

# Town of Edgecomb Select Board

## MINUTES

October 18, 2021

### 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 10/4

Ted motioned to approve the Minutes; Mike seconded. Approved 3/0.

#### 2. New Business

- **New Code Enforcement Officer:** CEO Jarrod Pinkham resigned as of today, 10/18. George Chase contacted Dawn and expressed his interest in the position, explaining his background in building and coursework at a school for architectural engineering gives him the skills, and he will work to become licensed. Mike said as a longtime resident, George is “protective of Edgecomb” and said it is an advantage to not have to share a CEO with another town. Mike motioned to appoint George Chase CEO of Edgecomb until 6/30/22; Ted seconded. Approved 3/0. Mike motioned to appoint George Chase licensed plumbing inspector through 6/30/22; Ted seconded. Approved 3/0. Mike motioned to appoint George Chase 911 addressing officer through 6/30/22; Ted seconded. Approved 3/0. Jarrod Pinkham will assign a building permit that George needs. Claudia needs a copy of Jarrod’s letter of resignation to accompany George’s appointment and swearing in documentation. George needs to submit a letter of resignation from the Appeals Board.
- Budget Committee appointments – tabled pending conversations with members
- Appointments of Planning Board alternates – tabled pending conversation with Barry Hathorne
- **American Rescue Plan funds:** Dawn reported that she completed the application process and Edgecomb should receive about \$133,000 soon. She also participated in an MMA online seminar about uses for the federal funding. She said uses are limited to projects that promote “continuity of government” during the pandemic. Janet Blevins questioned whether this might include ongoing website upgrade work and maintenance. The SB will discuss supporting a website consultant on a monthly basis at their next meeting.

#### 3. Ongoing Business

- **Communication with Doug Beck of Bureau of Parks and Land:** Lisa McSwain reported that she had a productive meeting with Mr. Beck. He viewed the Abbott

property and discussed beginning the conversion process to determine the worth of the property as compared with the worth of the tennis court. Lisa was encouraged that once the process begins, grant opportunities will be available to the town again. There is some confusion about the involvement of the federal government in doing the conversion work; while having them do the appraisal, surveying, etc. to satisfy Yellow Book appraisal of both parcels, the process can move along quickly. But there is concern on the part of the SB about possible permanent ownership/involvement by federal conservation bureaus. The Board discussed other options for Edgecomb acquiring the Abbott parcel and doing the conversion process ourselves. Mike will call Mr. Beck to clarify the process. Lisa also said that the Schmid endowment is beginning to be funded, and it will be managed by Maine Community Foundation.

- **Town Forum agenda:** Mike confirmed the Forum will be held via Zoom on Monday 10/25 from 7:00 – 8:30. He summarized the agenda topics: summary of take-aways from the last Forum, Administrative Assistant position, Town Hall improvements, ways to use funding from the American Recovery Act, expanding the water district, and planning Edgecomb's 250<sup>th</sup>. He would like to form 3 committees: TH improvements and using federal funds; defining the job description for an AA; planning the 250<sup>th</sup>. Barbara will put together this agenda for the Forum.
- **Adoption of Maine's General Assistance Ordinance** – tabled until all SM members have read it.
- **Town Clerk/Treasurer:** Claudia Coffin announced that the Hammond Fund will receive a donation from the estate of Susan Carlson.
- Mike would like Dawn to suggest to the School Committee and the principal of the EES that the students participate in the Charlie Brown Christmas activities again this year.
- Mike asked that the SB approve funding for electrical repairs at the TH to be done before the voting on Nov. 2. He motioned that they approve a \$1700 limit to Oberuch Electric to upgrade lights upstairs and going down the stairs and to repair bulbs downstairs. Ted seconded. Approved 3/0.
- Claudia mentioned that payment for the Gleason property has not been received. Payment for the parcel under agreement with the Heat Pump business on Rt 1 has also not been received. Mike will give them a call.
- Dawn was in contact with the School Committee about an end-of-mortgage celebration, which they will have when the pandemic restrictions loosen, in the spring?
- There is still an old fire truck for sale; Roland Abbott reported that there were several "tire kickers" but no buyers. Current asking price is \$2500.

**4. Warrants:** Ted submitted the following warrants for approval

- General Warrant #8                      \$229,592.74 (includes school payment)  
Ted motioned to accept; Mike seconded. Approved 3/0.
- Waste Water Warrant #104    \$3957.20

- Ted motioned to approve; Mike seconded. Approved 3/0
- TIF Warrant #201                      \$32,595.42  
Ted motioned to approve; Mike seconded. Approved 3/0.
- Claudia Coffin mentioned that we need to find out if water rates have changed.

5. Public Comment

- Roland Abbott asked that the SB asks the DOT to install traffic signs near the EES to slow the traffic. Mike discussed the history of this problem and the difficulty enforcing speed limits. Dawn said that Covid is preventing children from riding the buses, so that there are many cars entering and exiting from the school driveway onto Rt 27. Traffic does not slow down because there is not the usual flashing School sign. Mike said that Roland should pursue this concern with the School Committee, and Roland agreed to do so.

6. Next meeting date: November 1

7. Adjourn: 7:37