

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes-Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 7:00 pm, Vershire Town Center. There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone. <https://youtu.be/fAyLaOdsloI>

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

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:

The Select Board discussed ongoing noise complaints from Taylor Valley Road, which are to be addressed by the Planning Committee and Aaron Hoops. A meeting scheduled for June 11th is mentioned, but there is uncertainty about its status as no agenda has been posted. M. Fogarty raises concerns about multiple townwide violations, including junkyards, noise violations, and septic system issues, which he believes the Planning Board should address. V. Stone responds that the state has been working with Aaron to address some junkyard violations, and mentions specific locations such as Parker Road, Chamberlain Hill Road, Kingdom Road/Parker Road where inspections have occurred or are planned. E. Robinson added that the selectboard also needs to address property stakes being moved. N. White-Fogarty agrees these violations need to be addressed and she will look into what the options are as far as enforcement.

N. White-Fogarty mentions that the town plan needs to be presented and voted on before November, with a recommended town meeting in September or October. The Selectboard will be coordinating with the Planning Commission to choose a date. N. White- Fogarty and D. Kingsbury clarified that they are not creating a new position, but rather seeking someone more diligent in applying and enforcing the existing ordinances in the role of Development Administrator, than who is currently in the role now. M. Fogarty inquires about the administrator's understanding of their responsibilities, including engaging with the Orange County Sheriff's department for enforcement. N. White- Fogarty seeks to get clarification around the administrator's understanding of the role. D. Kingsbury reminds the selectboard to have all new employees and elected officials take the training from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. N. White-Fogarty will be attending the Planning Commission meeting on June 11th. E. Robinson expresses frustration with the lack of clear law enforcement coverage in the town. He points out that despite paying taxes to Orange County, the town receives no direct services from them. D. Kingsbury confirms that the town does indeed pay a significant amount into the court system based on per-resident costs, which supports the Sheriff's

county operations. D. Kingsbury would like for the Selectboard to coordinate with the County to have a law enforcement agent to come out to the next meeting. D. Kingsbury is very irritated.

Highway: Road Report:

D. Stone reported: Update on the new truck it is in Williston at the Body Builders. They saved some money on changing the cut in the amount of \$1,300. Cameras and Lights were added, so it increased the cost by about \$400. No dash cam was added. It was set up so the body had some overhang to reduce salt overflow. The position of the hydraulic tank was changed. No estimated time to be completed. Once they receive the body they will have a better idea on time. He also reports on road maintenance activities, including cleaning up culverts and fixing a bank slide on Vershire Center Road at half the expected price. D. Stone plans to hire the same contractor for another road repair project, for which he already has the necessary materials. A. Record discusses a large hole on Beaver Road, likely caused by a collapsed culvert. D. Stone mentions lost road signs, including some on Parker Road, Kingdom Road and Chamberlin Road. The conversation then shifts to discussing traffic cones, with V. Stone noting some have disappeared recently. D. Stone reports on road work he has completed, including Durgin Hill Road, McIver Road, Riding School Road, and Rowell Road.

Recycle Coordinator: C. Fogarty reports that things have been going well. C. Fogarty discusses an ongoing issue with an individual who repeatedly parks in a prohibited area at the recycling facility despite being asked not to. The person has become rude when confronted. There are concerns that this individual might not be a resident, as they only bring recycling and no trash. D. Kingsbury suggests recording the vehicle's license plate and having it checked to verify residency. The selectboard discusses the possibility of implementing a sticker system or annual fee for recycling access, as some neighboring towns do. A. Record mentions the need to assess the current costs associated with trash and recycling services to ensure they are covering expenses. M. Fogarty suggested getting the numbers from G. Craft for trash costs.

C. Fogarty asked the status of the trash truck that has had mechanical issues, with D. Stone mentioned that looking at the truck it is on his to-do list. N. White Fogarty is looking into a new truck and will be able to dedicate some time soon into finding a new one. N. White-Fogarty confirms that coverage for Connor's shift on Father's Day weekend is still in place. C. Fogarty will follow up. M. Fogarty inquires about the possibility of modifying an old truck with a 6-yard packer, which V. Stone says it is still being considered.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: V. Stone moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of 5/20/25. 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.

Lister Appointments: D. Kingsbury requests the appointment of Bonnie Strout and Alison Towle as part-time Listers to assist with grievance hearings and decision-making. The Select Board approves their appointment. D. Kingsbury reports that the upcoming grand list is not expected to

increase significantly due to utility company value decreases and land merging, which may impact the municipal tax rate.

Approval of Lister Appointments: V. Stone moved to approve the Lister Appointments of Bonnie Strout and Alison Towle. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Recreation Committee: No Report

Energy Committee: No Report

VTC Committee: V. Stone would like for A. Cunha to find out the long term plan for the tables that are at the end of the Town Center Driveway.

Action Items/Assignments:

Action Item: New estimates for installing heating systems in the town center building (\$28,727) and log cabin (\$18,771). D. Kingsbury points out that these amounts are higher than what was approved at the town meeting and cannot be accepted without further approval. The board agrees to verify the originally approved amounts before proceeding.

Administrative Assistant: A. Cunha reported an update from Uriah on the Town Center Building. He completed trim work and volunteered to fix the damage to the septic riser. A. Cunha will follow up and let him know someone will be out to fix the septic riser. A. Cunha reminded the board that Megan Ashbury explained that we need to schedule a special town meeting in September or October to vote on the town plan draft to stay in compliance. The selectboard will coordinate with the Planning Commission. A. Cunha will follow up with the Planning Commission and let them know we would be looking to do this meeting in September.

Motion: N. White-Fogarty motions to go into Executive Session at 8:01 pm. N. White-Fogarty motions to exit Executive Session at 8:37pm with no findings at this time.

Adjourn: N. Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. A. Record seconded. The motion passed unanimously.