

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 7:00pm at Vershire Town Center building.
There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone.

Attendance: Vernal Stone-chair, Ken Bushey, Nicole White-Fogarty, Gene Craft-clerk/treasurer, Alan Lyford-highway foreman, Gretchen Harvey-secretary, Reva Seybolt, Debra Kingsbury, Amanda Gilman, Representative Samantha LeFebvre, Peter Logan, Mark Fogarty, Suzanne Gauthier, Pat Barnes, and Andrea Wasserman.

Call to Order: V. Stone called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Agenda Review & Modifications: None.

Public & Staff Comments: None at this time.

Highway: Road Report: A. Lyford reported that the crew is still using gravel to repair the roads from mud season, but that the roads are getting a lot better. There will be a metal dumpster at the recycling site for Green-up day, May 7th. M. Fogarty will assist with putting heavy items in the dumpster but they cannot take freezers or refrigerators because the freon needs to be recycled. The packer truck will be emptied just prior to Greenup day. There continues to be a bear problem at the site because some residents persist in leaving unprotected trash bags near the gate. **Truck Update:** Replacing or repairing the truck computer is still on hold as the dealer cannot get parts or replacements. New tires for truck 2 will be delivered and others will be recapped for now.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: K. Bushey moved to approve the minutes of 4/12/22 as written. V. Stone seconded The motion passed unanimously.

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

Town Garage Update: V. Stone reported that Sen. Mark MacDonald left him a message about a program that might provide funding support for town garage heat pumps. He is following up. K. Bushey reported that the information meeting on Saturday was well attended and a lot of good questions were asked. He thanks everyone for attending. The expectation is that the engineer will have turned in his design report to the SB by May 1st at which point a cost and payback analysis can move forward. The Energy Committee is willing to work on this analysis once they have the engineer's report. K. Bushey intends to focus now on identifying and writing grant applications that could fund the salt shed. Rep. LeFebvre noted she is willing to help Vershire identify grants or other funding sources for the town garage project.

Upper Valley Ambulance Rep: The SB needs to fill the opening for its representative on the Upper Valley Ambulance Board as Jack Kruse is stepping down. **Action:** V. Stone moved to authorize Pat Barnes to serve as Vershire's representative on the Upper Valley Ambulance Board. K. Bushey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Kids Yoga at the Town Center: Amanda Gilman recently moved back to her home state of Vermont. As a resident of Vershire, she is inquiring about rental terms for offering "Kids Yoga" classes in the TCB. She is certified and insured to teach yoga to children and is also a massage therapist. She envisions trying out a 4-week class series with one class session per week. If there is enough interest in Kids Yoga, she

would offer two classes per week and divide the students into age-appropriate groups. She also is planning to offer yoga for kids during Vershire's summer camp. The discussion with the SB focused on her costs to rent the space, the dates and times that would work, ways to make the classes affordable for all children, and potential conflicts with other groups using the TCB. The SB decided to encourage Amanda to offer a 4-week series of Kids Yoga classes and report back to the SB afterwards on the community's response. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to allow Amanda Gilman to rent the upstairs of the TCB for 4 weeks in June, with the first two weeks being free of charge and the rental fee for the final two weeks being \$5 per week for a total of \$10 rental fee for the space for 4 week series. K. Bushey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Bond Vote Resolution: G. Craft spoke to M. Gaughan at the Vermont Bond Bank for clarity on the process that Vershire must follow to proceed with a bond vote for the town garage. G. Craft shared a draft of the warning proposed but noted that although the final amount is not expected to change, the town needs more time to make certain every detail the law requires is correct in this document. A. Wasserman reiterated that the Energy Committee is willing to put in the work to assess payback analysis for energy efficient heating components and noted that once the legislature finishes its work, there might be more information about funding sources available to support efficiency upgrades. Rep. Lefebvre noted that she will follow up on the status of H.715 that proposes to establish a clean heat standard in Vermont. G. Craft recommended a meeting to approve the bond vote resolution after SB members make sure all the requirements are met by the resolution proposed. Thereafter, a public informational meeting will need to be scheduled within 3 weeks of the bond vote.

Old/Unfinished Business:

Social Media Policy: No report

Combine TCB & REC Committees: R. Seybolt reported that after more discussion, the consensus among the TCB committee members is to keep the two committees separate for the time being.

Committee Reports:

Town Center Building Committee: R. Seybolt visited with the planning commission to discuss the pavilion concept. She is also trying to identify the location of the septic system as the location and size of any proposed pavilion will be determined by its location. She asked permission to hang the murals that Vershire children made when they attended the old elementary school. They were saved when the school closed and there is interest in putting them on display in the lower level of the TCB. The murals are on 4x8 sheets of plywood and would require consideration of their weight when hanging them. She also requested permission to assess the condition of the screens, switch out the ones they have for the storm windows, and make repairs or get additional ones made as needed. The committee will assess the need and report to the SB. The committee also requests the town allocate funds to build some new picnic tables. R. Seybolt discussed with Avery Sheds the building of 8 ft picnic tables for \$50 each plus the price of materials. The total cost for each new table would be \$250. The committee will take responsibility for extending their life by standing them on their side and covering them during the winter. **Action:** V, Stone moved to allow the TCB committee to order 4 picnic tables. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Recreation Committee: K. Bushey reported that he will put out a call for volunteers to help clean up the ice rink. Cleaning up the area surrounding it will be a joint committee effort with the

The TCB committee. The committee remains interested in using the tire recycling aspect of Greenup day as a small fundraiser for recreation events. **Action:** N. White Fogarty moved to allow the Recreation Committee to ask for donations for recreation committee activities near the tire-recycling station on Greenup day. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Energy Committee: Pat Barnes shared a proposed design for a free-standing informational kiosk to be placed at the recycling center. He was encouraged to come back to the SB with more specifics about the committee's plan for a kiosk.

Action Items/Assignments:

Appointment to UVA Board- action taken above.

Executive session: None required.

Adjourn: V. Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:14pm. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.