

Town of Vershire Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 6:30pm, Vershire Town Center.

There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone.

Video: <https://youtu.be/rO4PER1qMyg>

Attendance: At 6:30pm: Vern Stone, Nicole White-Fogarty, Doug Stone-Road Supt., Gene Craft-Clerk/Treasurer, and Gretchen Harvey-Admin. Asst/Sec; at 7:00pm: Earl Robinson, Mike Tagliavia, Mark Fogarty, and Reva Seybolt.

Call to Order: N. White-Fogarty called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

Executive Session-Action: N. White-Fogarty moved to enter executive session for the purpose of conducting Doug Stone's annual review as per 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) regarding the evaluation of a public officer or employee. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to exit the executive session with no decision at this time. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed.

Agenda Review & Modifications: None at this time.

Public & Staff Comments: G. Craft shared some public and emergency management concerns about the lack of a berm along the river side of the Vershire Park 'n Ride lot. There was some discussion of possible solutions including creating a berm with gravel or large rocks. The main drawback to a berm is its obstacle to effective snow removal at the Town Center. Earl Robinson shared his unhappiness with the processes of setting a Dev. Board of Adjustment (DBA) Hearing on August 19, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Town Center. Mike Tagliavia, Representative from Orange-1, introduced himself and said he is willing to come again if there are any questions or issues he can address.

Highway: Road Report: D. Stone reported that the solar installation is up and running. The Town will hold back final payment until a walk-through by Catamount is scheduled. The road crew has addressed minor washouts and some downed trees. Residents are encouraged to always call the Town Garage and leave a message when they see a tree down in the roadway. He continues to work on ditching, grading, and culvert placement utilizing this year's grant funds. A. McGovern, employed by Hemenway, requested permission to fix a culvert in Taylor Valley allowing logging truck access from the Chelsea side. D. Stone will check the area and make sure everything checks out before any work is done. Some town road signs have been replaced but some are still missing due to theft. The fuel tank has been reset and stabilized on a granite slab near the Garage. V. Stone received an email complaint about water flow in the Riding School Rd area. A visit to the problem site to discuss the problem will be suggested in response.

Animal Control: N. White-Fogarty asked G. Craft about funds allocated for the ACO position, which ought to include expenses for training. Discussion followed. N. White-Fogarty proposed that there be a set rate for carrying the pager, with an additional hourly rate set for when a call requires a response. Also tasks could include helping with annual tasks such as: the rabies clinic, registering dogs, and notifying dog owners of licensing deadlines. G. Craft noted that overall compliance with dog registration has been good this year.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: N. White-Fogarty moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of 7/1/25. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed.

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

Discussion-transfer site disposal fees: Vershire bag rates are some of the lowest at \$3/trash bag; the fees do not pay for the program. Recycling in Corinth is now only available to residents. M. Tagliavia reported that he pays per bag for both trash and recyclables in order to help defray the costs of a compactor in Corinth. Vershire continues to look for another trash truck to replace the current one. G. Craft reported that the town disposes of about 1.5-2 tons per week.

Committee Reports:

Vershire Artisan and Farmers Market: L. Daniels will report at the next meeting. The VAFM has been awarded a grant and is seeking community input and ideas for purchases that will benefit the Town Center. G. Harvey provided an update on Wind River Environmental portable toilets and will follow up with making arrangements for the rest of this year and also plan for 2026 season.

Recreation Committee: No report.

Energy Committee: No report.

VTC Committee: R. Seybolt presented two tree removal estimates for 4 dead trees at the TC. Arrangements have been made for a refrigerator repair estimate, an unanticipated cost. The warrant covers the compressor only and lasts until April 2026. The Town is waiting for U. Wallace invoice for window sill repairs. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to approve the removal of 4 dead trees at the TC not to exceed \$1,900.00. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed.

Action Items/Assignments:

Administrative Assistant: Correspondence & Report: G. Harvey reported that most concerns have been addressed during the meeting. The Selectboard wants to start advertising for a cleaning service for 3 town

buildings: town office, TCB, and the Garage. There is a structures grant that will fund road repairs on Parker Rd. G. Craft recommended that the town accept the estimate for engineering, hydraulic study, and survey bid now, but defer the repair work until 2026. **Action:** N. White-Fogarty moved to accept the bid from Pat Ross to conduct a hydraulic study, survey, and engineering design in preparation for planning repairs to Parker Rd. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed.

Adjourn: N. White-Fogarty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:39pm. V. Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.