

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:00pm at Vershire Town Center building, followed by a Town Garage bond vote informational meeting at 6:30pm. There is no remote option for this public meeting.

Attendance: Vernal Stone-chair, Ken Bushey, Nicole White-Fogarty, Gene Craft-clerk/treasurer, Alan Lyford-highway foreman, Gretchen Harvey-secretary, Mark Harvey, Reva Seybolt, Jeremiah Trombley, Melissa Clemens, Laura Craft, Eleanor Zue, James Coe, Peet Pearson, Ruth Payne, Pat Barnes, Debra Kingsbury, Chris Calhoun, Neil Hochstedler, Peter Logan and Andrea Wasserman.

Call to Order: V. Stone called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Agenda Review & Modifications: None

Public & Staff Comments: None at this time.

Highway: Truck Update: A. Lyford reported that the crew has been mowing to keep weeds from going to seed and also ditching on North Road and Taylor Valley Road. **Road Report:** Truck #3 is running well with the new computer and new tires.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: V. Stone moved to approve the minutes of 5/24/22 as written. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Current Period Warrants Approval: V. Stone moved to approve the current period warrants. K. Bushey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

R. Seybolt requested approval from the SB to use the TC building on Sat. July 29th to set up the tent for a community potluck. G. Craft will check the calendar and verify reserved dates before approval.

Adjourn Regular Meeting: V. Stone moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:20pm. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Bond Vote Informational Meeting for a New Town Garage opened at 6:30pm

K. Bushey summarized the history of the town's effort to secure an adequate location for a new town garage. See the special issue of the Vershire Town newsletter (May 2022) for a detailed history of the project and its budgeting considerations at <https://vershirevt.org/> A garage site location on Vershire Center road was eventually secured, permits acquired, and professionals (including an architect, estimator, and a mechanical engineer) were engaged to design and address different aspects of the proposed project. The final design and cost estimates include two options: either install an all-propane heating system with the possibility of adding on features that move away from fossil fuel dependency or, install a hybrid heating system that incorporates heat pump and possibly solar technologies with propane heat backup. The latter choice also would include the flexibility to move away from dependence on fossil fuels in the future.

Jeremiah Trombley (mechanical engineer) and James Coe (architect) fielded numerous technical questions from attendees covering topics such as cost-savings over time for heat pump/solar technology, electricity costs in particular; how heat pump systems with radiant slabs actually work, especially in colder temperatures; how propane heaters/modines would be used for quick heat recovery; and the reasoning and rationales informing the the choice of building materials.

K. Bushey noted that an open- bidding process could begin only after a successful bond vote. This process will take a while and inform choices going forward. Given the current scheduling of contractors and supply chain problems, it appears likely that although site work could begin this year, the building construction phase likely would not begin until 2023. The residents attending this meeting expressed interest in being informed (having another public meeting) at the point during which the SB will make a decision about which of the designs they will choose. V. Stone, chair of the SB ended the meeting by thanking J. Trombley, and J. Coe, and all those who attended the meeting.

Informational Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.