

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 7:00 pm, Vershire Town Center.
There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone.
Video: link available on website when approved.

Attendance: Nicole-White Fogarty-chair, Vern Stone, Amy Record, Doug Stone-Road Supt., Gretchen Harvey-Sec., Andrea Cunha-Admin. Asst., Allen LaFlamme, Ken Bushey, Reva Seybolt, Gene Craft-Clerk/Treasurer, and Mark Fogarty.

Call to Order: N. White-Fogarty called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Agenda Review & Modifications: None at this time.

Public & Staff Comments: None at this time.

Highway: Road Report: D. Stone reported on putting gravel on several roads and that the crew is responding to weather conditions right now. He noted that today is John Welch's second day on the road crew. He presented some fact-finding information about supplies needed to make our own hydraulic hoses. Doing so offers potential cost and time savings for the Town. A discussion needs to be scheduled to further develop a back-up plan for when the Packer truck is no longer in service. CCS has begun doing some work on the Mero Road bridge project. G. Harvey has contacted the engineer with a request for work dates and will call residents to let them know what she learns and of the schedule for building a bypass access. A. Cunha requested the Selectboard sign the annual VTrans reports.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: V. Stone moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of 3/11/25. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Current Period Warrants Approval: V. Stone moved to approve the current period warrants with the request to pay the Bradford Veterinary Clinic bill right away. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Animal Control: N. White-Fogarty reported that a dog that was surrendered and neutered has found a new home. The adopting family has made a donation to the Town. She noted that Vershire has been fortunate to be able to regularly re-home most stray dogs and cats that come to the attention of Animal Control. Another notice will be in tomorrow's listserv alerting dog owners to the April 1st due date for dog registration.

Allen's Salvage Yard: The next steps in the process of bringing Allen's Salvage Yard back into compliance include the following: the Town needs to receive an application for a COAL from Allen and Jeremiah LaFlamme; a

public hearing will be scheduled as per Vermont statute regarding the application; once the hearing has been concluded, the Selectboard will determine whether or not to issue a one-year COAL for the salvage yard.

Committee Reports:

Recreation Committee: K. Bushey reported that the ice rink season has ended. He noted there are some repair costs for the snowblower and they have been addressed. He referenced insurance liability rules for the ice rink as well as for any classes that might be scheduled in the TCB. A Cunha will prepare a spread sheet that explains the different levels of insurance required depending on the type of event scheduled. She will prioritize the possible strength-training class option and will look into other types of events later on. There is no word yet on the trails grant application.

Energy Committee: No one from the Energy Committee present but A. Cunha asked the Selectboard to make a decision on materials sourcing for solar installation at the Town Garage. **Action:** V. Stone moved to request standard components from Catamount Solar. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VTC Committee: R. Seybolt is moving ahead to schedule the work approved at Town Meeting. A. Cunha will assist with procuring a painting contract for the exterior of the building. Prior to July 1, any wood rot issues will be taken care of. A new volunteer has stepped up for the Food Shelf and, in particular to meet the Willing Hands delivery. Town Center cleanup is tentatively scheduled for Sunday May 4th, the day after Green-up day. Farmers Market volunteers have offered to help. Some work on picnic tables will be included if there are enough volunteers. There was a brief conversation about thermostats in the TCB, which will be continued at a later date once the furnace replacement is required. A. Record will continue working on rodent control/access issues once the snow has melted. Mark Fogarty's question about potential problems arising from painting scaffolding and public events was duly noted.

Action Items/Assignments:

Action: V. Stone moved to authorize Nicole White-Fogarty to sign the truck loan agreement with Mascoma Bank. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Action: V. Stone moved to sign the mileage certificate for the Town Highways. N. White-Fogarty seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Action: V. Stone moved to adopt the Ethics Policy as presented. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Assistant: Correspondence & Report: A. Cunha reported that the employee handbook reviewed by legal counsel is now complete. She is continuing to procure the water report for the new Town garage. It was recommended that she reach out to Fairlee and Bradford (both with municipal water) who may have advice on streamlining this process. She noted that the Town has received an invoice from PumpTech but has not yet received its report as required by the State. She will ask Gene to hold off paying the bill until this report is in hand. She continues to advertise for a cleaner of the Town's buildings and was given some leads to follow up on. G. Harvey requested that a search for a secretary to the Selectboard begin promptly; she will continue to turn over remaining administrative duties to A. Cunha-administrative assistant.

Adjourn: N. White-Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.