

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 7:00pm; Remote only via Zoom, by phone, and recorded.

Attendance: Vernal Stone-chair, Ken Bushey, Nicole White-Fogarty, Gene Craft-clerk/treasurer, Alan Lyford-highway foreman, Gretchen Harvey-secretary, Erika Thurston-Animal Control Officer, and Tonya Gunn.

Call to Order: V. Stone called the meeting to order at 7:05pm..

Agenda Review & Modifications: Laura Craft requests to be added to the agenda to discuss Vershire Day. The Food Shelf topic will be moved up and before the Town Garage report.

Public & Staff Comments: None

Highway: Road Report: A. Lyford reported that last week's warm spell caused some pretty bad ruts but they are working on fixing them as quickly as possible. It looks like more warming is coming and this pattern of freezing and thawing creates challenges for maintaining roads in winter. He received a salt delivery and notes that the roads will be posted by the end of this week. **Truck Update:** The computer for Truck #3 is back in Texas but they can only continue to try to rebuild it as no new parts are available. The challenge of getting new parts or purchasing new computers right now is widespread and it is uncertain when this might change.

Animal Control Officer report: E. Thurston reported that the last two weeks have been quiet. Currently, there are no animals in custody. A rabies clinic is scheduled for March 20th and she wanted to know if masking would be required. She would like to get notices out about the clinic as soon as possible. The veterinarian, Susan Tullar, will determine her own mask policy but it is also the case that the policy of masking inside town buildings is still in place. E. Thurston also noted that a public reminder needs to be sent out soon about dog licenses due on April 1st. She requests the town return to a pre-Covid time-table for ordinance enforcement, which sets May 1st as the day notices are sent to dog owners out of compliance. It would be very helpful for creating an accurate listing of dog owners, if Vershire residents would let her know if they no longer have their dogs.

Vershire Day: Laura Craft offered to serve as coordinator for the different groups interested in participating in Vershire Day. This service will prove even more helpful now that the town has new committees interested in its community events. A coordinator can help avoid duplication of effort and will make participation easier. She will send emails to every group that might be interested in getting involved and will update the SB on a regular basis.

Action: V. Stone moved to designate Laura Craft as Vershire Day coordinator. K. Bushey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Last Meeting Draft Minutes: The minutes of the 2/15/22 regular meeting and of the 2/22/22 special SB meeting will be approved at the next regular meeting of the SB on March 14th. Until then, draft minutes will remain available upon request.

Current Period Warrants Approval: N. White-Fogarty moved to approve the current period warrants. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Food Shelf-Saturday expansion: T. Gunn and the food shelf volunteers requested adding a pick-up time that does not conflict with weekday working hours. She suggested expanding to include the 1st Saturday of the month from 8-10am to see how it goes. The downside of this shift emerges when other groups schedule to use the TCB on those days and times. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to allow the food shelf effort to expand its hours in the TCB, on a trial basis, to include the first Saturdays of the next three months. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Town Garage: K. Bushey reported that the budget for the town garage is as expected and close to being finalized. He suggested that it would be a good idea to host another information meeting for residents to ask questions and get the latest updates prior to the town meeting in May. The timing and location of the informational meeting will be discussed at the next SB meeting.

Old/Unfinished Business:

Social Media Policy: N. White-Fogarty and G. Craft have been editing a model social media policy for the town of Vershire. There is more work to be done on the policy and questions to discuss concerning the responsibilities would assume by having an official social media presence. They asked the other SB members to provide input on revisions to date.

Committee Reports:

Town Center Building Committee: none.

Recreation Committee: The soup and food donations are coming in for Saturday's Snowshoe-a-Thon. This annual event supports Vershare's summer camp. The reconfigured end point will include lunch at the TCB with additional outside activities at that location.

Energy Committee: none.

Action Items/Assignments: G. Craft and V. Stone will draft a policy covering communications between The UV Regional Dispatch Center in Hannover and the town of Vershire for discussion at the next meeting.

Executive session: none required.

Adjourn: V. Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.