

Town of Edgecomb Select Board

MINUTES

May 18, 2020, 6:00 PM

Because of state-mandated precautionary restrictions during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Select Board will conduct this meeting via online conferencing.

ATTENDEES:

Jack Sarmanian, Ted Hugger, Mike Smith – Select Board Members
Barbara Brennan – Recording Secretary

1. Approval of 5/4 Minutes

- Jack moved to approve the Minutes with one correction; Ted seconded; Roll call vote: JS yes; TH yes; MS yes.

2. New Business

- The SB would like to resume use of the TH for their meetings as soon as it is safe to do so, hopefully by the 6/15 meeting. They feel it is not difficult to maintain social distance upstairs.
- Claudia discussed plans to modify the downstairs space used by Claudia, Deb, and Fran. She would like to create a pass-through window to conduct business with the public, create a waiting area with markings on the floor, and possibly change the usage designations of the bathrooms
- Mike made a motion to allow Claudia to purchase necessary PPE for use in the downstairs offices. Ted seconded.
Roll call vote: JS yes; TH yes; MS yes.
- The State will proceed with its July 14 Primary Elections; there is no word on whether the state will provide essential PPE for election volunteers.
- Town elections and the annual Town Meeting are on hold pending the end of restrictions on gatherings.

3. Old Business

- Lallis Property: Jack reported that Nancy Carlton, RE Agent, is in discussion with a realtor representing Mr. Schmal. Jack hopes to have additional information to report at the next SB meeting on June 1.
- Town Report : The SB approved the use of a photo taken by Mike Smith for the Dedication page and the use of a photo of the TH for the cover of the

Town Report.

- ASK Grant: Jack reported that ME Barnes of LCRPC agreed that the grant could be used for TH changes that promote safety and protection for staff and visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Bill Witzell said there is FEMA funding that can also be used for COVID-19 expenses to the Town. Mike questioned whether these funds also apply to the EES; Bill will find out and report back on this. Ted will submit recent receipts for computer, software, etc. purchased for Deb Boucher's home office.
- Ted submitted a request for renewal of liquor license from Sheepscot Village and made a motion to approve; Mike seconded.
Roll call vote: JS yes; TH yes; MS yes.
- Ted said Deb Boucher has set up the online boat registration process.
- Mike reported that the TH window is repaired; the work on the Salt Shed is ongoing.
- Mike discussed his concern about the Town's potential income shortfall this year, especially as it relates to the EES, which consumes 70% of the Town's budget. Mike suggested having a conversation with the School Committee about rising costs recommended by the School Committee and the Teacher's Assoc. in their recently implemented 3-yr contract. The SB is in agreement that the issue of rising school costs represents a fiscal reality that should be dealt with now. Jack will draft a letter to the School Committee.
- Claudia said she received a recent bill for storing 2 out-of-commission school buses. The SB was unaware of the storage of these buses and the associated fees. They would like AOS 98 to find the best way to get rid of these buses. Mike made a motion that Dave Benner should dispose of the two school buses without incurring any expense to the taxpayers (and without selling them at a loss.) Ted seconded.
Roll call vote: JS yes; TH yes; MS yes.

4. Warrants – Ted moved to approve the following Warrants

- General Warrant #24 \$24,904.71
Mike seconded.
Roll call vote: JS yes; TH yes; MS yes.
- Wastewater Warrant #111 \$2255.50
Mike seconded.
Roll call vote: JS yes; TH yes; MS yes.

5. Other input

- Bill Pearson of the Boothbay Register questioned why Edgecomb could not hold their municipal elections on the same day (July 14) as the Maine Primary Elections this year. Jack responded that it is tradition in our town to hold our elections on the day prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

6. Adjourn 7:05