

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Vershire Town Center.
There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone.

Attendance: Ken Bushey-chair Nicole White-Fogarty, Vern Stone, Alan Lyford-superintendent, Gretchen Harvey-secretary, Mark Fogarty, Heather and Chip Powers, Reva Seybolt, and David Hooke.

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

Agenda Review & Modifications: Add discussion of culvert work on VCR after the Town Garage Update.

Public and Staff comments: None at this time.

Highway: Road Report: A. Lyford reported that United Construction is going to order some parts needed and that he has spoken to Lajeunesse Construction (LCI) workers who indicated they will be installing footings soon, possibly tomorrow. They also asked about timing for the culvert installation and wanted to coordinate with the town about hauling gravel. Because the highway crew is involved with this segment of construction, the Town Garage updates continue here:

K. Bushey reported on a change order request and said he would discuss it with James Coe to make sure it is accurate and necessary. The actual cost of the change order also depends on how much hauling the highway crew is able to do and how much will be deducted for this service. Another topic of concern was about how much topsoil is leaving the site and being trucked to Barre. Is fair market value being paid for it and what are the associated trucking costs? The highway crew has some time right and utilizing them could save money. A. Lyford will discuss the process for this arrangement with G. Craft and K. Bushey will consult with James Coe about this issue and invite him to attend the next SB meeting on July 5th.

Action: N. White-Fogarty moved to allow the road crew to work with LCI or its subcontractor to haul material for the town garage at a rate of \$125/hour. K. Bushey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: N,. White-Fogarty moved to approve the meeting minutes of 6/6/23. K. Bushey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Town Garage Update: K. Bushey noted that garage exterior colors need to be chosen. The SB will discuss both exterior and interior colors at the next regular meeting on July 5th. G. Harvey reported that the safety grants available through VLCT do not cover alarms systems, which are required in new construction. K. Bushey asked her to inquire whether or not this grant might cover a security camera/system for the garage.

Town Flag: No one present to discuss.

Culvert work request on VCR: Chip and Susan Powers asked the SB if there is a plan for controlling water that now runs regularly through their property and into their house and garage causing damage. They believe one cause of the problem stems from the road being raised over the years from when they first moved to the property. After a discussion of the various approaches to fixing this problem, next steps were agreed upon: A. Lyford will go up to where some of the runoff originates and get rid of a berm in order to slow the water that travels down slope and divert it into a wetland/swamp area instead. A culvert (or two) below the driveway will need to be of a size that requires rock installation. This work will need to wait until July and it will be important to find out first who bears the cost of building/fixing existing culverts v. new culverts where needed. A. Lyford and V. Stone will meet with the Powers on Tuesday morning, June 27th to discuss solutions to the problem.

Committee Reports:

Recreation Committee: K. Bushey reported that he spoke with G. Craft about building access for committee members and others who need temporary access to the TCB. A solution might be having a physical key available for check out on an as needed basis, to be returned promptly in the Town Office drop box. The Committee's plans for Vershire Day include a bounce house and a fundraiser for a snowblower will dovetail with the first live music event on July 7th. K. Bushey will find out when topsoil can be brought from the garage site to the TC field and where it should be placed for use to improve this site.

Energy Committee: D. Hooke reported that the EC is working on the energy fair for Vershire day. Committee members will create displays and host representatives who will be on site to talk about a variety of sustainable energy programs and systems. One of their committee members resigned recently and they are looking for a good candidate to fill the opening. R. Seybolt asked about funding options for making all the lower level lights in the TCB LED. One possible fix for the recessed lights includes the installation of Razrs. D. Hooke will look into options for funding this retrofit.

TCB Committee: R. Seybolt provided several updates regarding the upcoming pavilion framing event: waivers are in place for volunteers to sign. Timber homes will have its own waiver that will need to be signed. They hope to start at 6:30am, but rain in the forecast could complicate the plans. They have plenty of volunteers. The JO will do an article but request some photographs. A little rain won't stop the work, but they would need to proceed slowly and carefully for safety's sake. The tentative date for a dedication ceremony is September 22nd, which is already slated as a pizza and live music night. They are also brainstorming about what a dedication sign might look like.

N. White-Fogarty received an estimate of \$300 for fence materials to replace the old fence that borders the TC with the Pearson property. There still is the question of who will install it. The rose bushes in that location also need some attention. G. Harvey will invite Peet Pearson to the next SB meeting on July 5th to discuss next steps.

R. Seybolt has received an estimate of \$300 to redo the 3 pages of calligraphy describing the history of the quilt in the TCB. The existing frame is fine but the matte needs replacement and special UV glass is required to protect these new pages from sunlight. V. Stone wants to see a more accurate estimate of total costs before any decision is made.

The tree cutting work authorized earlier begins tomorrow. The Committee has some other budget requests and reports but will present them at the next meeting on July 5th

Action Items/Assignments:

Fireworks: K. Bushey reported that the town pre-pays for fireworks for the following year (2024) and that this year's bill has already been paid. The quoted price for 2024 is \$145 more than for 2023. It was agreed to keep the same amount budgeted for fireworks as 2023 at \$2,225. This would mean a slight decrease in the number of fireworks purchased for 2024.

Adjourn: N. White-Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45pm. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.