

Town of Edgecomb Select Board

MINUTES

June 14, 2021, 6:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Dawn Murray, Select Board Chair

Mike Smith, Select Board Member

Ted Hugger, Select Board Member

Barbara Brennan, Recording Secretary

1. Approval of Minutes from 6/1
 - Ted motioned to approve the Minutes; Mike seconded. Approved 3/0.
2. New Business
 - **Ernie Martin, Maine DOT:** The SB questioned Mr. Martin about the two projects to be done in Edgecomb beginning this summer. The Rt 1/27 intersection project began on June 7, and Mr. Martin said work is proceeding according to plan. He reassured the Board that the projects were well funded and supplied, and he did not expect delays. He said he expects traffic delays of not much longer than 10 minutes and that after July 7, no work would be done after noon on Fridays. He expects this project to be finished by end of July. Martin suggested installing “Local Traffic Only” signs at both ends of Eddy Rd in response to SB concerns about traffic and speeding on Eddy road as drivers seek an alternative to Rt. 1. Ted made a motion to allow the DOT to post signs restricting at both ends of Eddy Rd throughout the course of the construction projects. Mike seconded. Motion approved 3/0. Work on Eddy Rd will begin in early August. This project will involve blasting some rock face in order to straighten the S-curve and also removing a retaining wall on the left side of the road. The SB urges all residents to exercise patience and care as they navigate through the construction sites.
 - **Heather Sinclair, Edgecomb School Committee,** introduced herself as the new Chair of the SC, with newly elected Arthur Garey as vice chair. Ms. Sinclair introduced the new Superintendent of AOS 98, Robert Kahler, a lifelong educator currently from Livermore. He emphasized he is eager to work with small communities. He will begin his new position July 1. Heather also introduced the new principal of the EES, Dr. Christina Boursaw. She has recently moved to the area from CA, where she held many positions in education including work in curriculum development, blended learning, and human resources. Mike welcomed the new school leaders and spoke about his desire for Edgecomb to be fully involved in conversations related to future plans for the schools on the peninsula. He also mentioned using the EES for the next Town Forum planned for July.

- **Lisa McSwain, Chair of the Schmid Committee**, announced the Schmid received a Maine Project Canopy grant for \$3600, which will allow the Trustees to proceed with a revision of the Schmid forest management plan. The SB previously approved matching funds in order to qualify for the grant. Ted motioned to enter a contract with Midcoast Forestry of Warren to begin the work. The new management plan will cost \$7200, with a \$2200 payment on signing. Mike seconded. Motion approved 3/0. Barbara mailed the signed contract with the \$2200 check.

3. Ongoing Business

- Claudia Coffin provided a **financial update** through May. The SB studied the most recent numbers as Claudia updated them on expenses, income, and carryover. She expects last year's audit to be complete by 6/30/21.
- Mike mentioned that FiberRight has officially been sold. He said other communities have expressed concern about the new ownership, but he is hopeful.
- Mike is still looking for a volunteer for the Appeals Board. He also wants to advertise for a person to clean the TH.
- Royal River Heat Pump on Rt 1 will purchase the abutting foreclosed parcel.
- There is a parcel under foreclosure on Wiscasset Rd. that Mike would like to first offer to abutters. Ted will notify abutting property owners.

4. Warrants: Ted motioned to approve the following warrants:

- General Warrant #25 \$40,107.81 (includes \$2200 for Schmid)
Mike seconded. Approved 3/0.
- Waste Water Warrant # 113 \$2564.90
Mike seconded. Approved 3/0.

5. Public Comment

- Jack Brennan suggested that with all the new SC members and school leaders, this would be a good time to work on better communication with the EES and the AOS. Dawn agreed.
- It was suggested that a letter be published from the SB about the construction projects in Edgecomb to encourage local citizens to be patient and careful. Dawn responded that she would write a letter.
- A question was raised about the Gateway cottages that are up for sale. Mike said the SB is working with a lawyer to verify compliance with usage ordinances.

6. Next meeting is June 28.

7. Adjourn 7:15

