

Vershire Selectboard minutes for 5/25/21 Approved

In attendance: Vernal Stone-Chair, Ken Bushey, Tonya Gunn, Gene Craft-Admin. Asst., Debra Kingsbury-Sec'y, Alan Lyford-HW Foreman; Guests: Nicole White-Fogarty, Marc McKee, Ethel Pike, Reva Seybolt, Mark Fogarty

Vernal Stone called the meeting to order at 7:04pm Stone asked for any revisions to the agenda- Craft asked that the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Board 2/23/21 be reviewed. McKee inquired about the tenancy status at 815 VCR. Bushey asked to update the Board about the formation of a recreation committee.

Preview of Procedure Rules: Craft reminded the Board that a Vice-Chair needs to be elected and continued to review the remaining paragraphs. White-Fogarty asked if the rules/procedures were posted on the town website. Craft will review and post. Bushey suggested that the Board's meeting place be revised to stipulate the Town Office OR the Town Center Building. Stone agreed that once the in-person meetings resume that for distancing they may be held at the TCB. Bushey was nominated to be Vice-Chair of the Board and all were in favor.

Tree Warden: Fogarty has expressed interest in serving as the Tree Warden and wanted to make sure there was no conflict as he was a highway employee. Bushey stated that he attended webinars on the topic and that often the Highway Foreman serves in that role, so it should not be a factor. Gunn asked if there was a job description for the position. Craft replied that he would compile that for the next meeting. Lyford reminded the Board that they serve as Tree Warden at present and the job description should be gotten to Fogarty for his review. Lyford added that he would welcome him for the position especially with his background and being local.

Road Report: Lyford reported encouraging news from District 4 that the paving grant for Goose Green Road looks good and still remains at an 80/20 split. Lyford has spoken to Pike Paving to coordinate the project while paving Rte 113. Lyford will meet with Craft to review the capital paving budget as he'd like to be able to pave SVR near Miller Pond if possible this year. Bushey asked about any culverts of concern. Lyford replied that the ones by Duck Hollow and Mero Rd. could both be done prior to any paving. Lyford reported that the crew is applying the dust control material but with the excessive dry weather it doesn't work as it does when it can extract moisture from the air. Gunn asked if Lyford had gotten an estimate to repave the Town Center parking area as there might be grant funds to install a basketball court. Lyford will inquire about that paving area estimate later in the week.

Lyford informed the Board that the guardrails on SVR above Ayers Road are shifting into the brook-side and asked if there were any funds to correct them. Craft will reach out to Lafayette Guardrail Co. for a quote as that would fall under a safety repair.

K. Smith informed Lyford that bear visits at the Durgin site are an issue and that the bear went across the road to their property, and up on their porches causing chaos. Discussion followed as to where to relocate the packer and perhaps having to drive it to Lebanon weekly instead of when full every other week. It is important that residents do not make deposits other than at the designated time Saturday 7am -Noon, or they will be notified and fined. Pike suggested that notice be posted on the listserv about the

bear troubles. Craft added that leaving trash after the posted hours is a violation of both trespassing and illegal dumping and fines can be imposed. It was noted that the game camera was ready to install. Gunn stated that a sign could be posted at the Durgin site and that they might install solar motion lighting. Pike asked if WEC could install a security light. Lyford stated that WEC previously stated it would be costly due to the access line distance and probably best to be run underground. Craft asked how many solar lights and what it would cost to resolve the lighting at the sight. Gunn suggested a solid pole be installed to mount the solar lighting and would look into the lumens and cost factor.

McKee stated that he had received a phone call from a Federal Parole Officer inquiring about any activity of one of our past town residents and if any sightings or activity by the parolee has been viewed to pass the info along to McKee who can report it to the Officer.

Vershire Day format discussed: Stone stated that VF&R was moving forward with the BBQ plans for 7/3 from 3-6pm and the plan was to limit access in the dining hall for the meals and have the participants dine outside. Craft will check on the musicians/performers and Kingsbury will pull the food solicitation list together. Fireworks costs reviewed. Stone will check the launching racks at the station and get back to Craft.

In person Selectboard meetings to resume: Craft will research how to best handle the technology to accommodate participants that may still wish to attend via "zoom". Gunn stated that the set-up may be extensive and expensive and asked if we could get a grant. Bushey asked if we could eliminate the "zoom" option. Craft will check with VLCT about guidelines. Stone tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

Gunn asked if the meeting recordings could be posted on You-Tube. Stone asked how they could be monitored and shared concerns about hackers. Pike suggested that access link be made easier (thru the town website?) Craft explained the constraints of recording and sending to the "cloud" and the space it takes up on the computer and noted that participants may be averse to being posted on you-tube. Kingsbury stated that this seemed to be a non-cost effective idea and asked that we move on in the agenda. Bushey added that he preferred to see participants in person, even if on "zoom".

Craft spoke with the log cabin tenants "sponsor" who asked for a recording on the emergency meeting held on 5/14/21 about the tenancy at 815 VCR.

Recreational Committee update: Bushey stated that he had posted the idea on the listserv and received 4 volunteer responses and asked if he could hold a meeting at the TCB to review the grounds on 6/16. The Board approved the request.

Town Center Building committee role and purpose discussed: Seybolt stated that she had sent the revised format to Craft with the addition of having not more than one member from any particular formed organization such as VerShare or TMS. Gunn stated that they didn't have a full group organized as yet and recommended that they might return in 2 weeks. Stone stated that the Board could vote of the formation of the committee tonight and asked Seybolt what their goals were. Seybolt stated the

following: best way to rent out the building, physical access needs, proposal of other ideas of uses and then assign volunteers to administer the needs and direction. Stone moved to accept the TCB Committee proposal. Bushey seconded and all were in favor. The committee will inform the Board of their members at the next Board meeting.

Seybolt updated the Board on the rear storage room progress at the TCB for the Food shelf and stated that improved lighting was needed. She added that W. Parker was going to work on the shelving. Craft reminded the Food shelf organizers that they needed to get permission for any work being done in the TCB from the Board. Stone offered to meet Seybolt and Gunn at 1pm Weds to try a new 3 head light that might work to improve the lighting for the area.

Highway Garage project update: Bushey has been in touch with Architect Coe and the drawings for the building have been updated so they can now be sent to commercial construction companies for building cost estimates. Bushey stated that the sand and salt shed will be a separate item at a later date and that Greg Dixson (Krebs & Lansing) will interact with Coe on the site work aspect. Bushey in speaking with Dixson said that the initial permits were in place and expected the storm water permit by 6/16. Craft stated that the Board needs an estimate for the highway building so that a bond vote can be structured. He added that there may be some grant money from Leahy's office to replace the sand and shed containment. It was stated that the tenant at 815 VCR has paid an additional month's rent thru 6/15/21. Gunn asked if any site work had been started. Stone replied that work will be held off until all permits are in place.

Minutes for 5/11 and 5/14 were approved. Orders were reviewed and will be signed when the Board members can access the town office. It was suggested that the minutes and orders approval might be moved to the start of the agenda. Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm