

TOWN OF EDEN
71 Old Schoolhouse Road, Eden Mills VT 05653
Minutes for the Selectboard Special Meeting
March 4, 2025 Immediately following Annual Town Meeting

Present at the meeting were Tim Bullard, Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore,
Melissa Whitcomb and Leslie White, Colleen & Vinny Brennan

1. Open Meeting. Tim opened the meeting @ 11:57 am.

The board moved to #9 on the agenda to accommodate Colleen and Vinny Brennan and asked them to give an update on Lake Eden, the Greeter program and the Eurasian Water Milfoil. Colleen stated that there are 3 grants in the works for 2025. A Greeter grant from ANC, a grant for milfoil from the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) applied for through the town and an additional grant for milfoil mitigation applied for through the Lake Eden Association. If received, these grant funds would cover the cost of the 2025 initiatives. With federal funding in question, there are possible alternatives with State of Vermont money and fund-raising efforts through the Lake Eden Association (LEA). Arrowwood has been hired to create a 5 year plan for milfoil management. LEA is part of the Federation of Lakes and Ponds which encompasses other people/groups using herbicide to control invasive water species. The Lake Eden Association has applied for an herbicide permit through the State of Vermont but even if the permit is approved, there are still many steps in the process before any application could be administered in 2026. The targeted areas are at the north end of the lake near the state fishing access and although that shallow area is the most concerning in terms of spread of the milfoil, the state has very strict parameters on how mitigation can proceed. Lake George in New York also has an infestation of invasive species and in that situation, the state has gone ahead with herbicide applications with their Lake Association not in full agreement. The Lake George Association is closely monitoring the health of the ecosystem and the quality of the drinking water which may provide a balance of perspective regarding herbicides in the water as Eden moved forward.

Colleen and Vinny Brennan left the meeting at 12:32pm

Clayton motioned to go into executive session at 12:33pm according to 1 V.S.A § 313 (a) (3) to discuss the appointment, employment, or evaluation of a public officer or employee. Clayton invited Leslie and Melissa to join the meeting, Tim seconded. Executive session ended at 1:12pm with no decisions being made.

2. Reorganization of the Selectboard: Chairperson. Ricky motioned to appoint Tim as chair. Clayton seconded. Tim will be acting as chair.

3. Appoint the following officers:

- a.) Delinquent Tax Collector
- b.) Fence Viewers

Newly Appointed
Melissa Whitcomb
Michele Cardinal
Jubal Durivage
Adam Degree
Matt Hill
Jeffrey Hunsberger

- c.) Dog Officer

- e.) Emergency Management Director/Coordinator

Tim motioned to appoint the above 6 residents to the corresponding positions. Clayton seconded. Agreed.

- d.) Inspection of Wood & Timber

Alexander Chidiac
Alexander Chidiac

- f.) Tree Warden

Ricky motioned to appoint Alex to the 2 positions above. Clayton seconded. Agreed

4. Town Service Officer

H. Bruce Burnor

5. Health Officer

Faye Cochran

Ricky motioned to appoint the residents to the 2 positions above. Clayton seconded.

6. Committee Appointments

- a.) Transportation Advisory Committee

Ricky Morin

Clayton motioned to appoint Ricky. Tim seconded. Agreed.

- b.) Transportation Advisory Committee “Alternate”
- c.) Sheriff’s Dept. Advisory
- d.) Newport Ambulance Advisory
- e.) Eden Youth Sports Committee

Kristina Brown
 Dan Lathrop
 Trevor Bidwell
Open Position (2)

Ricky motioned to temporarily re-appoint the 3 residents above until the Selectboard can meet in person at a selectboard meeting with all parties that are interested in serving on the sports committee. After legal consultation regarding the proper way that municipal committees need to operate, the selectboard is suspending the existing Eden Youth Sports Committee bylaws that were signed by the then selectboard in 2011 until further research can be done and a new policy for committees can be adopted. Clayton seconded. Agreed.

- f.) Eden Planning Commission

Kristina Brown
 Dan Lathrop
Open Position (3)

Ricky motioned to re-appoint the 2 members of the committee. Tim seconded. Agreed.

- g.) Eden Energy Committee

Craig Kneeland
 Matthew Mitchell
Open Position (3)

Tim motioned to re-appoint the 2 members of the committee. Ricky seconded. Agreed.

- h.) LFCUD (Broadband)

Carey Earle

Ricky motioned to appoint Carey for the position. Clayton seconded. Agreed.

- 7. Set time and date of regular Selectboard meetings. Ricky motioned to maintain the same schedule for the selectboard meetings. Regular meetings will be on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month starting at 6:00pm at the Eden Town Clerk’s Office. Tim seconded, agreed
- 8. Authorization to process and sign checks prior to Selectboard approval. Ricky motioned to approve. Clayton seconded. Agreed.
- 9. Any other business.
 - a.) Letter of Support for Greeter Grant. Ricky motioned to sign the letter of support. Tim seconded. Letter was signed.
 - b.) Other. Addressed above at the beginning of the meeting.

- 10. Adjourn. Clayton motioned to adjourn at 1:24 pm. Ricky seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Leslie White, scribe

Unapproved minutes