

**MINUTES
TOWN OF VINALHAVEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Immediately Following the Special Town Meeting
TOWN OFFICE**

1. Roll Call – Selectmen Pam Alley (Zoom), Don Young, Ladd Olson, and Tom Anthony; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton and Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Bunker. Leslie Dyer was absent.

Also present: Millie Martin (Zoom), Elin Elisofon, Ryan Nizolek, Andrea Hogan, Banner Moffat, Lisa Lewis, Chuck Gadzik, Kathi Young, George & Cay Kendrick, and Claudia Dengler (Zoom).

2. Approve Agenda – *Motion by Donald Young to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. Minutes – Approve the minutes from the November 14, 2023 meeting – *Motion by Pam Alley to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 3/0/1, Don Young abstained. Motion carried.*
4. Approve and Sign Treasurer’s Warrant #22 – *Motion by Tom Anthony to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrant #22. Seconded by Donald Young. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
5. Communications - None
6. Speakers From the Floor – Kathi Young asked why the housing committee was on the agenda. Marjorie explained the email from Aurele Gorneau.
7. Committee and Departmental Reports and Appointments
 - a. Woodard & Curran – The Board reviewed the status report from W&C. Awaiting a proposal from Keir Construction for the Public Works building. Awaiting a response from the Contractor on punch list items at the Transfer Station.
 - b. Downtown Project - The last easement has been received and sent to the lawyers!
 - c. Public Works – Millie reported the crew has been getting ready for winter and doing some last-minute grading. Repairs to the Western Star were not as bad as previously thought. The engine does not need to be rebuilt; there was a coolant leak, and it needs a new oil pan. Ladd asked about patching along Granite Island Road. Millie said they would continue as the weather allowed. Tom complimented the work at Folly Pond.
8. Old Business
 - a. Island Institute Fellow Proposal – Patience Trainor was not present at the meeting to revisit this proposal.
9. New Business
 - a. VH Housing Initiative – Crews Quarters – Marjorie received an email from Aurele Gorneau, who is the project manager for the DOT project that will happen in conjunction with the Downtown Project, asking if the Town endorses the VHHI relocating the crew’s quarters building. The building is 30x40 with 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. The VHHI’s plan is to purchase land with funds from Maine Housing, move the building, and convert it into two units as “workforce housing.” The Committee has had extensive discussions on how, when, and where to move the building. There was discussion on the town acquiring

the building, but there is a time limit to move it and the town has no plans in place. Don Young wants to discuss acquiring the building for deputy housing with Knox County. Marjorie reminded the Board that Knox County already said it was not appropriate for a family. *Motion by Pam Alley to support Vinalhaven Housing Initiative acquiring and relocating the crew's quarters building from the State. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 3/1/0. Don Young voted against.*

10. Report of Town Manager

- a. Community Town Hall Meeting Review – Marjorie prepared a memo with the timeline of the project and the November 15, 2023 meeting. Ryan said the other scenarios presented are interesting but doesn't feel they are relevant to Vinalhaven's unique situation. Ryan, Marc, and Jen all feel the focus should be on the patient first and then build the system around that. It was asked if the Town could request the HRSA letter that was sent to ICMS regarding their stance on covering emergency services. Don Young asked about grant funding. Ryan said there are many grant options available for many services – paramedicine, training, etc. George Kendrick asked if Dr. Busko could be contacted to directly answer some of these questions instead of going through ICMS. The feeling is that Cam Garrett has already deemed the service unsustainable and therefore must be changed. Andrea Hogan stressed how incredible Ryan has been in his role. She pointed out that this is not the first HRSA review and it would be interesting to know what changed during this review to make it so that the current system no longer works as it has for decades. Tom asked if the Town could request the HRSA letter and stress that the Board is concerned because the Town is concerned.

In other matters, Marjorie received an email from Ben Plante. The Motion of Contempt for the ongoing Land Use Violation case went out on November 11th.

11. Report of Members -

Don Young brought up the North Haven Road/Meadow flooding. He suggests getting Woodard & Curran to get the necessary permits, raise the road with local resources, and place rocks to dam up the culvert. He thinks the proposed floodgate is not plausible. Marjorie will revisit the DEP requirements.

There was discussion on mowing the ball ground. Millie said George Andrews had been there today to attempt some weed-whacking. Tony Lembo mowed around the outside where the Town's roadside mower couldn't reach. It was asked if it could be burned. Because this is MCHT land and conserved, Millie didn't think it could be burned. Millie also wanted to remind the Board of the effort to keep saltwater out of the pump station, but if the community effort to get the grass down would allow for good skating, she would flood the ball ground.

12. Adjourn – *Motion by Tom Anthony to adjourn at 6:27 pm. Seconded by Don Young. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk

Next Meeting: December 12, 2023