

Vershire Selectboard minutes for 9/1/20 - Approved

In attendance: Vernal Stone-Chair, Marc McKee, Alan Lyford-HW Foreman, Gene Craft-Administrative Assistant, Debra Kingsbury-Sec'y Guest: Tonya Gunn- Sarah Thrasher joined at 7:35pm.

Vernal Stone called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Highway Foreman report: Lyford stated that Moody Hill Road out to the Hammer property is a Class 3, but beyond is a legal trail and mostly impassable by vehicles. Stone stated that a property resident had called him to inquire about culvert repairs on the trail section. Lyford stated that the town doesn't do work on trails, but would go out and take a look and measurements and report back to the Board. Ditching to satisfy the TRORC grant fund program for storm water runoff is continuing on Durgin Hill Rd. Lyford has interacted with Rita Seto at TRORC about the 80/20 grant funds to replace/build salt storage for town highways. Lyford would like to apply for the grant to see if the town can qualify for the program funds in 2021. Lyford stated that Chelsea was offering their York rake for sale and thought it would be a good equipment addition with hydraulic applications being used on the tractor. A new rake would run about \$5400.

Beaver issues: There is one beaver site on Durgin, and the critters on Eagle Hollow are now cutting trees across the road. The land owner needs a letter stating that the fish are swimming in the culvert rather than the water flowing thru it, and that there are a series of dams on both ends of the beaver made pond. Lyford is very concerned about the integrity of the road undercarriage. Town Counsel will draft and send a letter to the property owner. Stone stated that resolution is needed now, or the town needs to get T. Brown, from the State, prior to winter.

Craft stated that he had informed property owners via the List-serve about the tax bill mailing being delayed, and he's waiting for the state education rate confirmation.

Durgin Hill recycle/trash site discussion: Residents have been seen depositing items after hours when the gate is closed. Stone stated that people need to adhere to the rules for disposing trash, cleaning recyclables, breaking down cardboard boxes, and utilizing the supplied compost buckets.

Gunn stated that she was aware of certain residents' extended needs through her work with Helping Hands, and she would inform them about proper waste procedures and assist with acquiring an occasional green bag if needed. Craft stated that he's still making efforts to move forward with some sort of a punch card system for trash, thus eliminating the green bags.

Gunn, representing VerShare, asked the Board if VerShare could be allowed to use the pizza oven for fund raisers for the next few Sundays for pick-up and pay orders. She proposed that there would be a small crew in the kitchen to make the preparations for 24 pizzas each Sunday with staggered pick-up times. McKee asked about the firewood. Gunn replied that wood was being volunteered. Stone asked if people were trained on

the oven use. Craft replied that he would be assisting with the training. Thrasher made the motion to allow VerShare to use the pizza oven for 4 Sundays in September to benefit VerShare. All were in favor.

It was noted that RISD had begun opening for student orientation.

Municipal Tax Rate worksheet and extended grace period/due date extension reviewed. The Board will meet next Tuesday the 8th at 7pm. to set the municipal rate.

Discussion followed about 815 VCR. Thrasher asked if the ad had been placed in three outlets and if the Clerk had received any responses. The answer to both was "yes." Craft added that the town newsletter is upcoming and there will be a sample ballot included. He also stated that there will be interaction with town counsel about the conveyance of real estate.

Durgin Hill land subdivision and interacting with engineer Townsend was discussed. Lyford suggested that the old dead maples and ash be harvested prior to any future offering and that the wood be used for the bread/pizza oven.

A new shed for the Town Center Building: McKee has interacted with P. Barnes about the design and tying it in with the existing structure at the Bread Oven. McKee offered to donate the logs for the beams and boards. Thrasher stated her gratitude and motioned that the shed project move forward. All in favor and McKee will contact Barnes about needed log lengths.

The Board went into executive session at 8:32 and returned at 8:48, after discussing an employee issue. The Selectboard did not reach a decision regarding the employee issue and opted to wait for more information before reaching any decisions. McKee then made the motion to adjourn the meeting to September 8, 2020, at 7:00pm, to resume discussions of, and then to set, the town property tax rate. Seconded by Vern and all were in favor. Board adjourned at 8:49pm.

Minutes for 8/18 will be reviewed 9/8 and orders will be signed as the Board members can access the town office individually.