



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 7th, 2017

6:00PM

TOWN OFFICE

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

Also present were: Bruce & Betsy Hopkins, Janann Sherman, Holly Sault, Del Webster, and Steve Alley (via phone with Pam)

2. **MINUTES – Approve the minutes from the February 6th, 2017 Site Visit and the February 21st, 2017 Meeting** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the minutes from the February 6th, 2017 Site Visit as written. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

February 21st, 2017 Meeting: A few typos were pointed out by Phil Crossman and Emily Lane. Phil Crossman asked that it be added that Andy Dorr is taking the painting from the Bill Brown estate to the auction house in Thomaston.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the minutes from the February 21st, 2017 Meeting as amended. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

3. **APPROVE AND SIGN TREASURER’S WARRANTS #36** – *Motion by Emily Lane to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrant #36. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

4. **APPROVE AGENDA** – *Added 7g. Transfer Station Report and 7h. Ferry Service Report. Motion by Emily Lane to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

5. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. **SAD 8 Superintendent Letter** – *The question was raised at the previous meeting as to if the vote to occur March 28th, 2017 is a reconsideration of the same issue or a new issue. Andy Dorr looked into legal wording on the procedure and Eric Gasperini agreed that this was technically not the same question voted on previously. Andy Dorr also researched the question of whether the project should be (or should have been) put out to bid by the MSAD8. Andy Dorr reported that MMA’s legal opinion was that MRSA Title 5, §1743-A requires contracts exceeding \$250,000 need to go out to bid. The school has previously stated that the playground project is broken down into*

components, none of them exceeding the \$250,000. Their lawyer stated that as long as they keep the contracts below \$250,000 each, they will not need to solicit bids.

6. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR – NONE

7. COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS

a. Accept and Appropriate Donations – *Motion by Emily Lane to accept and appropriate \$115 to the Ambulance Equipment Reserve. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

b. Board & Committee Vacancies – *Eric Gasperini asked if the vacancies had been advertised in the Wind and Andy Dorr responded that no, they hadn't appeared lately because of space constraints.*

There was discussion on whether there are five or six seats on the Sidewalk Committee. There are currently five listed. Phil Crossman stated that Kimberly Radley would like to be on the Committee. Eric Gasperini stated it was favorable to have an odd number of members. Motion by Phil Crossman to increase the Sidewalk Committee to seven members. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion by Phil Crossman to appoint Kimberly Radley to the Sidewalk Committee. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

c. Ambulance Reports – *Reviewed with no discussion.*

d. Knox County Deputy Report – *The Supervisor was unable to attend this meeting because of illness. He said he can attend the next meeting (March 21st). It was discussed that this meeting may have to be rescheduled due to most Board members being away on this date. Rob Potters report was reviewed.*

e. Road Commissioner's Reports – *Emily Lane asked about retrieving the road signs that had been thrown from Lane's Island Bridge. Andy Dorr said he could look into getting a diver. They are deep enough that they can't be reached at low tide. There was a consensus to proceed with finding a diver to get the signs.*

f. Wastewater Department – Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rates – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign the Wastewater Department Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rates. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried. Certificate was passed for signatures.*

g. Transfer Station Report – *Reviewed. Andy Dorr pointed out that currently the revenue is up from this time last year.*

h. Ferry Service Report – *Andy Dorr presented complaints he had received in writing including:
Notification System: The State switched companies for their notification system on missed/canceled ferry trips. There have been some "kinks" that are being worked on.*

Demand for a larger ferry: When one of our regular boats breaks down or goes in for service we may receive the Libby as a replacement. With the type/amount of traffic to/from Vinalhaven there is a need to have one of the larger ferries take its place. Customer Service or lack thereof...

Parking: Prices are likely going up for 90 Day and Seasonal Passes, no numbers proposed at the MSFS Advisory Board Meeting on March 2nd. Increased price would still not guarantee a space for Seasonal Pass holders. The State wants to make more revenue from daily parking prices versus seasonal. There is also a potential for ticket prices to increase.

During the heavy snow storm on February 13th the MDOT shut down all non-essential operations. Andy Dorr was told the Ferry Service was closed but would like clarification on if this is considered an essential service and whether the island should at least expect the consideration for emergency trips.

There was discussion on if there was still interest in a parking garage and Andy Dorr said they do not appear to be considering it.

Pam Alley asked if there was any truth to rumors that the Libby was unsafe and had missed trips while on the Vinalhaven run due to safety issues in rough weather, but the other ferry was able to make the trip. Andy Dorr said it had missed a trip due to rough weather, but he didn't believe the boat itself was unsafe, just a judgement call of the crew.

Ridership figures were reviewed. There was discussion on if the Thompson should be used as the reservation trip. It was suggested that Phil Crossman bring this up to the Tariff Committee.

Andy Dorr will draft a letter with the above concerns (and more) and include the written complaints he has received. The letter should be sent to Dave Miramant and Walter Kumiega, and ...

Del Webster asked if the Ferry Service was providing a shuttle service to parking at the Rockland School. Andy Dorr said they would provide the number for a taxi but he was told it was not feasible for them to provide a shuttle service.

Emily Lane made a motion that Andy Dorr draft a letter outlining concerns. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Public Works Garage** – *The Board reviewed pictures Andy Dorr provided. He asked how the Board would like to proceed on sites Marty Stein has not visited and reviewed. Eric Gasperini said the board should make a decision soon. Andy Dorr stated it is hard to compare site options equally as they all have different concerns. Del Webster mentioned that by having the Public Works at other locations would diverge from the goal of consolidating the Public Works and Transfer Station. Betsy Hopkins requested that the Board consider how the Public Works building would relate to the future of*

Main Street plans before making a final vote and Emily Lane assured her that they would. Pam Alley requested that a vote be postponed until the whole Board could be present. Emily Lane asked about the cost of having Marty Stein do evaluations on the other sites discussed. Andy Dorr said he could look into it and have some information for the next meeting.

- b. Carrying Place Bridge** – *Core samplings were completed on March 7th. The north side of the bridge is a granite wall backfilled with various materials; the south side is predominately ledge. Andy Dorr has not met with Randy Farnham yet.*
- c. Boy Scout Point, Lane's Island Property** – *Andy Dorr reported that there had been no response from the Town's attorney yet, but a well easement would be the easiest solution and would satisfy the owners. If the Board has no other issues a Special Town Meeting could be scheduled to consider a long term easement for the property. The septic system has been determined to not be on Town land. It was also discovered that there is no leach field, but this is not a Town issue. There was a consensus to wait for a reply from the lawyer before scheduling a meeting.*

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Authorize Seasonal Road Postings** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to authorize the season road postings. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried. Gravel roads have already been posted.*
- b. 2015 Foreclosures** – *Andy Dorr reported that the Town had acquired three properties: 1) Bruce Arey's house at Corner of East Boston/Roberts Cemetery Rd, 2) Land on Round the Island Road, and 3) Land on Abigail Rock Road. No action is needed at this time.*
- c. Banking RFP** – *There was a consensus to leave out the Town's CD for now as the current maturity date is favorable. There should be no problem closing out the Medical Center Reserve Fund and reinvesting it if that is the decision.*
- d. ICMS – Mechanical Services, Inc.** – *Bruce Hopkins spoke on behalf of the Medical Center. They are looking for approx. \$17,000 for an air conditioning unit for the building. It would primarily be for the Behavioral Health end of the building and they would like to install it in the next few months. Bruce asked what was available from the Medical Center Reserve Fund. Andy Dorr found that \$6,000 was currently available. Emily Lane suggested asking Niall Conlan if it was something he could do as he has the necessary certification. Bruce Hopkins said he would discuss it with Dinah Moyer (who was unable to attend because of illness) and thanked Emily Lane for her recommendation.*
- e. Discussion on the Creation of a Historic District** – *As part of an agreement with Maine Historic Preservation, it was suggested that the Town amend/update the Comprehensive Plan to include naming of a historic district. Andy Dorr suggested that an inventory be constructed with descriptions of buildings and their construction dates. This was just a catalyst and more discussions will follow.*

f. FY 18 Budget

1. Selectmen – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to leave Selectmen at previous rate. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
2. Assessor – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept the recommendation of the Budget Committee and Town Manager. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. Legal Services – *Motion by Emily Lane to accept the recommendation of the Budget Committee and Town Manager. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
4. Washington School – *Andy Dorr proposed an increase in the custodial wages. Emily Lane asked about the increase in utilities and Andy Dorr said it was because of fuel prices and electricity costs (kw usage was roughly the same). Andy Dorr had researched using heat pumps. He found them not to be feasible for this building. He also suggested this become a permanent line item in the future to be used for small fixes sooner as opposed to larger expenditures later. Pam Alley asked about rug cleaning, floors, etc. Andy Dorr said that was included in Service Fees and provided an estimate for the Library and Public Safety Building; not included is possible cleaning/refinishing of the wood floors at the Washington School. Andy Dorr said he has asked Dinah Moyer about ICMS sharing the cost of installing a separate internet line for the conferencing equipment in the meeting room. Holly Sault said she would ask if the Chamber is interested in contributing as well. Motion by Emily Lane to accept the recommendation of the Budget Committee and Town Manager. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
5. Public Safety Building – *There was some discussion of the VFD/EMS pager system being included with building property versus the separate departments. A new laptop is needed, as is a new vacuum. Deli Anthony is currently using the one from the Town Office. Motion by Phil Crossman to accept the recommendation of the Budget Committee and Town Manager. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
6. Harbor Master – *There was a lot of discussion on the job description and the enforcement of ordinances. Janann Sherman stated that adequate pay needs to be considered for the responsibilities involved. Del Webster stated that someone needs to be present and active in the harbor. Holly Sault explained that the Budget Committee didn't want to increase the wage of the Harbor Master and put the burden on the Town to compensate for that increase in budget. Phil Crossman confessed that Board had dropped the ball on drafting its own Harbor Ordinance. They had previously discussed and intended to revise the ordinance, but then passed the responsibility to the Harbor Committee. Andy Dorr stated that a job description exists and the more important issue is how Ordinances will be enforced. There is a vacancy on the Harbor Committee. Andy Dorr will make draft changes and have it ready for review in the next couple weeks. The issue was tabled pending recommendation from the Harbor Committee.*

7. Insurance – *Motion by Phil Crossman to accept the recommendation of the Budget Committee and Town Manager. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

10. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER – *Reviewed bank statements. Reviewed Year-in-Review statement prepared by Debbi Young. Marc Candage has talked with Andy Dorr about using the remaining balance of the Building Fund to replace the oil barrel (\$220 estimate from Jim Dwyer), finish wiring outlets, and replace some siding. Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept Marc Candage's recommendation on these issues. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

11. REPORT OF MEMBERS –

Emily Lane asked if they could see the Library Policies to review and also reminded Andy Dorr to send the minutes from the Downtown Revitalization Committee meeting.

Emily Lane also asked about the halogen light at Davidson Realty. Andy Dorr has tried to reach Chip Farrington but he is still away.

Phil Crossman asked if the Town had applied for the Broadband Grant. Andy Dorr thought the deadline had passed for this particular grant. The Town is no longer leasing the space on Main Street. Holly Sault said she had been in touch with FairPoint and Time Warner about funding a workspace through the Chamber.

Phil Crossman asked what the status was of the Galamander. Andy Dorr answered that on Thursday (March 9th) there will be a group available to jack up the wagon to take stress off the wheels. He will coordinate a time with the large animal vet to use the portable x-ray to look at the axle.

Phil Crossman asked about the speed limit sign. Andy Dorr answered that Kevin Desmond was reviewing the manuals. Phil Crossman said Patrick Trainor is willing to look at it if Kevin doesn't have the time.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(A) to discuss an the Town Manager's Contract – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to enter into executive session at 8:03 PM pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(A) to discuss an the Town Manager's Contract. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

Motion by Eric Gasperini to come out of executive session at 8:32 PM. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Gasperini to sign the Town Manager's Contract. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.

13. ADJOURN – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to adjourn at 8:35 PM. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*

Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting: Tuesday, March 21st, 2017 at 6:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk