

# Edgecomb Select Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

6:00 P.M.

Edgecomb Town Hall

In attendance: Mike Smith, Lynn Norgang, Michael Maxim, Janet Blevins, George Chase, Claudia Coffin, Holly Stover. (Barbara transcribed these meeting minutes from a voice recording.)

1. Approval of Sept. 19, 2023 minutes: check spelling of Jessica Mague's name; use the word "appoint" for her position. Michael motioned to approve the minutes with these corrections; Lynn seconded. Approved 3/0.
  
2. New Business
  - a. Glidden Point liquor license: Ryan McPherson attended the meeting to re-apply for his liquor license. The caterer of a recent wedding at his business wanted to serve cocktails, so the caterer used their own liquor license, negating Ryan's beer/wine license. Lynn motioned to approve the application for the renewed license; Mike seconded; approved 3/0.
  
  - b. Updating building permit fees: Mike wonders if Edgecomb's building fees align with those of other communities or whether our fees need to be increased. George Chase recommended increasing fees to cover the cost of inspections by the CEO and Plumbing Inspector. He said new and relocated piers are especially costly because of involvement by engineers. Claudia Coffin questioned the need for raising fees since inspectors are paid through town taxes. George Chase is studying permit rates of similar towns and will report back.
  
  - c. 250th spending requests: Mike said all requests have to be approved by the SB before payment. He addressed the condition of the Fort with Holly Stover, asking that she request a safety/accessibility review by the state's Parks Department. Karen updated the SB on the progress of the 250th planning committee. Mike suggested the SB plan another Town Forum during March 2024 to discuss future goals.

The agenda paused at 6:30 for a Public Hearing on the increased sewer rates proposed by Wiscasset. (See PH notes following the SB Minutes.)

The SB meeting agenda resumed at 6:45.

3. Warrants: Lynn submitted the following warrant for approval

- a. General Warrant #7. \$106,100.47 (includes BBRDD payment; roads payment) Michael motioned to approve; Lynn seconded. Approved 3/0

4. Financials

- a. Claudia Coffin submitted a tax stabilization form due by Nov 1. Michael motioned to accept excess stabilization funding of \$13,458.07. Lynn seconded. Approved 3/0. Claudia will sign the form.

5. Ongoing Business

- a. Mike has not received word from FEMA and DEP regarding reimbursement for the May storm damage to the Spring Hill Farm Rd.
- b. Town Hall cleaning: Mike still needs another quote. The cleaning will be done before the end of the calendar year.
- c. Defibrillator purchase: Dr. Rohr was consulted and she thinks it is "a wonderful idea." She also volunteered to help with set-up and training. The SB will discuss the purchase using ARPA funds at their next ARPA meeting on 10/24 at 5:00.
- d. Health Officer suggestions: Dr Rohr would like to pursue a grant that would provide free water testing for all town residents. She also suggested finding ways to reduce standing water and resulting mosquitos in some areas. Mike will ask her to move forward with these ideas. Lynn suggested that perhaps we should add a Health event to the 2024 calendar.
- e. Mike will be installing the first 6 Edgecomb Veterans' Flags on town poles starting near the BB line.

6. Next meeting: Oct. 17

7. Adjourn 7:10

## Town of Edgecomb

### Public Hearing: Increases in Sewer Costs Proposed by Wiscasset

Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 PM

Mike Smith and Chris Collette of the WWD gave an overview. Davis Island, Edgecomb residents are connected to Wiscasset's sewer service. The WWD/Sewer District monitors usage, sets the rates, and bills the Edgecomb customers for this service.

Mr Cossette said the latest rates recommended by Wiscasset in an August meeting are \$41.27 for 0-300 cubic feet with an overage of \$15.91 for additional 100 c.f.

Edgecomb currently pays \$40.28 for 0-300 c.f. with an overage of \$15.53 for additional 100 c.f.

Mike explained that the rates have increased twice over the past two years, and as the treatment plant is in need of upgrading (costing potentially \$20M - \$40M), he expects rates to continue to increase. They discussed potential cost increases of 3% (\$41.48 and \$15.99) 5% (\$42.29 and \$16.30) and 10% (\$44.31 and \$17.08). Edgecomb also adds to these fees to cover cover costs. Mike would like to gain input from Davis Island customers to see how to best minimize continuous increases.

Chris Cossette also said the WWD has heard from Edgecomb leaders about interest in exploring inclusion in future WWD expansion. There will be a question on an upcoming ballot for residents to vote on this. The language for changing the charter is currently in legislation and there will be opportunity for public education before the ballot.