

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes-Tuesday, May 20, 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/KfqbpQJLthM>

Attendance: Vern Stone, Doug Stone-Road Supt., Amy Record, Andrea Cunha-Admin. Asst., Nicole-White Fogarty-Chair, Eileen Murphy, Debra Kingsbury, Mark Fogarty, Gene Craft, Rita French, Suzanne Lupien & Ken Bushy

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: D. Kingsbury asked for a Grand List Extension to be signed.

Highway/Road Report:

D. Stone reported: Water Pump is going into truck 2 on Thursday. D. Stone discussed a proposal for work to be done on South Vershire Road. He will check with G. Craft to see if there is litigation money from FEMA that could be put towards this proposal. G. Craft will look into how much is available for use. Grading has been done on North Road, but with the weather it has been difficult. The road crew will continue to grade the roads once weather conditions permit. The Chamberlain Road post and sign is gone and will need to be replaced. Tree cleanup has been ongoing but a lot of work still has to be done.

R. French wanted to know if we have a new truck and how we are paying for it. A municipal loan was taken out to purchase the truck. It was approved as part of the budget that was voted on during the Town Meeting. R. French wanted to know about the bare truck that was purchased. D. Stone explained that we will use a company called Viking Bodybuilding to install the body at the end of the month. Kimball West portable pump was purchased online which gave us a \$2,000 credit. It is a starter kit and costs \$5,800 total. R. French suggested logging all purchases to ensure tracking and spending. N. White-Fogarty clarified that these records are kept with the regular maintenance logs.

S. Lupien is upset about the crushed gravel that has been dumped near her farm. She cannot do her work if the dust continues. She needs a change otherwise she will need to make things very difficult for D. Stone. She is giving him one chance to fix this. D. Stone states that no gravel has been added to the top of the hill by her farm. He will put water and calcium chloride on the area to help mitigate the dust once the rain ends. M. Fogarty commented that she lives on a dirt road and regular road maintenance is to be expected. R. French wanted to know if there are any plans for black top to be put back in that area. At this time there is not.

Animal Control:

N. White-Fogarty reported: She has had a few dogs running at large. One was caught but was taken back by its owner. There have also been a few complaints about two other dogs who are not registered that have also been running loose. She will continue to monitor the situation and address as needed. N. White-Fogarty also found a new home for a snapping turtle that was found. A. Record stated that there is an orange cat that is getting into her chickens. N. White-Fogarty will look into this as well.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: V. Stone moved to approve the regular and special meeting minutes of 5/6/25. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Committee Reports:

Recreation Committee:

K. Bushey Reported: Vershire Day 2025 is scheduled for Saturday, July 5th. The Recreation Committee is working on having a 5K Run, a Chicken BBQ, Field Games, Live Music and Fireworks. The committee will also coordinate the Farmer's Market, a table for the Energy Committee and the Historical Society. There has also been mention of Strawberry Shortcakes from Vershare!

The liner is up from the skating rink, luckily not much ripping. They will order a new one just in case. The Town will hold an end of school year event Thursday June 12th. There will be a bounce house, cookout and a bonfire. V. Stone has offered to donate horseshoes to the Rec Committee. They will be installing horseshoe pits at the Town Center for community use. The lights on the pavilion were on so K. Bushey unplugged them. A key was lost for the snow blower but they found a spare. Classes are done for the season and will start up again in the fall.

Energy Committee:

A. Cunha reported: The solar project for the Town garage is slated for June 2025. Catamount Solar will follow-up on specific dates.

VTC Committee:

A. Cunha reported: She spoke with the painter. The building will be painted at the beginning of July. The next step for the Select Board is to sign the painting contract at the end of June. A. Cunha will follow up with Uriah to schedule the repairs and will give Rick the painter an update on the contract. V. Stone reported that the boiler replacement will be starting the last week in June and then they will move onto the log cabin in the first week in July.

Emergency Management Committee:

E. Murphy reported: The Local Emergency Management Plan Municipal Adoption Form has been completed and will be submitted once signed by the Selectboard. The NIMS adoption date was 7/1/14 and the LEMP adoption date is 5/20/25. The EMD is E. Gilbert, the POC(point of contact) 2 is V. Stone and the POC 3 is N. White-Fogarty-Selectboard Chair. The REMC representatives are E. Murphy and E. Gilbert. V. Stone by signing will certify that the LEMP meets Vermont National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements and current LEMP Implementation Guidance as on page 2. N. White-Fogarty will sign to attest that the municipality has adopted NIMS and the LEMP at a warned public meeting. NIMS was warned in 2014 and the LEMP was warned in a public meeting on 5/20/25. There were a few additional requirements this year. One was to attach the MOU. We just need E. Gilbert's signature and it can be sent back. The other was to send a list of equipment which E. Murphy will send as an attachment. Some communication has been sent out on the ListServe. Placement of 911 numbers at residents homes has improved.

Motion: V. Stone motion to sign the LEMP Municipal Adoption Form. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Action item: N. White-Fogarty and V. Stone signed and approved the LEMP Municipal Adoption Form.

Action Items/Assignments:

Motion to Accept Employee Handbook: V. Stone moved to adopt the Employee Handbook, as amended. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve Grand List Extension request: V. Stone motion to sign the 30 day extension. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Paused for Executive Session to discuss a Town Employee

Motion: N.White-Fogarty motioned to leave executive session with an acceptance of A. Cunha's two week notice. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept J L Smith's proposal for South Vershire Road: N. White-Fogarty motioned to sign. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn: N. White-Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 pm. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.