



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 21st, 2017

6:00PM

TOWN OFFICE

1. **ROLL CALL** – *Selectmen Eric Gasperini, Pamela C. Alley, Phillip Crossman, Emily B. Lane and Donald W. Poole; Town Manager Andrew J. Dorr; and Town Clerk Darlene M. York.*

Also present were Angelyn Olson, Susan Chilles, Shelley Ames, Yvonne Rosen, Daniel Ames, Del Webster, Jocelyn McLean, Alison Thibault, David Brown, Sharon Philbrook, Bob Candage, Lisa Shields, Betsy Hopkins, Ruth Sayward, Peter Richards, Kelly Richards, Gillian Creelman, Holly Sault, Kris Davidson, Kerinne Ryan, Kathy Warren, Renee Jones, Kathi Young, Bruce Phillip, Bruce Mailloux, Samantha Thompson, Shelby Thompson, Jake Thompson, Brooke Conway, Jamie Harris, Kayla Hunsinger, and Jessica Farrelly.

2. **MINUTES – Approve the minutes from the January 23rd, 2017 Site Visit and the February 7th, 2017 Meeting** – *Minutes from the January 23rd, 2017 Site Visit were not available. Postponed to the next meeting.*

Changes were made to the February 7th, 2017 Meeting Minutes. Motion by Phil Crossman to approve the minutes from the February 7th, 2017 meeting as amended. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 4-0-1 – Donald Poole abstained. Motion carried.

3. **APPROVE AND SIGN TREASURER’S WARRANTS #34** – *Motion by Emily Lane to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrants #34. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*

4. **APPROVE AGENDA** – *There was a consensus of the Board to add agenda items 7d. Librarian’s Report and 12. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(F) to discuss an Ambulance Hardship Reduction/Waiver Application. Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*

5. **COMMUNICATIONS** – *None*

6. **SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR** – *Delwyn Webster asked for Selectmen’s support for a 5-knot speed limit in the reach (Norton’s Point to Mike Mesko’s) during July & August. Eric Gasperini stated that the Harbor Ordinance stops at Norton’s Point, therefore it is out of our jurisdiction. Alison Thibault asked why the sidewalks were not cleared after this last storm. Andy stated that the snow blower couldn’t get through the snow and the sidewalk tractor broke down. The part has been ordered and will hopefully be here tomorrow.*

7. COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS

- a. Board & Committee Appointments** – *With Donald Poole being elected as Selectmen, the Budget Committee Ordinance states that Town employees or Officials cannot serve on the Budget Committee. Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept Donald Poole's resignation from the Budget Committee. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 4-0-1 – Donald Poole abstained.*
- b. Road Commissioner's Reports** – *Road Commissioner's reports were reviewed. Andy Dorr stated that the crew was been busy getting ready for the snow storm and then dealing with all of the snow afterwards. It was stated that they crews did a very good job as we had lots of snow, very quickly.*
- c. Sea Level Rise/ Grant Update** – *Andy Dorr gave an update. Phil Crossman asked if the meeting with the Regional Planner and the MeDOT has happened yet. Andy stated not yet, but he has been keeping them abreast on what we are doing. We are not prepared to move forward, as it hinges on the grant.*
- d. Librarian's Report** – *Librarian's Report was reviewed. It was noted that "Second Hand Prose" has not been open as many hours as they have been short on volunteers. There have been changes made to a few policies. It was questioned if the Board of Selectmen need to approve these policy changes. Andy Dorr to look into. Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept the Librarians Report as submitted. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*

8. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Public Works Garage** – *Andy Dorr stated that the plan for the Airport Property was received from Delwyn Webster yesterday. Need to find the boundary lines on the ground to find the preliminary square footage. There was a consensus of the Board to have Andy work on this. Delwyn Webster asked Andy to update the Board on the Public Works Garage Committee recommendations. Andy stated it was a 2-2 vote (2 – to keep it where it is and add a salt shed/ 2- to keep it where it is and NOT to add a salt shed).*
- b. Carrying Place Bridge** – *Andy Dorr stated that he met with the Engineer and submitted the forms for the Geotechnical Study. They will be out to do the core samples in the spring. He still needs to set-up a meeting with the Engineer and Randy Farnham. Sharon Philbrook asked about the price and if any money has been put away for it. Andy stated that some money has been put away, enough for the site work. Bob Candage asked if any local input was going into this or just the Engineers and hoped that people expressed sensible solutions. Andy stated that there was an informational meeting held with residents and property owners and that suggestions were made to raise the deck height and to correct the curve. Sharon asked if the barge had been looked into. Andy stated that he has passed on to the Army Corp of Engineers. Phil Crossman stated that this is one of seven spectacular bridges and hopes that he hopes that it can be restored. Delwyn Webster stated that he felt building a second bridge is overboard.*

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Camden National Bank Signature Cards** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign the Camden National Bank signature cards. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried. Donald Poole signed the signature cards.*
- b. Banking RFP** – *Andy Dorr stated he has not had any luck with finding sample banking RFP's. He will hopefully find some for the next meeting.*

- c. **Boy Scout Point, Lane's Island Property** – *It was stated that the septic company has not been able to come out but is re-scheduled for next Thursday. Andy stated our town attorney recommended consulting with a real estate attorney but he has not heard back. Lisa Shield stated that the seller's attorney recommended that it would be better for a well easement as opposed to a land swap. Delwyn Webster asked if both the well and septic were on town property. Lisa Shields stated that the well is located 15 feet on the Town's Boy Scout Point Property and it is not definite the whereabouts of the septic but it is believed to be on Inland Seafood property.*
- d. **MSAD #8 Playground Referendum Warrant** – *Bruce Mailloux stated that the amount to be borrowed has been reduced to up to \$470,000 and that an additional \$30,000 will be taken from Capitol Reserves. There has been some good ideas for fundraising and they are moving ahead with those. There has been requests for more information so "FAQ" pages will be on the school's website and Facebook page. A Public Hearing is scheduled for March 9th, 2017 and the Referendum for March 28th, 2017. It has been requested to have a moderated public meeting and discussion beforehand as well.*

Delwyn Webster asked about a public hearing beforehand as now it is a done deal. Bruce Mailloux stated laws are different for Town and School. Kathy Warren stated that the design is approved by the School Board but it is clear that more communication needs to happen.

Sharon Philbrook asked about the Capital Reserve fund as there was \$88,000 in it when she left the School Board and questioned where the money for designs and travel expenses were coming from. Kathy Warren stated that there was actually \$95,000 in the Capital Reserve fund and that the money came from there. It was stated that the playground design is the same but that \$138,000 will now be taken from Capital Reserve Funds.

Bob Candage asked if they had thought about asking the Town for \$50,000 or even \$100,000 and then fund raising. It was stated that the process was stated 5-years ago and in hindsight we should have started fundraising then but that no one was willing to head the fundraising efforts, they are now. Phil Crossman asked Bob Candage if he was referring to the first payment. It was stated that it is not possible to vote year to year for the payment.

Delwyn Webster stated that the playground is not the issue. The Town voted no and is being asked to vote again, not even a month later. This is costing the town more money and is opening up a precedence. Samantha Thompson stated that a precedence has already been set with issues in the past being re-voted.

Yvonne Rosen stated that fundraising is basically a risk. Jessica Farrelly stated that they have lots of great fundraising ideas but it requires a vote first to have the project happen. It is hoped that through the fundraising ideas enough money will be raised to pay the loan off 1 or 2 years ahead of time.

Jamie Harris stated that the current playground is in such bad shape and will be dismantled leaving the kids with no playground. The town has never spent money on a playground in the past. This is something besides an electronic screen for kids and it needs to happen now.

Bruce Philip stated that the school may be able to take some of the fund balance saved from the previous year and put it towards the playground.

Eric Gasperini asked about interest rate. Bruce Mailloux stated that interest rates will be going up.

Angie Olson stated that the bottom line is that the Board of Selectmen need to agree to hold another Special Election.

Gillian Creelman stated that the amount is still too high and asked if we would have another chance to say bring it down more.

Kerrine Ryan stated that she was concerned with the lack of interest in fundraising. When the library addition was built there was \$1,000,000 raised with not a lot of effort. She felt that the school was putting the cart before the horse and that once they announce that the Town is paying, they will not receive much funding.

Andy Dorr asked for a breakdown of the costs for the components. It was stated that there is a new page on the school website and Facebook page.

Andy Dorr asked if the lending is secured. Bruce Mailloux stated yes, pending voter approval. Andy Dorr asked if contractors have been secured. Bruce Mailloux stated they have talked to local contractors but there are no signed contracts.

Eric Gasperini asked if the interest rate needed to be listed in the warrant article as with Town articles. Alison Thibault asked if principal and interest is included. Kathy Warren stated that the warrant article is for the authorization for the borrowing. The payment will be \$77,000 per year for the number of years financed. She stated that they are general contracting to save money. They are looking for the lowest possible interest rate and trying to spend as little as they can. This is the only timeframe for a spring construction. If it is not voted now it will put us out to fall with increased construction costs.

Andy Dorr asked if approved, will RFP's be used for the lending and similarly for the construction. It was stated yes.

Jake Thompson stated he has been on the Playground Committee for 4-5 years and that they have cut the project. We now have a pre-K program and need to have components for them. Something has to be done.

Danny Ames asked if it was possible for the vocational class to build any of the sections to save money. Bruce Mailloux stated that there is a liability issue but there will be some sections and the dismantling that could have not only the kids but also community members helping out.

Emily Lane read from the last paragraph from the History – Vinalhaven School Playground Timeline and Planning Process 1-10-16 (should be 17). "If the referendum for funding fails to pass we will address the issues and submit a new plan to the Board." Emily stated that the cost is still exactly the same, you just moved from borrowing to taking from Capital Reserve Funds. Kathy Warren stated this was a quickly written history on the process for the Board of Selectmen before the meeting.

Kathy wanted to clarify the RFP process. They will be working for the lowest possible arrangement for the contractors but they are not required to go out to bid. She stated that mainland contractors are not lower than local contractors.

Phil Crossman asked the Board are we willing to let another referendum be held and rely on the administration to get the process done.

Sharon Philbrook stated that she hoped it would be postponed to a June vote and that everyone would be better informed. She hoped that fundraising would be in full force by then. She also

felt that summertime construction would be a better timeline for the students and for liability issues for both dismantling and construction.

Delwyn Webster stated that claiming local contractors being lower than off island contractors is a fallacy.

Jocelyn McLean asked if any alternate playground companies has been looked into. Kathy Warren stated this has been a 4-year process and that we have a wide range of disabilities and age ranges. Many companies offer pre-packaged ideas that are not for K-12. We are designing ourselves to get the most bang for our buck but yes, there is a possibility that we could go out to another company.

Samantha Thompson stated it is being requested to hold another vote at the end of March. There is a new plan to use more moneys that are available, may not be the perfect plan. Please consider the vote in March.

Bob Candage felt that once fundraising was started it would gain momentum. Thank you for considering this.

Eric Gasperini stated this is a difficult decision and that no one was opposed to a playground. Motion by Donald Poole to hold a Playground Referendum on March 28th, 2017. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 3-2-0 – Eric Gasperini and Emily Lane voting No. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign the MSAD # 8 Warrant and Notice of Election for March 28, 2017. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried. Warrants were passed for signatures.

- e. FY 18 Budget – Draft** – *Andy Dorr stated that the Budget Committee met last night and will be meeting on Monday nights for 1-2 hours until they are through the entire budget. The budget committee supported the proposed 2% wage increase. There was a consensus of the Board to allow them time to review the budget and start going over at the next Board meeting. It was stated that Andy did a great job and that budget was well put together as it was last year.*

10. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER – *Andy stated that it has been a busy couple of weeks.*

Broadcasting meetings after the fact is cheaper than live viewing.

A notice for the float RFP is in this weeks “Wind”.

Andy could not find anything on the Excise Tax legislation that Emily mentioned at the last meeting.

Marge is no longer interested in the microphone system.

Andy Dorr is taking the painting from the Bill Brown estate to the auction house in Thomaston.

Phil has received the Downtown Revitalization Committee meeting minutes for the past 2 meetings. Other Board members were interested in receiving them as well.

Andy has been looking for a banking RFP with no luck.

Andy has not followed up on asking for recommendations as to moving the Eagle. Bob Candage stated that there used to be a halogen light by the hardware store. Andy to look into. It was stated that Andy has also talked to Chip about adding more street lights on Main Street.

11. REPORT OF MEMBERS – *Phil Crossman asked to have the Deputy Supervisor at the next meeting as the Deputy response has been worse than it was two weeks ago. Several things have been reported with no response what so ever.*

Phil Crossman asked about Cemetery Mowing. Andy stated that it is status quo for the remainder of this fiscal year. It may be shifted on to Public Works if the Board feels that it is a task we want added to our PW Department and if a fourth person is added.

Phil Crossman asked who the Chair was for the Downtown Revitalization Committee. Andy stated that no one has been appointed. It was questioned who does the minutes. It was stated Holly Sault.

Phil Crossman asked about the school stop signs. Andy stated he has not had time to contact an Electrician. Emily forgot to get the phone number to Andy, but will. Andy to call.

Phil Crossman asked why the sidewalks were not cleared. He stated that Main Street and to the school must be cleared, whatever it takes. It was stated that they have had a hard time finding part time workers. Alison Thibault asked if we could ask property owners to clear in front of their space. Betsy Hopkins stated that this is the first place that she has lived where it is NOT the property owner's responsibility.

Phil Crossman stated he talked to John Anders and he knew nothing about the new rule of Captains knowing the where a bouts of their crew. It was stated it's funny how you get a different answer every time you call. Phil stated that the Local Tariff Committee hasn't met yet and asked Andy to lean on Alan to meet.

Phil Crossman asked if the chain was installed at Lawson's Quarry. It was stated yes.

Phil Crossman asked about the Galamander. Andy stated we are now waiting for the snow to be gone.

Phil Crossman asked about the Municipal Waste Committee. Del responded that they have not met as members have been on vacation.

Phil Crossman stated that Board of Selectmen's Minutes need to be available by Friday following a meeting as in the by-laws. We either need to change the by-laws or do whatever it takes to get them done. It was suggested to have someone else take the minutes. There was a consensus of the Board to review the by-laws.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION – **Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(F) to discuss an Ambulance Hardship Reduction/Waiver Application** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to enter into Executive Session at 7:50 PM pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(F) to discuss an Ambulance Hardship Reduction/Waiver Application. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*

Motion by Eric Gasperini to come out of Executive Session at 7:57 PM. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to grant an 80% reduction for Ambulance Run 16-152/55317. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

13. ADJOURN – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to adjourn at 7:58 PM. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0.*
Motion carried.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S MEETING: TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH, 2017 AT 6:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene M. York, Town Clerk