

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING – EDEN TOWN BOARD**

**East Eden Fire Hall**

**8097 East Eden Rd.**

**Eden, NY 14057**

**October 11, 2023 7:00 P.M.**

This meeting was held in-person and virtually through GoToMeeting.com. The meeting link was made available to the public prior to the meeting.

**TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

RICH VENTRY - SUPERVISOR  
 SUSAN WILHELM - COUNCILPERSON  
 MICHAEL BYRNES - COUNCILPERSON  
 GARY SAM - COUNCILPERSON  
 VINCENT VACCO - COUNCILPERSON

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Emily Hawkins - Town Clerk  
 Marlene Grunder - Administrative Assistant  
 Lisa Winter - Bookkeeper

**GUEST:**

John Mills - Legislator

Supervisor Ventry called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**#144-2023: MOTION** was made by Councilmember Wilhelm to approve the Town Board Minutes of September 13, 2023; seconded by Councilmember Vacco; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**Petitions:** None.

**Budget Transfers:**

**October 2023**

<b>From Account</b>	<b>To Account</b>	<b>Reason for Amendment</b>	<b>Amount</b>
A2170 Community Development Income	A6989.4 Other Economic Development	NY Main Street Grant - Eden Family Dental 8600 Depot & Eat'sa Pizza, Four Corners	\$86,326.69
A2770 Other Unclassified Revenue	A8540.4 Drainage - Contractual	Resident's Portion off Off-Road Drainage Project 2022-01	\$1,000.00
A2192 Cemetery Services	A8810.1 Cemetery - Personal	Payment for Burials to offset expense	\$871.00
A2192 Cemetery Services	A8810.4 Cemetery - Contractual	Payment for Burials to offset expense	\$515.00
A7140.1 Playground & Rec Centers Contractual	A7150.4 Special Rec Facilities Contractual	Additional Cost Pool Repairs and higher chemicals and utilities	\$4,100.00
D5130.4 Machinery - Contractual	D5130.2 Machinery - Equipment	Amount short for Equipment Purchase	\$87.50

**#145-2023: MOTION** was made by Supervisor Ventry to approve the Budget Transfers as presented; seconded by Councilmember Sam; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**\*\*Assignments**

A915.6 Use of assigned Non Rec Funds for Off Road Drainage Project 2022-01 \$1500.00 - A8540.4

D915.4 Use of Assigned for Sidewalks \$25,176.00 - D5410.4

**Audit Bills:**

**October 2023**

DESCRIPTION	VOUCHER NUMBERS	AMOUNT
General Fund	625-688	\$168,590.98
Fire Dept. Fund	224-247	\$12,543.09
Recreation Fund	165-177	\$5,598.86
Water Fund	16	\$175.00
Street Lights Fund	33-39	\$3,604.56
Refuse Fund	19	\$127.00
Highway Fund	225-264	\$270,992.46
Capital H1620.4	6	\$80.36

**#145-2023: MOTION** was made by Supervisor Ventry to approve the Audit of Bills as presented; seconded by Councilmember Wilhelm; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**Departmental Reports:**

Department reports for the month of October 2023 were submitted by Scott Crowe, East Eden Fire Chief; Malcolm VanKoughnett, Eden Fire Chief; Susan Johnson, Assessor; Greg Savage, Eden Police Chief; Emily Hawkins, Town Clerk; Dave Rice, Code Enforcement Officer & Buildings and Grounds; Drew Riedel, Recreation Director; and Nick Blaszczyk, Dog Control Officer. All reports are on file in the Town Clerk’s office.

**#146-2023: MOTION** was made by Councilmember Wilhelm to ratify the approval of retaining Attorney, Peter Godfrey, of Hodgson Russ for a personell matter; seconded by Councilmember Vacco; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**Committee Reports:**

Town Board Members gave updates on various boards, committees, and departments.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items Only:** No public comment.

**New and Unfinished Business:**

**1. Presentation on Broadband Internet:**

Wes Smith and Dave Hocking, members of the CWA, presented on additional broadband internet access in rural areas. NYS has set aside 1.6 billion dollars for internet access in underserved communitites which will be available through the Connect All office in NYC.

**#147-2023: MOTION** was made by Supervisor Ventry to open the Public Hearing for the Community Development Block Grant; seconded by Councilmember Vacco; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

The Public Hearing was open at 7:33 PM.

**Notice to the Citizens of the Town of Eden:**

A Public Hearing will be held on October 11, 2023 at 7:30 pm at the East Eden Fire Hall regarding the use of Federal Community Development funds on the Town of Eden.

The Town of Eden is eligible for a Federal Community Development Grant under Title 1 of the House and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

The purpose of the Hearing is to provide an opportunity for citizens to express community development and housing needs and to discuss possible projects which would benefit low and moderate-income persons in the Town of Eden.

Citizens are urged to attend this meeting to make known their views and/or written proposals on the Town of Eden's selection of potential projects to be submitted for possible funding by the Federal Community Development Grant Program.

The Hearing will also present a review of prior Community Development projects and expenditures and a discussion of eligible activities. The meeting room is wheelchair accessible. Those needing special arrangements should call the Town of Eden at (716) 992-3408 by October 09, 2023.

Supervisor Ventry asked if there was anyone present to be heard:

Councilmember Wilhelm suggested adding an elevator to the library.

Bill Trask stated his support of the Rural Transit service.

**#148-2023: MOTION** was made by Supervisor Ventry to close the Public Hearing; seconded by Councilmember Wilhelm; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:35 PM.

**2. Proclamation Celebrating 100 years of the Fire Department:**

Proclamation of the 100th Anniversary of Eden and East Eden

WHEREAS, this year marks the 100 th anniversary of the Eden and East Eden Fire Departments; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Eden Supervisor and Town Board would like to honor its past and present volunteer firefighting members for 100 years of fire protection to the citizens of the Town of Eden, New York, and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, there were two major fires in 1922 in which a bucket brigade was used that demonstrated a need for an organized fire department; and

WHEREAS, in 1923 the Eden and East Eden Fire Departments were formed by a group of residents under the leadership of Chief Albert Castle and Chief Thomas Babinger with only two pieces of chemical apparatuses; and

WHEREAS, in 1947 a tank trucker and pumper were added to the fleet because water was only available from ponds and wells; and

WHEREAS, the Eden and East Eden Fire Departments is now celebrating its 100 th Anniversary with a department of over 14 pieces of apparatuses and over 85 active members who are prepared to respond to emergencies at a moment's notice and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Eden Town Supervisor and Town Board do hereby proclaim Saturday, October 21, 2023, a day of celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Eden and East Eden Fire Departments. We extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the past and current members for their service and dedication to the people of the Town of Eden over the past 100 years.

**3. Brownfield Opportunity Grant:**

**#149-2023: MOTION** was made by Councilmember Wilhelm to approve Richard Ventry to authorize and execute the Brownfield Opportunity Area Grant for \$90,000 with the Town's matching portion not to exceed \$10,000; seconded by Councilmember Vacco; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**4. Approve Tentative Budget as Preliminary Budget:**

**#150-2023: MOTION** was made by Supervisor Ventry to approve the tentative 2024 budget as the preliminary budget; seconded by Councilmember Byrnes; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**5. Adopt Proposed Fire Budget as Preliminary Budget:**

**#151-2023: MOTION** was made by Supervisor Ventry to approve the tentative 2024 fire budget as the preliminary budget; seconded by Councilmember Byrnes; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**6. Annouce Trick or Treat Hours:**

Trick or Treat hours will be from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM on October 31, 2023.

**7. Approve to Add Unpaid Water Bills to Tax Warrant:**

**#152-2023: MOTION** was made by Councilmember Wilhelm to include \$1,596.21 in unpaid 2023 water charges to the 2024 Town and County Tax Bills and authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the Letter of Authorization and any other paperwork required; seconded by Councilmember Sam; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**8. Dog Control Agreement with North Collins:**

#153-2023: MOTION was made by Supervisor Ventry to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town of Eden and the Town of North Collins for dog control services effective January 1, 2024; seconded by Councilmember Sam; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**9. Amend Rate of Pay:**

#154-2023: MOTION was made by Supervisor Ventry to amend Janet Cunfer's rate of pay to \$21.70 effective October 8, 2023; seconded by Councilmember Byrnes; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**10. Requesting up to \$100,000 for Town Hall Roof Project:**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR RICHARD S VENTRY TO EXPEND FUNDS FROM THE RESTRICTED CAPITAL RESERVE – GENERAL MAINTENANCE OF THE TOWN OF EDEN SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM

The Town Board of the Town of Eden, duly convened in a regular session does hereby resolve pursuant to the provisions of Section 6-C of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York that the Town Supervisor of the Town of Eden be and is hereby authorized and directed to appropriate a sum not to exceed \$100,000.00 from the Restricted Capital Reserve General Maintenance A878.9 of the Town of Eden for partial funding of the Town Hall Roof Project.

#155-2023: MOTION was made by Councilmember Wilhelm to approve the resolution as presented; seconded by Councilmember Byrnes; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**11. Set Public Hearing:**

#156-2023: MOTION was made by Supervisor Ventry to set a public hearing for November 8, 2023 at 7:15pm for a proposed local law imposing a temporary moratorium on the issuance of applications and the granting of zoning permits or approvals for the siting and operation of New York State licensed adult-use cannabis retail dispensaries and on-site consumption sites (hereinafter collectively referred to as "licensed cannabis facilities"), pursuant to Chapter 217 of the Town of Eden Code in order to allow for the consideration and possible adoption of appropriate amendments to existing regulations pertaining to such uses; seconded by Councilperson Vacco; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**12. Appoint Louis DeCarolis as Part-Time Police Officer:**

#156-2023: MOTION was made by Supervisor Ventry to appoint Louis DeCarolis as part-time police officer at a training rate of \$15.00 per hour; seconded by Councilmember Byrnes; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

**Hearing of Visitors:**

Legislator John Mills gave an update on current county legislative matters as well as the following for the Town of Eden:

- HEAP Outreach December 12<sup>th</sup> at the Eden Town Hall
- Winterization Kits will be available at the Eden Town Hall beginning in December
- Clarksburg Bridge repair update

**Supervisor's Report:**

- Bley Road from Belknap to Mill will have a full closure beginning 10/23 to repair the bridge.
- Fall Fest at Swartz Field 10/21 from 2-4pm
- Eden Respite is a program designed for people with dementia to give caretakers a break and is held one time per month at the Methodist Church.

#157-2023: MOTION was made by Supervisor Ventry to close the meeting of the Eden Town Board and enter Executive Session; seconded by Councilmember Byrnes; Ayes: All; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Motion carried.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 P.M. Executive Session was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Emily Hawkins, Town Clerk