

**Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00pm, Vershire Town Center.**  
**There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone.**

**Attendance:** Nicole White-Fogarty, Vern Stone, Amy Record, Gretchen Harvey-secretary, Doug Stone-Road Supt, Lucas Daniels, Andrea Herrington, Roberta Perkins, and Steve Atwood.

**Call to Order:** V. Stone called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**Agenda Review & Modifications:** None at this time.

**Public and Staff comments:** None at this time.

**Highway: Road Report:** D. Stone reported on road grading. The grading will continue as weather permits. They have readied all the trucks for summer work by removing wings, plows, and switching out tires. There have been some tires that continue to fail even after repairing, and so four new tires have been purchased. The tractor is out for electronic repair work. The crew will be doing some ditching and some grant-funded work on culverts. Evergreen picked up the recycled tires after Green Up day. The bin was only half full this year. **Garage Report:** V. Stone reported that the site work is expected to be finished by the deadline. Another meeting is scheduled to deal with the building humidity issue. V. Stone offered to paint the gas lines on the back of the building to prevent rusting. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to accept V. Stone's offer to identify and paint the gas lines at the town garage. A. Record seconded. The motion passed.

**Recycle Report:** N. White-Fogarty reported that this past Saturday was M. Gunn's last day as Recycle Coordinator and thanked him for his service to the Town on behalf of the Selectboard. Mark Fogarty is willing to cover the position for the short term. The Town continues to advertise to hire a Recycling Coordinator. G. Harvey was asked to push both job advertisements (Road Crew worker and Recycle Coordinator) out to a wider audience if possible.

**Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:** V. Stone moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of 4/23/24. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously. N. White-Fogarty moved to approve the special meeting minutes of 4/30/24. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed.

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

**TRORC Board-** A. Herrington asked the Selectboard to nominate Justin Willeau to serve as alternative Vershire representative on the Two Rivers Ottauquechee Board of Commissioners. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to appoint Justin Willeau as alternative commissioner from the Town of Vershire to the TRORC Board. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously. G. Harvey will send the appropriate letter to notify the Board of TRORC. A. Herrington also wanted to let the Selectboard know that dams in the CT River are up for relicensing. Public Forums will be held if there is any Vershire feedback regarding local impacts caused by the dam in Wilder.

**VAFM -** L. Daniels reported on the progress of the Artisan and Farmers Market that will launch in about 12 days on May 19th. He wanted to verify that the pizza oven would not be used for a competing fundraiser on Sunday afternoons when the farmer's market is scheduled. He reported on the vendor meeting he held recently and some of the questions he fielded. He has received donations for trash and recycling containers, bags, and a first aid kit. He is still working through the red tape to allow for SNAP benefits work at the market. He estimates that right now he has 15-16 vendors lined up. L. Daniels expressed interest in an opportunity for pizza oven training.

### **Committee Reports:**

Recreation Committee: K. Bushey sent a written report earlier today that included the following updates: there is a food truck scheduled for Thursday, May 23. Arrangements have been worked out with G. Wilson who holds a class inside the TCB on Thursday evenings. The committee is waiting to hear back about what to do with the tires at the Town Center. Some of the skating rink liner got recycled and some had to go into the trash. Other events and plans are ongoing and he will update the Selectboard when more details about them have been worked out.

Energy Committee: No Report.

VTC Committee: No Report.

**Steve Atwood-Town Health Officer:** indicated that he would like to arrange another vaccination clinic later this summer or early in the fall. He noted how successful this type of clinic was in the past when 47 people attended. He believes participation was driven by the easy access of hosting it locally. He is still working with various stakeholders that could support a clinic of this type and he recommends it as a good preventative healthcare measure for the town to support. He will report back to the Selectboard when he learns more. He also noted that although he was unable to be involved in the recent updating of the Local Emergency Management Planning, he does have ideas for how the town could become more resilient when health and weather emergencies coincide. He is especially concerned about the heat trauma that will be more prevalent as the climate continues

to warm. G. Harvey suggested that the upcoming work to update the Town's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan might be another opportunity to incorporate S. Atwood's input about preparing for and/or preventing (and mitigating) local health emergencies.

### **Action Items/Assignments:**

**Administrative Assistant: Correspondence & Report:** G. Harvey reported on an estimate for mobile welding services she identified, a message from A. LaFlamme about his plans to resume removing scrap from his salvage yard, and a brief summary of her research findings on healthcare benefits for municipal employees to date.

**Bids for updating Vershire's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Five consultants submitted bids to the Town of Vershire in response to its Request for Proposals to update its Plan.

**Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to enter an executive session due to a finding that premature general public knowledge regarding a contract with the Town of Vershire would place the public body or person involved at a substantial disadvantage 1 V.S.A. §§ 313(a)(1). A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to enter executive session to discuss five proposals and bids to upgrade Vershire's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan under the provision of 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(A) and invited G. Harvey into the session. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to exit the executive session with the finding that the Town awards the Local Hazard Mitigation Contract to Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session:** Employee evaluation and Admin. Asst. position review.

**Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to enter an executive session to discuss Administrative Assistance performance and review of the position as per 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) and invited G. Harvey into the session. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to exit the executive session with no decisions made. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjourn:** N. White-Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:06pm. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.