mike asked about the recent rate increase. Chris confirmed that Wiscasset has increased their waste water rates. His study of Edgecomb's most recent bills show that in October our consumption was 37,800 cubic feet; Edgecomb was charged \$3774.90 by Wiscasset for this usage. Our revenue from our Edgecomb customers totaled \$2713.80 for this usage.
 - Usage rates have increased from \$27.36 to \$31.20 per 300 cubic feet. This is about a 14% increase.
 - 65 customers from Edgecomb participate in this usage.
 - Claudia pointed out that Edgecomb's rate structure has been 25% above usage costs to cover billing costs, admin costs, computer costs.
 - Mike wants to study the Wiscasset rates carefully. Ted suggested they also consider capital needs in Edgecomb's future.
 - A public hearing is planned for Dec. 2 to discuss with residents the waste water rate.
 - The SB will set new rates after the hearing.

4. Samantha Hinman, Graphic Designer
 - Sam presented the new Edgecomb brochure she created along with a committee through a \$2000 grant from Lincoln County.
 - The SB was enthusiastic in its response to the brochure: Ted thanked the committee, saying the brochure is “worthy, progressive, and defines what Edgecomb is.”
 - The next step is for the committee to get a couple of quotes from area printers.
 - Mike motion to approve the brochure and to proceed in finding a suitable printer; Ted second; Approved 3-0.
 - The brochure committee will meet on Nov. 12.

5. Bill Witzell, Director of EMA
 - Bill will be using a new tablet provided to each area Director by Lincoln County through a grant. The D4H program used on the tablet will assist in communication and assistance with surrounding towns during storms and other emergencies.
 - He requested a data plan that will cost about \$45/month so that he can use the device from wherever he is.
 - Bill will research monthly data plans and get back to the SB with details.

6. Old Business
 - Mike is planning a town-wide discussion about issues the SB needs to address within the next five years. He would like the Town to be proactive in making decisions that impact the operations of Town.
 - The discussion will be held on Saturday Dec. 7 at 10:00 at the school. Coffee will be served at 9:30.
 - The Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Contest is being planned; the announcement has appeared in the paper and also online. The Applications are available at the TH, PO, and on the website.

7. New Business
 - Mike suggested sending a congratulatory/welcome note to Julia Latter, the new town manager in Boothbay Harbor.
 - Ted reported that a tree came through the town’s salt shed during the storm last week. A claim has been submitted to the Insurance Company. The shed is 25 years old.
 - Ted reported that workman’s comp costs have increased by about 3%.
 - Ted witnessed a car accident at the corner of Rt. 1 and Rt. 27 and called 911. He was impressed by the very efficient rescue efforts of the local sheriff, the FD, and the CLC Ambulance service, all arriving within a few minutes.
 - Jack received a letter from the Lincoln County Commissioners’ Office requesting that Janet Blevins, our Spirit of America award winner, attend an award ceremony on 11/7.
 - Claudia discussed the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment in Maine (Women’s Suffrage); she will provide daffodil bulbs to be planted on the grounds of the TH to honor this occasion.
 - Claudia was nominated to serve as the Warden at Nov. 5 elections. Mike nominated; Jack seconded; Approved 3-0.
 - The SB approved the application for a new pole on McKay Rd. Mike motion to approve; Ted second; Approved 3-0.
 - Voting will take place at TH 8 AM to 8 PM on Nov. 5.

8. Warrants – Ted reported on the following warrants:

- General Warrant #10

Schools – Payroll	\$35,743.14
Schools – Payables	45,322.30
General Expenses	74,601.28
TOTAL	\$155,666.72

Ted motion to approve; Mike second; Approved 3-0.

- TIF Warrant #203

Nov. 4, 2019	\$41,291.75
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Ted motion to approve; Mike second; Approved 3-0.

- Waste Water Warrant #106 \$3474.90

Ted motion to approve; Mike second; Approved 3-0

9. Public Comments

- Roy reported that TIF funds have been used to pay for the exhaust recovery system. There is still a bill to come for electrical work, but the project came in under budget.
- Several residential alarms were tripped as a result of the power outage. Costs the town money to deploy emergency responders for these false alarms. Mike noted that Alna has approved a plan that allows their town to bill residents for repeated false alarms. Mike will invite the County Sheriff to discuss this idea. We will also discuss street speeds with the Sheriff.

10. Adjourn – 7:09