



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN SELECT BOARD

Minutes

Town Office/Virtual Hybrid
Tuesday, August 2nd, 2022
5:00pm

1. **Roll Call** – Selectmen Donald Poole, Pam Alley, Leslie Dyer, and Donald Young; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton, and Deputy Town Clerk Elizabeth Bunker. Jake Thompson arrived late.

Also present Millie Martin, Crystal Canney, and Gabe McPhail, all virtually.

2. **Approve Agenda** – Add 5b. MMA Communication. *Motion by Donald Poole to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. **Approve Minutes** – **Approve the minutes from the July 19th, 2022 Select Board Meeting.** *Motion by Pam Alley to approve the minutes from the July 19, 2022 meeting. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 3/0/1 -Leslie abstained. Motion carried.*
4. **Approve and Sign Treasurer’s Warrant # 5** – *Motion by Donald Poole to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrant #5. Second by Leslie Dyer. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

Jake Thompson arrived.

5. **Communications**

- a. **Crystal Canney, Executive Director - Protect Maine’s Fishing Heritage Foundation** – Crystal Canney was present via zoom. She gave an overview of the organization and the issues coastal towns are facing with aquaculture in their waters. Crystal described how attractive leasing ocean bottom is to out of state/country companies at only \$100/acre. There was discussion on legislative regulations. It was agreed to discuss further at the next meeting. *Motion by Donald Poole to further explore the Model Aquaculture Development Moratorium Ordinance, and to schedule a Public Hearing at the next Selectmen’s Meeting on August 16, 2022. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
- b. **MMA Communication** – Marjorie shared a letter from MMA regarding the insurance dividend received in the amount of \$4,614.00.

6. **Speakers from the Floor** - None

7. **Committee and Department Reports/Appointment**

- a. **Appointment to the Planning Board – Stephen Brock, Alt.** – Brian Applegate has been serving as an alternate member of the Planning Board; Stephen Brock would like to be appointed as an alternate. There is an opening for a full board seat. *Motion by Jake Thompson to appoint Brian Applegate as a full member of the Planning Board with a term expiring June 2025, and to appoint Stephen Brock as an Alternate. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
- b. **Downtown Project** – Gabe is moving forward with all reporting. There was a staffing change which has delayed the SHIP grant process, but Gabe is on them to act as soon as possible. Gabe

is also working on easement and Right of Way documents. Stakeholder coffee conversations will resume after Labor Day.

- c. **Woodard & Curran Status Report** – W&C are still working on designs for the Transfer Station, Vinal Cove, the Fire Hall, and other projects. There was discussion again on the need for extending the bay at the fire hall vs. moving the utility room.
- d. **Director of Public Works** – Millie reported pricing for guard rail on Calderwood’s Neck at \$50/ft. The Public Works crew with the help of Marc Candage tried to flush the culvert on Windy Way that drains to the Pond, but it is plugged so that will need to be replaced. Road strippers are still a no-show. Mike Bunker will not be doing the roadside mowing. It was agreed to check with Jamie again and see if he was available now or could recommend someone. There are bent forks that were previously used on the backhoe. Harry Holt is interested in them; they are of no use to the PW crew. There was a consensus of the board to get rid of the forks. There was discussion on the replacement of the culvert at Folly Pond. Replacing the culvert would be too much for the PW crew to do and would need to be subbed out. Don Young asked about being able to trim/cut trees that are hanging over the road. It is a very tricky issue and should be discussed on a case-by-case basis with the homeowner. Millie presented the Board with a one-year lease option for a 2022 International. This would allow the buy-out price to be worked down before purchase. There was discussion on going to one of the Towns lenders for a better interest rate. It was also discussed to hold a Special Town Meeting to ask for the additional \$60,000 to purchase the truck without the lease. Millie reported that they have been able to ditch 400-550 ft./day with the excavator.

8. Old Business

- a. **Harbor Ordinance - Fee Schedule** – The Board reviewed the fee schedule from 2008. As far as anyone can tell, this schedule is still in place.
- b. **Letter of Intent - Water District Office Relocation** – The Board reviewed the letter of intent from the attorney. A legal summary of understanding for both parties. Tabled for next meeting for more review of the document.

Pam excused herself from the meeting.

- c. **Old Fire Hall Painting Bids** – Phil Crossman has solicited two bids for painting the Old Fire Hall. There is currently 13k in the reserve fund and 4k in the operating budget. Marjorie also mentioned using the Mary Talbot trust for this project. Bids were 21k (labor only) and 24k. There was discussion on if this should formally go out to bid.

9. New Business

a. Sewer User Issues

- (i) **Elizabeth and David Wood** – This is the old Harbor Gawker property. They are currently billed as 3.5 users, but based on water usage they should be changed to 1 user. Calculations are based on highest used month. *Motion by Jake Thompson to adjust the number of users to one (1) as of April 1, 2022 for Elizabeth and David Wood, 26 Main Street. Second by Leslie Dyer. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
- (ii) **34 Main Street LLC** – In the reviewing process it was noticed that 34 Main Street LLC is being billed as one user and based on calculations, should be two. *Motion by Jake Thompson to adjust the number of users to two for 34 Main Street LLC, as of July 1, 2022, 34 Main Street (Kris Davidson). Second by Donald Poole. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

Review of the sewer users is ongoing. There was discussion on when the last sewer rates had been set. Minutes will be reviewed.

10. **Report of Town Manager** – It was asked if the candidate could meet via zoom on either the 8th or 9th of August. Marjorie will contact the candidate. Marjorie has also reached out to the lawyer regarding the Hurricane Island appeal; no return call. Catherine Brodt has been hired to help Linda out at the Library this summer. The Library Trustees would like to be involved with the hiring process. There is a Wastewater Poverty Abatement that should be discussed in executive session. It was agreed to address this the same night as the interview with the Assessor Candidate.

11. **Report of Members** –

Jake asked about the police coverage schedule now. It didn't appear that anyone was here Friday or Saturday night last week. It was asked to try and schedule a meeting with new interim Sheriff Polky.

Donald Poole apologized for not officially announcing and welcoming Marjorie as Town Manager. Welcome (back) Marjorie!

12. **Adjourn** - *Motion by Donald Poole to adjourn at 7:08pm. Second by Leslie Dyer. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk