

Town of Edgecomb Select Board

MINUTES

June 15, 2020, 6:00 PM

The Select Board meeting was held at 6:00 PM upstairs in the Town Hall. Participants maintained 6 ft social distancing guidelines and wore face coverings.

Attendees: Jack Sarmanian, Ted Hugger, Mike Smith – Select Board members
Barbara Brennan – Recording Secretary
Tom Abello, Heather Sinclair – Edgecomb School Committee
Jack Brennan – Budget Committee

1. Approval of 6/1 Minutes
Ted made a motion to approve the Minutes; Mike seconded with one correction;
Approved 3-0
2. Jack announced that Deb Boucher has resigned her position as Tax Collector for personal reasons. He said he wishes Deb well and offers her profound thanks for a job well done. Ted made a motion to accept the resignation; Mike seconded;
Approved 3-0.
3. Conversation with Edgecomb School Committee
 - Mike began by asking Mr. Abello and Ms. Sinclair about their ideas for using the School's budget surplus this year. Tom Abello responded that there is more money in the surplus this year than anticipated. Some reasons for this include increased number of tuition students, savings on transportation costs due to school closure beginning in March, and also reduced costs in transportation of Special Ed students.
 - The School's roof is in need of improvement, but Mr. Abello also stressed that the funds should help to reduce tax impact this year.
 - Mike estimated about \$250K would be needed to fix the roof, but said perhaps they should do it in stages. He suggested Dave Benner should be involved in the decision.
 - Mike asked about the previously planned State subsidy this year to the EES (about \$400K) and Mr. Abello responded that there has been no word from the State about funding changes for schools.
 - Mike asked the SC members if they might approach the Teachers' Union to

- discuss delay of the new contract's salary/benefit package until next year.
- Also discussed were the plans for re-opening the School this fall (after the pandemic closure). Tom Abello said the plans from the DOE are vague at this point. There will be discussion about different scenarios, including an entire return to school, an entire distance learning model, or a hybrid model combining both of these.

4. Old Business

- Town Meeting update: The SB discussed a tentative plan to hold a referendum style Town Meeting on August 29. This will allow the voting on our municipal budget to occur before Sept 1, the tax commitment date. The SB, Claudia Coffin, and the Budget Committee will meet on 6/22 for a work session to compile the warrants for a paper ballot.
- Guidelines are in place for the opening of the Town Hall for business. Individual Committee Chairs will receive information via email.
- Jack Sarmanian reported that Mr. Schmal will make an offer for the purchase of the remainder of the Lallis property (about 78 acres). He will follow up at the next meeting on June 29.

5. New Business

- Virginia Campbell of Whitefield attended the meeting to ask the SB if she could change the name of the street where she owns property, Turkey Pond Trail. This is off Shore Rd. Campbell said she plans to build a home on Turkey Pond Trail. She said she does not like the name and would prefer Sheepscot Bight. Roy Potter responded that changing street names causes much confusion for responders. The SB said they would discuss at their next meeting on June 29.
- Ted reported he has signed a new insurance policy with MMA. Roy Potter needs to make any updates to the equipment list.
- Mike reported that FiberRight has closed and that currently trash is going to "someone's back yard." The SB will express their concern to the Director of the BRRDD and emphasize the need for a solution.
- Jack has not had any updates on DOT plans for their projects this summer. He will try to follow up with them about their plans for the Eddy Rd and Rt 1/27 intersection projects.
- Mike would like to communicate with town Department Heads about their needs, openings, etc. Barbara will help with this communication.
- Jack is in contact with ME Barnes how upcoming municipal grant programs will be appropriated.

6. Warrants – Ted submitted the following warrants for approval.
 - General Warrant #26 \$18,785.54
Ted made a motion to accept; Mike seconded. Approved 3-0.
 - Waste water Warrant #117 \$1600.00
Ted made a motion to accept; Mike seconded. Approved 3-0.

7. Executive Session – The SB went into an Executive Session at 7:08 PM for discussion/consideration of employment (State Statute 405).
They returned at 7:30 PM.

8. Tax Collector Plan
 - Mike made a motion to elect Claudia Coffin as Tax Collector for real estate and personal property taxes through 6/30/20. Ted seconded; approved 3-0.
 - Ted made a motion to appoint Fran Mague as Tax Collector for excise taxes through 6/30/20. Mike seconded; approved 3-0.
 - Mike made a motion to provide a Certificate of Settlement to Deb Boucher for \$109,234.15, and a recommitment to Claudia Coffin to collect taxes for Edgecomb in the amount of \$110,098.95. Ted seconded. Approved 3-0.

9. Adjourn – 7:48 PM