

**Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 24, 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, Justin Will, Mark Fogarty, Craig Kinney and Mike Gunn.

**G. Craft began the meeting by swearing in the newly-elected selectboard members, Vernal Stone and Nichole White-Fogarty.**

**Call to Order:** K. Bushey called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

**Agenda Review & Modifications:** The SB eliminated the food bank topic which was addressed at the last meeting.

**Selectboard Reorganization: Action:** K. Bushey moved to elect Vernal Stone as chair. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously. **Action:** K. Bushey moved to appoint Alan Lyford highway foreman. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The SB reviewed its own rules of procedure as it is required to do annually. **Action:** K. Bushey moved to adopt the Rules of Procedure as amended. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public & Staff Comments:** V. Stone recognized Justin Will who informed the SB that he is willing to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission. **Action:** V. Stone moved to appoint Justin Will to the Planning Commission for one year. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Highway: Truck Report:** A. Lyford reported that the truck computer finally came in and so far the truck is running well. He ordered two new tires for this truck now that it is back in service. He is concerned about the rising cost of diesel fuel and wants to try to plan for the impact this might have on the highway budget going forward.

**Road Report:** The state of Vermont will be funding new aprons on highway 113 and the Vershire road crew will be spreading the gravel. He will investigate whether there might be cost savings to have any needed paving done while the company that the state has contracted to do its paving is working in town.

**Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:** K. Bushey moved to approve the minutes of 5/10/22 as written. N. White-Fogarty 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.

**Bond Vote Update:** G. Craft asked for clarification from Michael Gaughan who will set up the account and the budgeting for Vershire's bond vote. Vershire will be required to make two payments per year; one will be an interest only payment and the other will be a principal plus interest payment. The bond vote warning went into the *Valley News* today. Posting in town will occur in the coming days.

**Village Center Designation:** V. Stone is supportive of an interest on the part of the Planning Commission to identify an official village designation in Vershire, but the SB will need a written proposal from the PC describing the particulars of the proposal, as well as evidence of PC

support before the SB can take any formal action. Village designation, unlike historic designation, does not put additional restrictions on what modifications homeowners may make to their property. The designation, however, does open up grant-funding possibilities for local businesses and nonprofits. There was additional discussion about how the newer members of the Planning Commission might welcome some training from Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission.

**LaFlamme salvage yard schedule/check-in:** It was reported that cars have not been parked on route 113 during the day, which has been a real improvement and has made for a safer roadway. The SB will continue to encourage progress toward meeting the agreement with the town to keep vehicles off route 113 and located behind the fence at the salvage yard.

**Recycling Report/Check-in:** Mike Gunn and Craig Kinney provided input on recycling center operations and traffic flow. One of the issues Craig Kinney would like solved involves creating a space where residents can visit with each other without holding up those who want to move in and out of the site efficiently. Mike Gunn reported that a lot of residents ask about disposing of electronic waste. G. Craft noted that [www.guvswd.org](http://www.guvswd.org) indicates that personal computers and other e-waste can be recycled for free at ANY transfer station that takes electronic waste, including in Corinth. Corinth may also take non-computer related waste, such as appliances, but disposal of these items likely incur a disposal fee. Additional planning in the coming months will consider how best to prevent trash being left exposed at the site for bears to strew around, and whether or not a punch card system would be preferable to selling trash bag stickers. Getting away from stickers would also allow residents to forgo plastic trash bags, thereby reducing landfill plastic even further.

**Old/Unfinished Business:**

Social Media Policy: Postponed.

**Committee Reports:**

Town Center Building Committee: No report.

Recreation Committee: K. Bushey reported on the committee's interest in purchasing new or used recreational equipment including some netting for the basketball hoop.

Energy Committee: No report.

**Action Items/Assignments:**

**Executive Session:** N. White-Fogarty moved to enter executive session at 9:07pm for the purpose of conducting an employee review of C. Kinney per the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(3) of the Vermont Statutes. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to exit executive session at 9:40pm. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously. **Action:** V. Stone moved to eliminate the requirement of a medical card for the town recycling position that includes driving the packer truck. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously. **Action:** V. Stone moved to raise C. Kinney's hourly wage to \$25/hour based on his performance and time in the position. K. Bushey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjourn:** N. White-Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:43pm. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.