

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7:00pm, 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, Gretchen Harvey-secretary, Pat Barnes, Mark Fogarty, Taylor Parker, and Reva Seybolt.

Call to Order: K. Bushey called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Agenda Review & Modifications: Add Salvage/COAL to action items.

Public and Staff comments: None at this time.

Highway: Road Report: Mark Fogarty reported on the tasklist the crew is addressing to prepare the roads and equipment for winter. Among other things, the crew is doing fall grading, topping off roads, and fixing equipment, cleaning up ditches, and working on truck turnarounds. G. Harvey provided a brief update on work with FEMA to date. The crew is coordinating with C. Cass for trucking loads from the garage site. There still are some culverts that need attention and signage will be posted to give residents a heads up when work is being done. Flags will be taken down after the holiday weekend.

Taylor Parker, President of the Upper Valley Snowmobile Club recently received \$5,000 in grant funding from VAST for fixing trails damaged by this summer's flooding. The Club would like to work on repairing a section ($\frac{3}{4}$ mile) of Tenney Hill Road. The funds will pay for multiple loads of gravel and the members will volunteer their time to put it in place and touch up some of the water bars if needed. He is seeking permission to work on the road. If the town crew has time, grant funds could pay for trucking the gravel to a staging site. If not, the club will contract someone else for trucking. He will discuss a work plan with A. Lyford. **Action.** N. White-Fogarty moved to allow Taylor Parker and the UV Snowmobile club permission to work on Tenny Hill Road with the stipulation that he meet with A. Lyford before doing any repairs of the waterbars. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ACO Report: N. White-Fogarty responded to a page about a dog visiting some neighbors. The situation was resolved quickly with the help of V. Stone. She will check to make sure the dog is registered. The Selectboard will follow up with calls and visits to remind residents about dog licensing rules in Vershire/Vermont.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: K. Bushey moved to approve the meeting minutes of 9/12/23. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Town Garage Update: Ext/Int trim colors. The Selectboard discussed and approved of trim colors. The Selectboard discussed other topics including a change order for the well, specs on the generator, the size of the pad for the generator, side-mounted garage-door openers, light placement inside the bays, outside outlet

placement, the relationship between the septic and the existing culvert. K. Bushey will follow up with James Coe on some of these topics. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to approve the garage construction change order for the well. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously. I

Committee Reports:

Recreation Committee: K. Bushey reported the committee will meet next week. Members will discuss a fall festival. Matt Severson (Crag-VT) will attend the meeting to discuss trail maintenance on Eagle Hollow Ledge.

Energy Committee: P. Barnes reported on the EC's park and ride proposal. The EC, in light of a summer of fires and floods, is trying to find ways to help Vershire reduce its carbon footprint. He noted that Vermont is in the top 3rd for petroleum use and most of that is used for transportation. Hence the EC's proposal to establish a park and ride lot and encourage residents to carpool. There is funding available to establish them, but the EC believes a staged process with only an investment of signage right now is the most prudent. This will allow for tracking usage before more resources are dedicated to establishing a park and ride lot. After a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of establishing a state designated park and ride lot, a consensus was reached to forgo the state designation for now. The parking lot at the Town Center is already 'available' as a park and ride lot and is typically used the most during mud season. The EC will propose a town sign establishing clear usage rules/restrictions, as agreed upon by the town, and then encourage its use as a park and ride lot.

TC Committee: R. Seybolt reported on funds available for the ditching work at the TC. There are two bids for this work, which will require maintenance every few years as the ditches do fill in. **Action:** K. Bushey moved to hire Tad Boardman to do the ditching work near the Town Center Building for \$2,770. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously. R. Seybolt requested payment for signage created for the pavilion. **Action:** K. Bushey moved to authorize payment of \$150.00 to A. Hoopes for the pavilion sign, to be paid out of the pavilion funds. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items/Assignments

- Salvage Yard COAL–N. White-Fogarty and K. Bushey visited A. LaFlamme's salvage yard on 9/23. They noted that the yard is very full and there is little room to maneuver vehicles of any size. The SB agreed that more progress must be made towards meeting the agreement of reducing the number of cars in the lot before the COAL can be approved. The SB asked G. Harvey to draft a letter explaining its decision not to renew the COAL at this time.
- Procurement Policy- FEMA is requesting a policy. G. Harvey is working on a draft for review by the SB.
- MERP - the SB agreed to accept H. Falconer's offer (TRORC) to submit a MERP assessments application for Vershire's Town buildings. G. Harvey will follow up.

- MTAP- The SB agreed to invite M. Asbury to the next SB meeting to explain the MTAP program in more detail and share more examples of projects that might receive assistance/funding.
- Admin. Asst. Report–misc. questions and updates on tasks previously assigned.

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