

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes-Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm, Vershire Town Center. There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone. Video: <https://youtu.be/2euVOyMyMtl>

Attendance: Vern Stone, Doug Stone-Road Supt., Amy Record, Mark Fogarty, Andrea Cunha-Admin. Asst., Nicole-White Fogarty-Chair.

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

Agenda Review & Modifications: None at this time.

Public & Staff Comments: None at this time.

Highway: Road Report:

D. Stone reported: Regular maintenance on the Town trucks is ongoing, including changing over to Summer tires. The front brake spring broke and was fixed on Truck 1. Trucks 1, 2 & 3 need new aluminum wheels. Truck 1 will go in for service in the middle of May. The roads are drying but are still soft. Grading and raking will continue. A culvert on Mountain Ash Ave has an issue, the road crew will be out to do repairs, along with several other culverts in town. D. Stone went to look at a newer packer truck. The truck is a Ford 750 and is located in Salem NY. Asking amount is \$25,000, but the price is negotiable. The truck does need some work. The engine burns rich, it needs new leaf springs and tires. The packer body is in good condition. Estimate for repairs is approximately \$10,000. A. Cunha will communicate with D. Stone to have him reach out to the current owner. The Selectboard would like to know if the leaf springs can be fixed prior to purchase, so it can be driven back to Vershire. If so, a counter-offer may be made for \$18,000. The new road employee is working out great. A. Cunha will ask the Energy Committee to look into grants for paving the parking lot/park and ride at the Town Center Building. D. Stone will reach out to Rita at Two Rivers to inquire about a grant for a Salt & Sand Shed at the new garage.

A flagger class is available on 5/5/25 from 8am-12pm at the Sharon Highway Garage in Sharon, VT 05065. D. Stone will have new employees take the class. Other classes are offered by VLCT and Two Rivers. Tests are required to pass. V. Stone suggested holding a class here in Vershire. D. Stone will look into the requirements.

Mero Road: Trucks have been coming in and out Monday and Tuesday of this week. They would like to bring in an 18 wheeler with Jersey barriers. V. Stone has asked CCS to wait until next week. The crane has been removed. A. Cunha will communicate to CCS about the concern the Ely Mine crew has about the roads. The speed limit was lowered to 25 mph and has been communicated with CCS that the limits need to be followed.

Ely Mine: Video documentation was taken of Beanville Road & South Vershire Road so that there is a record of how the road was before the work was started. This will be used to determine if repairs need to be done after completion of the mine clean-up. The bump in the road near the mine will be spray painted so it will be included in the repairs and to alert drivers.

Animal Control: Things are going well. A dog on Beaver Meadow was being monitored to make sure the health of the dog was progressing. He is back at home and looks to be in better condition. Tank, a dog that was temporarily in the Town's custody, was placed in a home and is doing much better. The dogs located on Durgin Hill have been told to be on leash. The first round of letters have gone out to unregistered dog owners informing them of the registration process and associated fees.

ATV Club: Annual Spring meeting. Vermont ATV Sportsman Association (VASA) is allowing the clubs to choose an opening date, so we are opening the trails on 5/1/25. The Westshire ATV Club will be doing clean up on 5/3/25 in Vershire. D. Stone will advertise on Listserv. Helmets will be required. VASA issued a landowner permission form which was completed by the Selectboard to release us from liability. The 3 years option was chosen. M. Fogarty asked if there were any ATV licensing courses available for youngsters. VASA does hold a one day class for ages 12-18, they are actively looking for participants. D. Stone will share info with the Selectboard. The VASA annual meeting will be hosted by the Westshire ATV Club on the West Fairlee common July 26th.

Motion: V. Stone moved to approve the VASA Agreement. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Green Up Day 5/3. D. Stone will drop off the metal & tire recycling bins. He will get pricing from Evergreen on the tire bin and will communicate the pricing to the Select board. Metal Dumpster will be out 5/3/25 through the end of summer.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: V. Stone moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of 4/8/25. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Committee Reports:

Recreation Committee: Easter Egg Hunt went well and duck race went well. The Winner of the 50/50 won \$126. There were some new families that came out, but there were not as many kids this year. The backside of the field needs more dirt so there is a gradual place for the water drain.

Energy Committee: No Report. A. Cunha will reach out about a paving grant for the Town Center Building parking lot/resident park and ride.

VTC Committee: Sunday, May 4th is the Farmer's market. Volunteers are sanding the picnic tables and working on cleanup. Windows have been prepared for warmer temperatures.

Action Items/Assignments:

Action Item:

COAL-2025: A. LaFlamme is in acceptance of the proposed one-year COAL. He will be having a 3rd party come in to crush approximately 300-500 cars, he is just waiting on rates. He has been told to have additional flaggers if workers will be on the road during this process. Until he can make space he may have his current crusher temporarily in the customer parking area. Having better signage was discussed. Safety is a huge concern for the Selectboard, therefore they have asked him to make sure all equipment is behind the gate.

Motion to grant COAL: V. Stone moved to sign the one-year COAL for Allen's Salvage Yard. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously. A one-year for Allen's Salvage Yard was signed.

Motion to Set Public Hearing Date: The public hearing is set to review the Town Plan on 5/6/25 at 6:00pm. A notice of the public hearing will be posted on the Vershire Listserv, in the Journal Opinion and on the Town's website.

Action: N. White-Fogarty made a motion for the board to enter into executive session to discuss the office cleaner position and applicant. The board entered into executive session at 8:25pm). **Action:** The board exited executive session at (8:33pm) after a motion to exit by V. Stone, seconded by N. White-Fogarty and approved by the full board.

Motion to Hire New Office Cleaner: V. Stone moved to hire A. Ferris. A. Record seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Administrative Assistant: N. White-Fogarty asked A. Cunha to maintain and retrieve volunteer forms for all Town Center Events. A. Cunha will communicate to the Town Center Committee that all volunteer forms shall be placed in the Town Office drop box upon completion. A. Cunha will then scan and file for our records. A. Cunha will send out all battery boxes filled by C. Fogarty. A. Record will ask Thetford transfer station if we can drop off a small amount of fluorescent light bulbs there for disposal. If so, she will take them periodically as needed.

A. Cunha reported that according to Vermont's Universal Recycling Law, transfer stations and bag drop/fast trash sites must collect leaf and yard waste seasonally (April 15 to Dec 1). A. Cunha provided options for leaf and yard waste collection.

Action: The Town will now accept leaf and yard waste seasonally from April 15th-Dec 1st. The Recycle Coordinator will set up an area where residents can drop off bags of leaves. They must be put into proper leaf and yard waste bags or contractor bags. A. Record will collect the bags

regularly throughout the season. A. Cunha will provide signage for the transfer station and report back to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation.

A.Cunha reported that she is currently working on the reporting for the following grants; The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, Agency of Transportation Grant, Municipal Energy Resilience Program and the Town Plan . Once the financial documentation is received from the Treasurer she will finalize the reports.

Adjourn: N. Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.