



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017

6:00PM

TOWN OFFICE

1. **ROLL CALL** - *Selectmen Eric Gasperini, Emily Lane and Donald Poole; Town Manager Andrew J. Dorr; and Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Bunker. Pamela C. Alley and Phil Crossman absent.*

Also present were: Kevin Carney, Alison Thibault, Del Webster, and Steve Rosen
2. **MINUTES – Approve the minutes from the March 7th, 2017 Meeting** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the minutes from the March 7th, 2017 meeting as written. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. **APPROVE AND SIGN TREASURER’S WARRANTS #39** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrant #39. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
4. **APPROVE AGENDA** – *Added 8c. Approve and Sign Liquor License Application for Lonnie & Kathleen Morton d/b/a The Harbor Gawker. Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
5. **COMMUNICATIONS** - *NONE*
6. **SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR** – *NONE*
7. **COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS**
 - a. **Board & Committee Appointment - Cemetery Committee** – *David Brown requested to be appointed to the Cemetery Committee. There are no current vacancies on the Committee. David Brown (and any other interested parties) are encouraged to attend meetings.*
 - b. **Ambulance Department - Binder Lift Purchase Request** – *The Selectmen were presented with a letter from Pat Lundholm requesting permission to expend \$563.95*

from the Equipment Reserve fund at the end of a 30 day trial pending ambulance crew satisfaction.

- c. Road Commissioners Report** - Reviewed reports by Dan Bickford. It is mud season and the typical pothole problems were discussed. The blade on the wing of the new plow has worn the steel edge. There is no damage to the truck but the truck will go back to the dealer for them to inspect after the season.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Select Date for Special Town Meeting - Well Easement** - Eric Gasperini made a motion to hold a Special Town Meeting on April 11th, 2017 at 6pm. The Selectmen's Meeting will follow directly after.

Del Webster said he was under the impression that if the property was used by anyone other than the Town that the property was to go back to the Robert's family. He also asked if the Town was to get anything in return for the easement ie: a donation to the Park Commission or access to the water.

- b. FY 18 Budget -**

1. Admin - Eric Gasperini asked if the figures included Andy Dorr's salary. Andy Dorr stated the sheet printed earlier did not include it, but he had given the Budget Committee a verbal update and the modified department figure is \$302,840. He also explained that the decrease in the wage line was due to Barb Philbrook's retirement.

Donald Poole asked if paying bills online would save any money in the Postage line. Andy Dorr explained that the majority of that figure is for the mailing of tax bills and monthly mailing of Transfer Station bills; but he would look into online payments. There was some discussion on if the Transfer Station database could be part of the webpage so users could log in and view their account, or if only negative balances were mailed out to save on postage.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept the Town Manager's recommendation. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

2. Law Enforcement - The Budget Committee has recommended a lesser amount. They decreased the amount allowed for Coast Guard transports.

Donald Poole asked how long the contract with Know County was and what was the reason the cell phone allowance was higher. Andy Dorr explained that the contract was year to year. Rob Potter and Andy Dorr both have iPhones and therefore use a higher amount of data. Rob Potter is able to create a hot spot with his phone and have internet access when needed and therefore has the ability to use a considerable amount of data.

Emily Lane proposed cutting \$1000 from the Repairs line based on previous expenses.

Utilities are capped and therefore no changes were made.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept the Town Manager's recommendation with a deduction of \$1000 from the Repairs line item. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

3. Harbor Master - Andy Dorr stated that the Harbor Committee is reviewing the Harbor Ordinance. The Selectmen agreed that this position needs more importance and possibly more hours. Excise tax collected from boat registrations covers this budget item.

Donald Poole asked Andy for a copy of the current Harbor Ordinance.

Alison Thibault asked if the Harbor Master was responsible for the prompt removal of traps etc. from the parking lots. Andy Dorr answered yes, but given the limited hours currently allowed it is not always easy. Notices are posted in the Wind.

Del Webster asked if the Selectmen would like to see the Ordinance he has from Stonington, Maine, to review for ideas when reviewing Vinalhaven's Ordinance.

Motion by Emily Lane to increase the Harbor Master Budget to \$18,000. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

4. CEO/LPI - The Budget Committee recommended an increase.

Donald Poole asked if this amount took into consideration the possible increase in ferry ticket prices. Andy Dorr said that changes wouldn't take place until after this fiscal year and therefore not part of this Budget process. A seasonal rate has been discussed at Ferry Meetings.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept the Town Manager's recommendation. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

5. Animal Control - Alison Thibault requested getting better follow up on animal control complaints.

Steve Rosen suggested a "pay-per-response" system.

All in attendance were in agreement that it is another strain on Rob Potter's time to also hold this position.

Motion by Emily Lane to accept the Budget Committee and Town Manager's

recommendation. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

6. Debt Services - *Andy Dorr pointed out that three items (Backhoe, Snow blower, and 2015 Paving Project) totaling \$104,000 will be paid off this year. Typical paving projects are seven to ten year loans. The next paving project is tentatively in FY 20 in conjunction with the Main Street project.*

Motion by Emily Lane to accept the Budget Committee and Town Manager's recommendation. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

7. Library - *The Library budget is up \$4000 from FY 15/16 based on annual wage increases, increased IT support costs, and professional cleaning service fees.*

There was discussion of putting a meter in for the sewer usage. The Library has only one toilet and one sink. There was a consensus to look into whether the cost of a meter would be worth potential savings in sewer costs.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept the Town Manager's recommendation. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING - Fire, Ambulance, General Assistance, Cemetery, Town Properties, Donations, and Contingency and Planning.

c. Approve and Sign Liquor License Application for Lonnie & Kathleen Morton d/b/a The Harbor Gawker - *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign the Liquor License. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried. License was passed for signatures.*

9. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER – *The Town was awarded the DART grant. There will be a preliminary meeting in July with follow up meetings in September and October.*

The painting received from the Bill Brown Estate is still in Andy Dorr's possession. He took it to the Thomaston Auction House but they typically don't accept items they don't expect to get more than \$1000 for. Other options are being explored.

Andy Dorr and Jessica McDonald Martin attended a meeting of the Maine Island Coalition on fire prevention services.

Andy Dorr attended a meeting on marijuana laws in Maine and how they affect Maine towns.

Updates on Town Acquired Property:

The land property located on East Boston Road is a clean transaction.

The MMA attorney recommends supplementing the heirs of the Bruce Arey property (East Boston Road) for the FY 15/16 taxes and start a foreclosure process from there. The property located on Round the Island Road can be transferred back to Charlie Reidy via Quit Claim Deed.

Kevin Desmond has looked at the crosswalk sign at the end of Arcola Lane. What he thought was going to be a simple fix was not the issue. He's been on vacation but will look at it again.

Andy Dorr received an estimate from Martin Stein for doing two more site visits on possible locations for the Public Works building. Martin Stein estimates it would not exceed \$7000. There have been a total of four options presented. There was discussion of prices on previously discussed locations and site prep costs. No action was taken.

10. REPORT OF MEMBERS –

Emily Lane asked if Andy Dorr had had time to draft changes to the Harbor Ordinance. He answered that no, he hadn't had time yet but it was on his radar.

Emily Lane asked about receiving Library policies from Friends of the Library.

Eric Gasperini asked if the Playground Committee should have given public notice of their meetings and if there were minutes available from previous meetings. Andy Dorr stated that Town committees are subject to giving public notice, but the guidelines are different for a "committee at large." The committee would have been responsible for posting their own notices. The town publishes weekly notices in the Wind and emails.

11. ADJOURN – THE SELECTMEN HAVE DECIDED TO MEET APRIL 4TH, APRIL 11TH, AND APRIL 18TH TO CONTINUE BUDGET DISCUSSIONS. Motion by Eric Gasperini to adjourn at 7:28 PM. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting: Tuesday, April 11th, 2017 at 6:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Clerk