

Town of Edgecomb Select Board

MINUTES

December 28, 2020, 6:00 pm

This meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom video conferencing.

ATTENDEES:

Mike Smith, Ted Hugger, Dawn Murray – Select Board Members
Barbara Brennan – Recording Secretary

1. Approval of 12/14 Minutes

Ted made a motion to accept the minutes; Dawn seconded.

Roll call vote: Ted yes; Dawn yes; Mike yes. Approved 3-0.

2. New Business

- Mike followed up Sen. Maxmin's visit with request for comments. Ted said the meeting was productive; Sen Maxmin is open-minded and willing to champion issues important to our town. Dawn was impressed that Sen Maxmin reached out to us and seemed to listen to our concerns. Mike said Sen Maxmin is enthusiastic and energetic and is "new blood" in the Senate.
- Mike suggested inviting State Rep Holly Stover to attend the SB meeting on 1/11/21. Ted will extend the invite.
- Mike wants to ask Jon Pottle from Eaton Peabody to attend an upcoming SB meeting to discuss the tennis court issue and the potential Lallis property sale.
- Edgecomb resident, Dr. K. Rohr, has applied to be the new Health Officer. Mike motioned to accept her application, saying she is well qualified. Ted seconded. Roll call: Ted yes; Dawn yes; Mike yes. Approved 3-0. Dr. Rohr will be the new HO effective January 1, 2021. Dawn said that the EES wants to receive the report of the existing HO regarding the mold issue. Claudia said Dr. Rohr needs to be sworn in and should take a certification workshop offered by MMA.
- Referendum voting: Mike suggested for the upcoming 2021 May TM, we should plan to do a referendum ballot. He hopes that with this decision, we will be ready to proceed if state restrictions still prohibit a live Town Meeting. Claudia reinforced the need to plan ahead because of the technology that needs to be in place to count referendum votes (memory

stick needs to be programmed). Ted motioned to approve a referendum vote in 2021 and to set a date. Mike seconded.

Roll call vote: Ted yes; Dawn no; Mike yes. Approved 2-1.

Ted motioned to set the date of May 22 for the referendum vote; Dawn seconded; Roll call vote: Ted yes; Dawn yes; Mike yes. Approved 3-0.

The Budget will be completed by March 1 to allow time for the Warrant to be formatted and printed in a ballot form.

- Jack Brennan will contact social service agencies that request funds to inform them to submit their requests early. He also said he plans to conduct the presentation of the budget to the town through a Public Hearing prior to the voting.
- The 2020 Town Report will include the Warrant. It should be available 3 weeks before the vote (beginning of May).
- Fire trucks for sale: Bill Witzell reported that the 2 trucks are currently parked at the FD and at the TH. They may be useful for farmers to use in pumping water to their fields, though this is not a good time to reach out to farmers. Ted suggested that For Sale signs be posted on the trucks and also they be listed on Craig's List, FaceBook marketplace. Plan B is to sell the trucks for scrap.

Bill W. said the FD is planning to add a shed outside.

- Mike said "the time is right" to find a way to improve internet service for all of Edgecomb residents.
- Mike reported there had been a foreclosure because of a failure to pay \$21 due on taxes. The SB voted to sell the property back to the owner for back taxes (\$2827.69) plus any additional costs.

Roll call vote: Ted yes; Dawn yes; Mike yes. Approved 3-0.

3. Ongoing Business

- Mike received a letter from previous owners (1999 – 2017) of the parcel now owned by the Holloways on Rt 1. Ed and Mary Hannon would like the town to revisit the taxes they paid on the parcel. The request will be sent to the Assessor for review.
- Mike would like to use a \$3000 ASK grant to explore ideas for improving the TH to best serve the community. As part of this plan, he would like to form a committee to elicit responses from residents.
- Town Committees: at the next meeting Dawn will discuss Harbormaster and Waterfront Committee and their job descriptions. Mike wants to talk to Barry Hathorne about increasing building permits.
- Ted reported that he will contact our federal representatives about \$3181.41 in non-reimbursed Covid expenses.

4. Warrants: Ted submitted the following warrant for approval:

General Warrant #13 \$211,434.76

This includes a School payment of \$204,629.

Ted made a motion to approve; Dawn seconded.

Roll call vote: Ted yes; Dawn yes; Mike yes. Approved 3-0.

5. Public Comments

- Jack Brennan is still waiting to hear from a prospective Budget Committee member.
- Bill Pearson asked about the duties of the Health Officer. The SB responded the HO deals with sanitation, unsafe water, mold, beaches, etc. The HO often collaborates with the Code Enforcer.

6. Adjourn 7:12