

Vershire Selectboard minutes for 7/20/21 approved

In attendance: Vernal Stone-chair, Ken Bushey, Gene Craft-Admin Asst, Nicole White-Fogarty, Alan Lyford zoomed in at 8:19pm

Guests; Debra Kingsbury, Suzanne Gauthier, Nick Bennett, Allen LaFlamme

Vernal Stone called the meeting to order at 7:09pm and the Board reviewed the agenda for any revisions. Craft noted that the energy committee would be sending an announcement for the Board's review prior to them mailing it out. Stone asked if that could be reviewed in the next two days and Craft replied that it would work as they were planning to do a mailing in the next 4-5 days.

Stone asked for any public comments: None were noted at this time

The Selectboard has an open position. Craft reported that two residents had expressed interest, Greg Wilson and Nicole White-Fogarty. Nicole stated that she was a prior candidate for the two year position and would step in until the next election if the Board approved her. Bushey noted that the 2021 vote count for the 2 year position was very close between the two candidates. Stone moved to appoint Nicole White-Fogarty to the Board. Bushey seconded and White-Fogarty accepted. White-Fogarty had recently been serving as the Board's secretary for the summer months, and will now have to step back from that role. Kingsbury stated she would fill in until another person could be appointed. Craft will post the secretary position on the list-serve. White-Fogarty was sworn in at 7:23pm and will stop at the Town Office tomorrow to sign the needed documentation.

Highway garage updates. Stone inquired if Bushey or Craft had interacted with the architect about placing the building over 10 feet to accommodate the needed swale and allow better access and parking space by the office entry. Greg Dixson has coordinated with Bushey and they can use their computer software to mark the corners. Craft states that a resident expressed concerns about the existing shrubs and perennials on the property and if they could be relocated. Stone stated that he and Pam Stone had a plan in the works to transplant.

Allen LaFlamme came to inquire about his annual permit and noted that Craft had suggested that the Board do a site visit. LaFlamme stated that he had removed 12 cars in the last week and plans to crush and remove 9 each week for the next 20 weeks. Stone asked what happened to the crushing company that he had worked with previously. LaFlamme stated they had cancelled and that he had gotten 2 helpers to now crush and remove on a smaller, weekly plan. Craft asked for LaFlamme's contact information at the state level handling his COAL which expires on 8/6. LaFlamme provided: wendy.edward@vermont.gov/ 802-522-0261. Craft will contact. The Board agreed to reconvene this meeting to a date specific of 7/28 at 10am at LaFlamme's business location.

Minutes for 7/8 were approved as amended and the orders were reviewed and approved.

The security deposit for the former tenant at 815 VCR was reviewed, and \$930 of the \$1000 deposit was returned to him by mail.

Suzanne Gauthier and Nick Bennett, from the Town Center Building Committee, came to update the Board with a check list of priority items that should be addressed. Wood chips for the base of the playground had been delivered and a work session was being organized to spread them. The front ramp needs repair. Craft stated that he had contacted W. Parker about that item. Stone inquired if the TCBC had any budget requests that needed approval and if any budget items would be coming before the Board on a regular basis. Gauthier asked about the time frame when the TCB gets cleaned. Craft replied that the cleaning person does check the building weekly. Other topics the TCBC wanted to address: How to schedule events held at the site and who would be the contact person, drainage work by the property line fence and relocating the two flat memorial stones in that area, putting a cap on the PVC pipe(for the annual tree lighting) so that no one steps into it..(There used to be a cap-check with Gary or Rita) Gauthier asked if the committee should get quotes for the drainage work. Stone and Craft suggested that the HW crew might mow that area first to envision the needs better. How to store the picnic tables for the winter months was discussed and installing gender neutral restroom signs. Craft added that the committee might want to interact with Martin Ward and Gary Goodrich about the memorial stones and the previous garden design for the Veterans' Memorial area and pass those along to Reva and Nicole.

Bushey shared updates on the Recreational Committee meeting. The group was working on having a food truck at the TCB on Thursday evenings and possibly at a few events. The Committee hoped to book the food truck starting August 12th and see how much interest/activity it received. The need for liability insurance verification to the town and how to advertise/promote that the truck was there was discussed. It was suggested that Karen Ward might be willing to help contact vendors. The Committee needs to verify the parking set up, the picnic/eating areas at the rear, and the clean-up crew after. The Library group thought it might be nice to offer a movie night when the food-truck is on site. White-Fogarty added that having the food truck there during sporting events would be a great feature. Stone stated that a few more details would be best before any approved start up schedule. Bushey will have more information/details after 7/27, and the Board might review at the next meeting with the intent for an initial Thursday start up on 8/12.

The municipal tax rate calculations were presented by Craft. Stone moved that the rate be set for 21-22 at .8607 with the addition of the vet exemption at .0045 for a total municipal rate of .8652. Bushey seconded and all were in favor.

HW Foreman report: Lyford states that Pike Paving will grind the pavement at the intersection of Rte 113 and Brown Rd. Pike will pave Goose Green Road in two weeks and they will also work on the access where North Rd intersects with rte 113, ditching and correcting the pitch with the HW crew assistance of providing gravel. It was noted that the backhoe had been repaired and one of the attachments on the mower needs repair.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.