



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

5:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

1. **Roll Call** - Selectmen Eric Gasperini, Phil Crossman, Pam Alley, Donald Poole and Jacob Thompson; and Town Manager Andrew Dorr.

Also attending virtually – Pat Lundholm, Janann Sherman, Gabe McPhail, Matt Jablonski and KC Deputy Chad Abbott.

2. **Approve Agenda** - *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*
3. **Minutes** - **Approve the minutes from the February 2, 2021 meeting.** *Motion by Phil Crossman to approve the minutes. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 4-0-1. Donald Poole abstained. Motion carried.*
4. **Approve and Sign Treasurer's Warrant #33** - *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign Treasurer's Warrant #33. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*
5. **Communications**
 - a. **Beacon of Sovereignty** – There was a consensus of the Board to not sign the Resolution.
6. **Speakers from the Floor** – None
7. **Committee and Department Reports/Appointments**
 - a. **Appointment to the Sea Level Rise Committee** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to appoint Jonathan Smith to the SLR Committee. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*
 - b. **Broadband Committee** – The committee met last Thursday and have come to the Board with a recommendation. They are asking the Board to endorse the exploration of the community's will to support a municipally owned fiber-to-the-premise network through taxation. They are proposing a community survey, outreach and engagement. *Motion by Phil Crossman to endorse the committee's exploration of the community's will and support the proposed work plan as presented. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.* Donald Poole suggested not putting parameters on what an adequate/reasonable amount of responses would be. Gabe clarified that it only impacts the questions asked: year-round or seasonal resident? Do or do not own property? Pay taxes? There was a consensus to get as large of a sample size as possible, but also collect data from the previously mentioned demographics. Janann asked if there were any other criteria they would like the committee to seek as they ask these questions. Jake asked about a cost breakdown question (ex. Would you be interested in a project if it cost between \$1M-\$3M

or \$3M-\$5M, etc.). There was discussion on putting it in terms of what it would cost an individual in taxation and subscriber fees. There is a Zoom conversation tomorrow night (Wednesday, Feb 17th) at 6pm discussing benefits and challenges of building and operating an investor-owned broadband network with Walt Smith who helped lead the creation of an LLC for Cliff Island and Lyme, NH.

- c. **Waste Watchers** – Swap Shop Committee – The Committee is proposing that Amy Lear and Pat Lundholm will manage the Swap Shop initially and then volunteers may come forward. Two questions for the Board: Is the general direction that the committee is pursuing agreeable, and if the Public Works building is deemed an acceptable location, would the town be willing to fix a leak in the roof of the small addition attached to the building. Andy will have someone look at the roof and see how big of a repair it will be. *Motion by Phil Crossman to endorse this work plan and fix the leak at the Public Works building subject to cost. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*
- d. **Road Commissioners Report** – The Board reviewed the Commissioners report. Andy reported that one of the sand spreaders went for repairs and the 550 went to the mainland for repairs.

8. Old Business

- a. **EcoMaine Recycling Contract – Renewal Discussion** – Andy shared a reply from EcoMaine clarifying some of the question that came up at the last meeting. *Motion by Eric Gasperini to sign the Revenue/Cost Share Program contract with EcoMaine. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.* Andy also noted that, to date, no loads have been contaminated over 2%.

9. New Business

- a. **Fireworks Contract** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to sign the Fireworks agreement with Central Maine Pyrotechnics. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*
- b. **Committee Guidelines Policy** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the Committee Guidelines Policy and Committee Formation Document. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.* Gabe and Matt were thanked for their work on this project.

10. Report of Town Manager –

Andy said Deputy Abbott had attended one of the “business coffee hours” that Andy has hosted and as discussed last meeting he was willing to come meet with the Board. He mentioned that he was seeing a lot of inspection sticker violations, but that some leniency was given due to no garage issuing stickers at this time.

Andy shared the draft Personnel Policy and Substance and Alcohol Testing Policy. Donald asked about testing for Marijuana where it is legal in the State now. There was discussion on it being a federal standard for those holding a CDL license. There was discussion on “floating holidays” and other holidays.

Andy followed up with Ransom Engineering and the flood insurance map revisions. There will be a discussion and presentation on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021 at 5:30pm.

Jake mentioned a couple new bills being proposed that would impact the lobstermen and Andy received more details on those. He provided an overview of the two actions being considered. There was discussion on the impact of both of these documents and composing a Town statement.

There was discussion on ICMS’s distribution of COVID vaccines, and who is considered essential personnel.

11. Report of Members –

- a. Phil Crossman asked if anything further had been done to reforming the Housing Committee. Andy answered that he, Matt, and Gabe had met with Elin Elisofon (and Matt again after that) and working with the new policy to formulate a proposal of what the Housing Committee will focus on and their work goals. Elin is working on a committee roster and they will be meeting next Monday (2/22).

Phil asked if reducing the 30-minutes-prior line-up time requirement for the ferry line had been brought to management. Andy said he thought it was something that should be brought to the Advisory Committee. Phil will speak to the local Advisory Committee on behalf of the Board.

- b. Pam Alley asked about getting a quote on painting the flag pole across from the Library.

12. Adjourn – Motion by Eric Gasperini to adjourn. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk