

EDEN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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SELECTBOARD MINUTES

11/26/2024 @ 6:00 pm

Present at the meeting were Tim Bullard, Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Melissa Whitcomb, Nancy Roy, Anna Pirie, Scott Griswold, Pam Uhlendorff, Trevor Bidwell

1. Tim opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda: none
3. Citizen's Input:

Trevor Bidwell asked about offering a place for trash disposal again in Eden as he has a business, possibly at the Town garage. The town would need insurance from the business before establishing the site. Trash would be disposed of in a truck that came to the site one day during the week. Possibly starting with trash only and then add recycling depending on demand. This would be completely separate from any town business and handled strictly by Trevor's business. The town will do some additional research on the insurance needed and liability exposure and will get back to Trevor.

Nancy Roy & Anna Pirie: Nancy and Anna came to present a plan for a community park and garden with flower gardens, a community garden, fruit trees and possibly a gazebo and a stage. The proposal would be funded solely by grants. The goal would be a destination location for the community and possibly draw in other people for larger events. They will check in with Belvidere who has something similar.
4. Health Officer Update: None
5. Animal Control Officer Update: None
6. Newport Ambulance: Scott Griswold came to present the budget for next year. A number of circumstances have driven the budget up. From January through October, the number of calls was 125 fewer than last year. Mutual aid with other towns was also reduced. Salaries are going up 5% to try and keep employees in the area as full staffing reduces overtime and is less expensive overall. A new contract with Copley Hospital should increase the number of income generating calls. The proposed budget is increased by \$35,574 for the 5 participating towns which is about \$5,300 for Eden. The budget works out to about \$48.57 per Eden resident. Scott also mentioned that as the service in Johnson is covering Troy, sometimes ambulances might be parked at the bowling alley in Lowell or the fishing access at the north end of Lake Eden as this is a more efficient way of responding to the multiple towns.
7. Beach Update: Pam has been researching other reservation programs but has not found any alternative that would work better. They also discussed removing the online kiosk system for people to make their own reservations. We will go back to the staff booking directly through calls and emails. As the town pays \$3.50 per reservation, the suggestion was made to increase some rates to be inclusive of the reservation expense. Campsites will be \$30. RV sites will be \$45. Kids under 6 will get in for free. Children between 6 and 11 years old will be charged \$1.00. Shelter rentals for school groups or organizations, Monday through Friday will be \$50. Other groups, M-F will be \$75. Shelter rentals will be \$150 on Saturday and Sunday and that includes 50 guests (this option is for weekends only). Ricky made the motion to hire Pam Uhlendorff as the manager for the 2025 summer season. Pam asked that her daughter, Johnna and her partner act as assistant managers. Clayton seconded, all agreed and Pam is official.
8. Minutes: Review minutes of 11/12/24. Ricky made two corrections to the minutes of 11/12/24. The minutes referenced a driveway on East Hill which should have been North Road. Also, a reference was made to a driveway permit that was actually a permit to dig across the road. Ricky made the motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Tim seconded. Approved.
9. Signed (4) Orders
10. Highway Department Update: Ricky made the motion to sign the quote for the road salt. Clayton seconded, signed. The pavement on Knowles Flat damaged by the cable company is still waiting to be repaired. The gravel on the side of the road where the Boy Scout Camp Road structure was not replaced with crusher run gravel per the Town of Eden specifications. A final site visit with the engineer needs to be scheduled before the payment can be made in full.
11. Ratify Additions and Deletions: None
12. Grant Update: Ricky asked about Class 2 grants and requested that Alec Jones contact him about Better Roads.
13. Other Business:
 - a) Clerk's Office Addition Bids. Clayton motioned to exercise their right to reject all bids. Ricky seconded, approved. The consensus was that the bids received were much higher than the ARPA funds available and the plan for the addition will need to be scaled back, or savings found, to go ahead with the project. As the board will not be able to meet the December 31, 2024 ARPA deadline for a signed construction contract, they opted to sign a resolution that accounts for the expenditure of the remaining money through the costs of Blue Cross and Blue Shield spent from 2/1/22 thru 9/9/24. This will fulfill the requirement for ARPA and ensure no money is lost and in turn free up the money to be spent on the addition next year without the need to rush a contract. Ricky motioned to sign the resolution to spend

\$228115.23 to reimburse the town expenses for BCBS health insurance, Tim seconded. All agreed and the resolution was signed.

b and c) The board discussed meetings for December. It was agreed that the regular meeting on December 10th will remain the same. We will have an additional meeting on Monday the 16th to discuss the budget and sign orders only. The meeting on December 24th is cancelled. The board also has a budget meeting to attend at the NHP/Eden Fire Department at 7pm on Monday December 9th. There are no other meetings planned for the month.

14. FYI: Budget Meeting info- outside organizations

15. Ricky motioned to adjourn at 8:53pm, Clayton seconded. Meeting adjourned.