

MINUTES

**TOWN OF VINALHAVEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, April 14th, 2015
6:30 PM
TOWN OFFICE**

1. **ROLL CALL** – *Selectmen Jack Olson, Eric Gasperini and Emily B. Lane; Town Manager Stephen Eldridge; and Town Clerk Darlene M. York. Brandon Osgood and Dennis Warren were absent.*

Also present was Dan Bickford.

2. **MINUTES – Approve the minutes from the March 31st, 2015 Meetings** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the minutes from the March 31, 2015 Meetings. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3-0-0. Motion carried.*
3. **APPROVE AND SIGN TREASURER’S WARRANTS #42** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrants #42. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3-0-0. Motion carried.*
4. **APPROVE AGENDA** – *There was a consensus of the Board to add agenda items 5b. Rick Dubois, Re: Vinalhaven Layover Berth; and 5c. Brown’s Head Lighthouse.*
5. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - a. **Maine Municipal Association – 2015 Nominating Committee** – *Steve gave an explanation. No action taken.*
 - b. **Rick Dubois – Re: Vinalhaven Layover Berth** – *Letter to Rick Dubois was reviewed.*
 - c. **Brown’s Head Lighthouse** – *Marjorie Stratton called and asked if the Town was thinking of signing the Lighthouse over to someone else, if she could have back some of the pictures she left at the Lighthouse. There was a consensus of the Board that yes, that would be okay.*
6. **COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS**
 - a. **Accept and Appropriate Donations** – *Motion by Jack Olson to accept and appropriate \$35 to the Library Reserve. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3-0-0. Motion carried.*
 - b. **Board & Committee – Appointments** – *Motion by Jack Olson to appoint Bill Alcorn to the Historical Society Building Committee and Brooke Conway to the Downtown Revitalization Committee. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3-0-0. Motion carried.*

There was a consensus of the Board to cap the Downtown Revitalization Committee at 11 Members.
 - c. **Ambulance Reports** – *Ambulance Reports were reviewed.*

- d. **Animal Control Officer's Report** – *No report received. Steve updated the Board on an incident with a dog biting another dog on the East Boston Road. The biting dog had no license and no current rabies vaccination. It was also stated that Rob needs to be re-certified and that there is a class being offered in May.*
- e. **Cemetery Report** – *No report received. Steve stated that more may be added to the Budget after Thomas Stevens' visit.*
- f. **Fire Department Report** – *Fire Department Report was reviewed. It was stated that this is a good report and that Marc does a great job.*
- g. **Harbor Master's Report** – *No report received. Jack Olson stated the floats need to be put back in the water. It was stated that they are scheduled to be put in later this week. Road Commissioner Dan Bickford and Steve visited the Thorofare to look at the float. Dan stated they are waiting on an estimate from Kolofsky. North Haven usually pays 25%. Need to look at the extra float (if currently still at Coot's) and see if it's usable.*
- h. **Knox County Deputy's Report** – *Knox County Deputy's Report was reviewed. Steve stated we need to replace the Toughbook and also purchase a shelf for the cruiser. Costs are estimated at \$2,000 +/- Emily Lane stated we need to visit the County Commissioner's next year.*
- i. **Librarian's Report** – *Librarian's Report was reviewed.*
- j. **Road Commissioner's Reports** – *Road Commissioner's Report was reviewed. Jack Olson asked about the holes in the road created during the water/sewer freeze ups on Main Street and Sand's Road. It was stated that the Water District is responsible. The crew has been working on Calderwood's Neck Road, Young Road, Ritz Road and Poor Farm Road. They have used over 170 yards of material which should help but is no solution. Ditching and culverts are needed. Phil Curtis from Me DOT will be coming to the island in May for grader training.*
- k. **Transfer Station Report** – *No report received. Steve stated the Transfer Station Budget was reviewed at last night's Budget Committee Meeting and that Luther was there.*

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Dedication & Memoriam for Town Report** – *List was briefly reviewed. It was stated that we need a decision at the next meeting.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Approve and Sign Lease Agreement with Louis O. Roberts - "The Ballground"** – *Motion by Emily Lane to approve and sign the lease agreement with Louis O. Roberts for "The Ballground" property. Second by Jack Olson. Vote 3-0-0. Motion carried. Lease was passed for signatures.*
- b. **Draft Culvert Replacement Policy** – *Draft policy was reviewed. Motion by Jack Olson to approve Culvert Replacement Policy as presented. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 3-0-0. Motion carried.*

- c. **Knox County Taxes and Communication Fees** – *The Knox County Tax and Communication Fee information was reviewed. Emily Lane asked what the Communication Fees were. Steve stated for dispatch services.*
- d. **Brown's Head Lighthouse** – *Steve stated there was a meeting with Bill Chilles, Elizabeth Bunker and himself with Bob Trapani from the American Lighthouse Foundation last Thursday. The American Lighthouse Foundation would be willing to take over the Lighthouse and have an agreement with the Historical Society. Bob recommended we contact Earl Shettleworth from the Maine Historical Preservation and Mary Ellen Wilczynski from the Coast Guard to start the process. Steve has sent each a letter (copy attached).*
- e. **Town Pier - "Fish Plant Wharf"** – *There was a consensus of the Board to get the wharfs (Main Street Parking Lot and Fish Plant Wharf) cleaned up and then to have the harbor master regularly police the wharfs. The wharfs are to be for everyone's use – not for just 2-3 to bung it up. There was a consensus to place an ad in the wind giving owners one week to move their stuff and then have the Harbor Master take items to the Landfill or if owner is known, to the owner's residence.*
- f. **2015-2016 Budget Presentation** - *Public Works, Cemeteries, Transfer Station, Debit Service, Capital Projects, Animal Control and Harbor Master Budgets were reviewed.*

Public Works – Wages were increased due to adding another man and extra help in the summer. It was stated that it will be difficult to find employees to work for the wage amounts budgeted. Jack Olson asked about street sweeping. It was stated that the sidewalk sweeping looks good. Service fees will be adjusted if a snow blower is approved. There was a consensus to adjust Equipment to \$4,000. It was stated that FIEC will be going up 7.7% as opposed to the decrease of 1.5 – 2% that was mentioned at the Budget Committee Meetings. Emily Lane thanked Dan and stated she felt the crew did a great job this winter and the others agreed.

Cemeteries – Service Fees was increased to add a few more weeks for tree and bush removal. Thomas Stevens will be coming to the island to look at maintenance issues at the cemeteries. The fence at Roberts Cemetery needs to be replaced. It was stated that there are 35 Cemeteries in Town and 8 are maintained by the Town.

Transfer Station – Equipment Repair is up. The Budget Committee recommended \$9,000 but there was a consensus of the Board to leave it at \$10,025. It was asked what the pile of metal was on the Sands Road. Steve to have CEO, Bill O'Donnell investigate.

Debt Service – There was a consensus of the Board that it is expensive but a new plow truck is needed. There were discussions on a new Public Works Building. It was suggested to see what we can afford and then to shop around. This is the last year for the Backhoe payment.

Capital Projects – There was a consensus of the Board to leave the Public Works Garage in the budget. It was stated that the reconstruction of the gravel roads will be at least a 4 or 5 year project.

Animal Control – Christmas bonus was removed. Lodging and Meals budget was reduced to \$500.

Harbor Master – Christmas bonus was removed.

Steve stated he has a meeting scheduled with the school to see where there are budget wise.

- 9. REPORT OF MEMBERS** - *Eric Gasperini stated Kevin Small's truck needs to be moved. It is still on the side of Calderwood's Neck Road, before the bridge.*

Emily Lane stated she has had complaints on many deer being seen in town neighborhoods. It was stated that a tick count, not a deer count, needs to be done. Steve to call the State to find the name of someone that does this.

- 10. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER** – *Steve reported the propane meeting was well attended. They will be continuing with the current passenger limits until July 29th and they will possibly extend this deadline until into the fall.*

- 11. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR** – *None*

- 12. ADJOURN** – *Motion by Jack Olson to adjourn at 8:04 PM. Second by Emily Lane. Vote 3-0-0. Motion carried.*

Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting: Tuesday, April 28th, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene M. York, Town Clerk