

EDEN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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Meeting held at Town Office at 6pm

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

07/09/2024

**Present; Tim Bullard, Clayton Whittemore, Ricky Morin, Melissa Whitcomb, Erica Webb, Pam Uhlendorff, and Johnna Uhlendorff**

1. Meeting opened at 6:03pm
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda: None
3. Citizens Input: None
4. Animal Control Officer Update: Updates to the Animal Control Statutes include that our local officer no longer has authority to investigate animal cruelty. Those complaints must be handled through the police.
5. Beach Update: Erica asked some clarifying questions about the Lake Eden Rec closing date. Camping is open until October 1<sup>st</sup> unless the Selectboard decides, based on weather, to extend until the 15<sup>th</sup>. If people are frequenting the day use or shelter area after Labor Day, they should be charged the daily fee for doing so. She also asked about improving the quality of the internet for campers, which has been an ongoing topic. The Town has recently switched internet providers for this reason, which has significantly increased the speed. It may require some sort of extenders for maximum speed to reach the entire area. At this time, internet is not part of the package/rates for Lake Eden Rec Area and although we are trying to come to a happy medium, it needs to be cost effective.  
Erica, Pam, and Johnna shared information regarding some incidents that have happened over the last few days. An individual that was part of a group visiting from one of the local mental health organizations caused a disturbance with other beach goers as well as damaged the swim rope in the water. After unsuccessful attempts to diffuse the situation, it was decided that the best course of action was to call the authorities. Once authorities and the individual's home care provider arrived, they were able to calm the person down and remove them from the property. Due to safety concerns of the general public, this individual has been asked not to return. The Selectboard is also asking for a plan to be put in place from the organization to prevent further incidents. On another note, there have been some concerns regarding behavior of campers. There have been a few complaints in regards to visitors and/or campers feeling uncomfortable around some of the other campers. The Selectboard asked that all complaints and incidents are noted and that concerns are addressed with the appropriate individual(s) as they arise.
6. Health Officer Update: None
7. Seven (7) orders were signed.
8. Reviewed minutes of 6/25/24. Clayton motioned to approve the minutes as written, Tim seconded, approved.
9. Highway Department Update:
  - a) A Right of Way Permit for White Mountain Cable/ American Directional Drilling, 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractors for Consolidated, was reviewed. Pending the receipt of payment and Certificate of Insurance, Ricky motioned to approve the permit for work to be done on the outside edge of the Right of Way except one spot where it is narrow as previously discussed with Ricky Howard (applicant). There will also need to be 5 feet of coverage in that narrow area as to not interfere with any future road or ditch work. Clayton seconded, approved.
  - b) Other: Damage done by Comcast contractors on Cooper Hill and Knowles Flat Road was discussed. These concerns were discussed in a special meeting October 17, 2023 with the third party contractors as well as two representatives with Comcast. The parties involved have been mostly

Melissa Whitcomb, Approved Minutes

unresponsive to any communication asking for updates and the work to be finished and/or corrected. Cooper Hill Road continues to be an issue with any heavy rain. Cables are repeatedly exposed and the road crew has had to do some work to bury the lines. The Selectboard denied a recent permit for Cooper Hill Road due to concerns with Knowles Flat and it being the same company who has not addressed the issue there. Melissa will reach out yet again to get an update.

Ricky is going to reach out to Norm at Pike for a quote for North Road paving. We have been unable to secure a grant and the road is in rough shape. He is also waiting on a quote from Salvas for sand for winter.

10. Ratify Additions and Deletions: None

11. Grant Update: Ricky has reached out to Peter Danforth regarding a culvert replacement on Griggs Road that was previously discussed. The plan is to use the VAG money that the State is holding to purchase the culvert.

12. Other Business:

a) Clerk's Office Addition Update: Tim is hopeful that he will have an update from the architect at the next meeting.

b) Ricky motioned to approve a Liquor License Application for the Snake and Apple at 1960 VT Route 100. Clayton seconded, approved.

c) A quote was received for a new hot water tank at the beach. Due to the cost and the fact that the current tank is not actively leaking, the selectboard decided to hold off on getting a new one installed.

Some information was given to the Selectboard regarding rates and policies at some of the area campgrounds for consideration when revising the current policy at Lake Eden Rec Area. Melissa will work on the policy in hopes to have it ready for review at the next meeting.

13. FYI: VT Electric CO-OP submitted a required letter for a project in Eden.

14. Ricky motioned to adjourn at 8:36pm, Clayton seconded.