



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

5:30 pm

Meeting held virtually through Facebook Live

This was a virtual meeting in which BOS members participated remotely. The public may view the meeting by going to the Town of Vinalhaven Facebook page. This recording will also be made available and posted to the Town of Vinalhaven YouTube page.

1. **Roll Call** – Selectmen Eric Gasperini, Pamela C. Alley, Phillip Crossman, Donald Poole, and Jacob Thompson; and Town Manager Andrew J. Dorr
2. **Approve and Sign Treasurers Warrant #45** - Motion to Approve and Sign Treasurers Warrant #45. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.
3. **Agenda** – Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the agenda as written. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried. (Deputy Town Clerk Elizabeth Bunker is working on transcribing minutes from previous virtual meetings. There are minutes from Feb 25 & 26, March 18 & 25, and May 5 to approve but it was agreed to wait and approve all minutes together at the next regular Selectmen's meeting.)
4. **New Business**
 - a. **Discussion about use of Town Properties during Covid-19 Pandemic:** Andy shared via email some CDC guidelines and recommendations on Public Restrooms, Playgrounds, and Quarries.

There was discussion on usage of the Owen Webster Playground. As different surfaces can harbor the virus for different lengths of time it is recommended that the playground be closed. There was discussion on signage costs. There was a consensus of the Board to get two signs for the Owen Webster Playground.

Nothing from the CDC indicates that the virus is likely to be transmitted through water. There would be more concern for the large gatherings and high-touch areas, such as hand railings into the quarry. Andy has a call into the sheriff's office about enforcing this over the summer. Jake Thompson asked what Rockland was doing for Chickawaukie Lake, for example, if they were closing or if they were placing signs. Andy will contact Rockland. There was a consensus to have signs made for the quarries too.

Recommendations are to have Public Restrooms cleaned once a day, at a minimum, which is happening currently. It is made a little easier as it is one room and not multiple stalls. Andy's only recommendation is to look into dispensers for soap and towels and the Board agreed.

Andy is still working with town organizers and the State to get guidelines for the Flea Market/Farmers Market, use of Bandstand, use of the parking lot (4th of July, sellers in the parking lot, etc.) for discussion at a later date.

Andy fielded a couple questions about closing trails. Most places don't have a large parking lot anyway, so as long as people are acting responsibly it doesn't seem like it would be a problem and he doesn't feel there would be a need to close. Jake Thompson asked about what the Land Trust has done for signage or if they

are closing any of their trails. Andy will check with them.

5. Report of Members

- a. **Phil Crossman:** *Phil shared a communication and would like to urge the Board to take the lack of service by the MSFS to a higher level. Andy provided information about a State agency that addresses shortcomings in other state agencies (OPEGA - Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability) and Phil feels this might be a great resource. Eric agreed that we had been patient about several issues and it may be time to go to the next step. Andy recommended Phil check with Advisory Board members and get their support as well. There was discussion on if these issues and complaints only come from Vinalhaven or if all island ferry advisory board members encounter these same problems - customer service being a key issue. Donald mentioned personally witnessing a Rockland terminal employee criticizing people from Vinalhaven to another customer. There was a consensus of the Board for Phil to begin that process.*

- b. **Eric Gasperini:** *Eric wants to take the condition of the North Haven Road at the "Meadow," so called, into serious consideration, either by mitigating the flow through the culvert on the Round the Island Road or working with the State to raise the North Haven Road where high-tides flood a portion of the road. Jake asked if that was something the engineer could look into. Pam thought the Board had talked briefly with Brent (Woodard & Curran) previously. Andy also said that when DOT was here last spring, prior to the road paving, that they stopped to look at that section and the DOT immediately knew the road has sunk/settled drastically from their previous visit, so Andy recommends working with DOT before the town incurs costs, as it is a State Aid road. Eric did stress that with the construction of the new Public Works Garage that the road will see more heavy traffic.*

6. **Adjourn** - Motion by Eric Gasperini to adjourn at 5:31pm. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk