

## Vershire Selectboard minutes for 4/13/21 APPROVED

In attendance: Vernal Stone, Ken Bushey, Tonya Gunn, Gene Craft-Admin Asst., Alan Lyford-HW Foreman, Debra Kingsbury-Sec'y, Steve Atwood-HO Guests: Kevin Blakeman, Doug Stone, Kelly Bushey, Eleanor Zue, Reva Seybolt, Nicole White-Fogarty, Mark Fogarty, Ethel Pike

Vernal Stone called the meeting to order and welcomed Ken Bushey for his elected three year position on the Board and to Tonya Gunn for her election to the two year position.

Agenda reviewed: First order of business after annual town meeting/elections is to nominate the Selectboard Chair. Gunn nominated Vernal Stone and Bushey seconded and all were in favor. Next task: Road Commissioner and Vernal Stone explained those responsibilities. Bushey nominated Stone, Gunn seconded and all were in favor.

Craft confirmed the upcoming legislatures' round table zoom session, to enable voters to interact with the Orange County legislatures, would be held Saturday the 17th at 9am and that the Zoom link would be on the Vershirevt.org website. David Hooke and Debra Kingsbury will co-host, after Craft launches the zoom program.

Kevin Blakeman, who owns a rental complex on Rte 113, came to update the Board about his recent need to interact with the Town Health Officer, Steve Atwood, as occupants in one of the units were causing less than acceptable sanitary conditions on the interior. Atwood did an on-site visit on Thursday the 8th and gave the occupants until Sunday the 18th to comply with his requests. Atwood detailed the town's limitations and suggested that Blakeman may need to take to court for violation of rental codes and continue to interact with DCF if needed. Atwood will follow up after his Sunday re-inspection.

Reva Seybolt asked about the late votes that arrived after the town meeting/election day on April 6th. Craft and Stone had researched and per VT voting guideline, postmarks do not count. Craft had posted instructions on the listserv sharing that late votes would not count and the importance of getting them delivered prior to the close of voting at 7pm.

Highway Foreman report: Lyford stated that Stone needs to add his signature to the others on the Bridge and Road standards annual form to enable Lyford to move forward with any grant applications. Stone will stop in tomorrow am and then Lyford can submit as due on the 15th, along with the town financial statements. ( Craft was able to upload the town report and send to the DOT and Alison can assist with scan/sending the balance of the information , along with retaining copies for the town files, so Lyford doesn't have to drive the paperwork to WRJ). Lyford plans to submit an application to shim/resurface Goose Green Rd from Vershire Riding School Rd to Rte 113. The paving estimate is at \$180K. Should Vershire get the paving grant it would be an 80/20 split so roughly the state would contribute \$140K and Vershire \$40K. Lyford also got an estimate to pave South Vershire Road from Miller Pond Road to French's property in the amount of 66K, but is holding back on committing to that project as he has concerns about potential damage that might happen when the EPA does the reclamation project at the superfund site, due to the heavy equipment needed. Gunn asked about paving the town center parking lot when paving company is in the area and perhaps the town

office parking lot as well. Lyford replied that the drain at the Town Office lot needs to be raised first, but could get a price for those items. The reclamation project on Rte 113 was discussed as that contractor is looking for an area to park their equipment and store the materials during the project. Lyford felt that the area at the Durgin site was too small and he plans to get a metal dumpster unit back in there for the summer.

Doug Stone, Pres. Of the Westshire ATV club, came in to thank the town for allowing the club to ride the roads/trails and wanted to know if the Board had any questions for him to take back to their upcoming meeting. He added they were gearing up for Green-Up Day.

Allen's Affordable salvage yard update: Craft spoke to LaFlamme last week and he plans to have the crushing company on site in the next week with plans to remove another 300 vehicles. LaFlamme is looking for the Board to renew his certificate to operate for another 2 years, so that will need review. Bushey asked what the terms were for the last agreement. Craft shared that a certain number of cars were to be removed and interior roads passable to access vehicle parts for a salvage operation. Craft added that the Board should interact with the State to determine their status /involvement and satisfaction at present.

Green-Up day scheduling: Kelly Bushey stated it was happening on Saturday May 1st this year and wanted to go over the details/needs. Zue asked if the highway crew could have the dumpster and back-hoe at the Town Center Building as they did last year. Evergreen tire collection was not available last year. Kelly will reach out to Evergreen about availability for this year. Lyford agreed that if Evergreen can come, it would be best to have them at the TCB and not at the Durgin site. IF they come this year, the first two tires from a resident's car are free, and if they bring more they will pay per tire. Gunn asked about electronic collection. That was also postponed last year and GUVSWD will have to be contacted. Craft thought that H. Gillette would be the contact and that they may have electronic collection in June at a location to be determined. Kelly will post on the listserv about the Green-up day bag distribution and she then records and reports the number of bags collected and number of tires. As a reminder, do not pick up any needles or bottles with fluid in them. Wear gloves and masks, too. Bring the green-up bags to the TCB on Saturday and the HW crew will transport to the solid waste site on Monday. The Westshire ATV club will once again do the green-up collection along Eagle Hollow Rd (THANK YOU!)

The Board moved to appoint Eleanor Zue as a Cemetery Trustee and she graciously accepted.

Ken Bushey stated that he plans to step down from the Planning Commission and this will be on the agenda for the Planning Commission meeting tomorrow night.

Storm water permit for the new garage project: Julie F from ANR indicates that it may be issued by 5/3 and conversations are in the works about potential grant funds for a new sand/salt shed. Bushey and Craft will talk with Architect James Coe in the next week. It was noted that Craft expects some sort of response about the recent grant application submitted to Welch's office around 4/16. Gunn stated that she had seen a report indicating that 73K in Federal grant funds may be headed to Vershire (based on population- guidelines for how these funds are to be used has yet to be determined).

Gunn wanted to verify that the Board was okay with the Moon and Stars food truck being on site at the TCB on Fridays 10-12 when the food-shelf is open. Bushey moved to allow the food truck to be at the TCB at the above stated time. Stone seconded and motion was passed. Pike and Seybolt asked if the lower level of the TCB could be open, now that the weather is warmer, to allow food shelf recipients to come in and make choices with the plan being there'd be less waste of items that they didn't enjoy/use in the food distributions. Seybolt stated they would direct people, one at a time, to access thru the rear door, make their choices and exit via the other rear door. The Board asked how many families are being served. Seybolt replied about 10-12 per week, which usually included 2-3 deliveries. Bushey made a motion to allow the food-shelf to allow public access on the lower level of the TCB at their designated Friday 10-12 timeframe starting 4/30. Stone seconded and the motion passed.

The minutes for 3/30/21 were approved as amended and the orders will be reviewed and signed when the Board members can access the town office individually.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.