

Vershire Selectboard Minutes for 6/8/2021 Approved

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

Vernal Stone called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Stone asked if there were any revisions to the agenda. Craft added a discussion about the Town Center Boiler.

Town Roads Report: Lyford stated that the backhoe's front hub bearing had broken, Nortrax came to fix it and afterward the crew tested and the front wheel hub was locked. Lyford is calling Nortrax back to determine next steps.

The mowing tractor's computer is acting up again. Lyford is going to contact New Boston where it was serviced prior to see if the computer can be scanned and Lyford may also call Pete's Repair in Morrisville for services.

Lyford will interact with TRORC about ditching grants and hasn't heard back from District 4 to coordinate paving Goose Green Road as yet.

Lyford and Craft will review the year end highway budget.

Highway Garage Update: Bushey passed along an initial estimate from a commercial building firm for both the new garage and sand and salt shed. Bushey will request a more detailed breakdown of the numbers. Craft commented that it may not be realistic for the town to build a new garage in 2021 as the cost of building materials and concrete have increased two fold. The Selectboard will hold an information meeting for the public at a later date once they have a better sense of costs and time frame.

Craft received a rental inquiry about the house on 815 Vershire Center Road from DHMC trying to house a new staff member, and asked if the new garage isn't going to be built this year, might the Board wish to rent 815 VCR again. The current tenant's lease has expired but should be out of the house by 6/15/21. The tenant has paid rent for the period from May 15 through June 15. The Board agreed to table the topic until the next meeting.

Prior Meeting Minutes: Minutes for 5/25 were approved. Warrants were reviewed and approved and will be signed by individual Board members at the town office.

New Business: Vershire Day: Craft stated that he is still trying to schedule a band for Vershire day prior to the fireworks.

Pike, who has been appointed as VerShare's liaison to interact with the Selectboard, stated that VerShare is unsure if they will be serving pizza but they may do a book and plant sale earlier in the day at the Church-Orr House,

Craft stated that Steve Ward will mow the upper field in preparation for the fireworks. Stone stated that there is a Fire Dept. meeting on Thursday night when details will be finalized.

Craft stated that there will not be a parade this year due to logistics of receiving permits in time from the Vermont State police and VTrans.

Rec Committee Update: Bushey will post a notice on the Listserv to have a meeting next Weds, June 16th on the field at the Town Center Building. This will be an informational meeting to see who is interested in establishing this committee.

Tree Warden Appointment: Fogarty is interested in this position and has read the provided material from Craft. Currently the Selectboard is the tree warden and any land owner is expected to contact them about removing/changing trees in the Town Right of Way (TROW). Fogarty plans to start by developing the Shade Tree Preservation Plan for the town and informing the public about their rights along with the towns. Pike questioned if town owned property and land would also be covered by this plan. Fogarty stated any town owned land would, except town forest. Bushey stated there is state help with developing the plan and they will provide guidance however we missed the deadline for this year. Fogarty stated that the plan/map would start small with the highly traveled roads then down to the town's smaller roads. Fogarty restated that he wants to start by informing the public. Stone moved to appoint Fogarty for the Town Tree Warden, Gunn seconded and all were in favor.

Secretary Appointment: Kingsbury has requested to take the summer off from being the Selectboard secretary. Kingsbury stated that Nicole White-Fogarty is willing to step in. Stone moved that the premature open discussion of a personnel issue would cause the municipality to suffer substantial disadvantage and that the Board should move into executive session. Gunn seconded and all were in favor. Executive session began at 8:10pm and the Board returned at 8:32pm with a resulting decision that White-Fogarty be appointed as the Board's secretary from tonight 6/8 as training and then through 8/24. White-Fogarty accepted the appointment.

Review Town Center Building Committee/Appointment Recommendations: Gunn requested that the appointed committee consist of 5-7 members as 7 people showed

interest and were willing to participate at the informational meeting. Gunn stated that having 5-7 members offers flexibility. Bushey stated that for a quorum, 4 of the 7 members are required to be present when holding committee meetings. Gunn stated the following people would like to be appointed as members of the TCBC: Nickolas Bennett, Caro Bick, Suzanne Gauthier, Gary Goodrich, Tonya Gunn, Reva Seybolt, and Nicole White-Fogarty. Stone made the motion to revise the Town Center Building Committee (TCBC) from 5 to 5-7 members, Bushey seconds, all were in favor.

Stone moves to accept the named 7 interested members, Bushey second and all were in favor.

Stone inquired when the first meeting will be held. Gunn stated that TCBC would like to meet on June 15th at 7pm when they will appoint a chair, co-chair and secretary. Gunn stated that TCBC would like to hold a work day prior to Vershire Day to work on the grounds cleaning up the picnic tables, raking wood chips and cleaning the kitchen. Gunn is requesting approval to purchase materials to fix broken boards on the picnic tables. Craft stated there was \$300 available in the Town Center Fund. Stone moved to approve purchasing materials for the picnic tables up to \$300. Bushey second. Craft stated an agenda needed to be written prior to the 15th which could be posted on the Town Website and minutes will need to be recorded and submitted as well.

Town Center Boiler: Craft informed the Selectboard that the Town Center Building boiler was reported to continue heating zone 4 although it was not cold in the building. Volunteers for the food shelf who were in the building shut the boiler down by the emergency switch and alerted the Board via email. Craft has been in contact with Irving Energy and it is set to service the boiler on Thursday. It cost \$189 for the travel time and then their base rates will apply afterward for the service. Stone inquired when it was last serviced. Craft stated it has been at least 2 years. Stone motioned to have the boiler serviced on Thursday by Irving Energy, Bushey second and all were in favor.

Kingsbury inquired about light fixtures in the downstairs of TCB. Craft stated Tilden installed strip lighting in the rear storage room which has made a major improvement. Contact paper is the only thing left to do on the shelves in the storage room to complete the food shelf space.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.