MINUTES



**Town of Vinalhaven**

**Board of Selectmen**

TUESDAY, August 13th, 2019

6:00 PM or

TOWN OFFICE

1. **Roll Call -** *Selectmen Eric Gasperini, Pamela C. Alley, Phillip Crossman, and Jacob Thompson; Town Manager Andrew J. Dorr; and Deputy Town Clerk Elizabeth Bunker. Donald Poole arrived after getting off the ferry.*

*Also present were Evan Brown, Heather Seawell, Joy Mills, Marion Grogan, Gabe McPhail, Alexander Moffatt, Lisa Lewis and George Kendrick*

1. **Minutes – Approve the minutes from the July 8th, 2019 Meeting; the July 22nd, 2019 Meeting; and the July 30th, 2019 Meeting** - *Motion by Phil Crossman to approve the minutes from the July 8th, 2019 Meeting. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

*Motion by Phil Crossman to approve the minutes from the July 22nd, 2019 Meeting. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

*Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the minutes from the July 30th, 2019 Meeting. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

1. **Approve and Sign Treasurer’s Warrants # 7 -** *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrants #7. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
2. **Approve Agenda -** Additions: 7e. Downtown Committee, 7f. Waste Watchers, 7g. Ambulance report, and a Sea Level Rise Committee appointment to 7b. Remove 9b. Surplus Equipment Bids.*Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

1. **Communications -** *None*
2. **Speakers from the Floor -** *None*

*Donald Poole arrived.*

1. **Committee and Department Reports/Appointments**
   1. **Accept and Appropriate Donations** - *Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept and appropriate the donations. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
   2. **Appointment to the Sewer Commission** - *Motion by Eric Gasperini to appoint Pam Grumbach to the Sewer Commission. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5/0/0. Motion by Eric Gasperini to appoint Joe Reynolds to the Sea Level Rise Committee. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
   3. **Road Commissioner’s Report** - *The Board reviewed the Road Commissioner’s report. Jake asked when paving would start. Andy said it could be as early as next week or possibly the last week in August.*

*There was discussion on the removal of the apple tree in the triangle at the intersections of North Haven Road, High Street, and Old Harbor Road. Motion by Eric Gasperini to remove the tree. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 4/0/1. (Phil Crossman abstained)*

* 1. **Woodard & Curran Status Report** - *The Board reviewed the Status Report.*
  2. **Downtown Committee Report** - *Gabe McPhail reported to the Board that the internal draft was being distributed to a few parties to review. She’s hoping to get edits by next week, and then have a new internal draft to present at the next Selectmen’s meeting.*
  3. **Waste Waters Report** - *There has been no progress at the composting site. Gabe is meeting with their agent from DEP on Thursday to look at the site, and other options. They will visit the airport site, as well as look at another space offered by the Rod and Gun club (a temporary site). The Board asked Andy to check in with David Arey. Phil asked if this was an issue that the site wasn’t ready. Gabe said it was definitely a deterrent as the State is assuming the committee has their “ducks in a row” and are ready to begin the project at an available/workable site. Joy Mills said that Mills has a screen that shakes to expedite the screening process.*
  4. **Ambulance Report** - *The Board reviewed the report. Andy informed the Board that there is a proposed legislative change that would disallow PIA to transport patients. This would require PIA to have a designated special plane and become certified as an air ambulance. There is a hearing expected in September but there is nothing scheduled yet. Andy said our representatives are aware of the situation, as well as the Medical Center. Phil is willing to draft a letter on behalf of the Board.*

1. **Old Business**
   1. **Public Works Garage Update** - *No progress to report.*
   2. **Public Works Equipment** – Asphalt Hot Box - *Andy presented the Board with a comparison of three models. Motion by Jake Thompson to purchase the HP Fairfield Asphalt Hot Box for $30,351.00. Second by Eric Gasperini. Vote 5/0/0.*
   3. **Star of Hope Building Improvements Update** - *Work on the roof is scheduled to begin soon followed by structural work. The Foundation is also planning a visit to reevaluate all the properties owned by Indiana.*
2. **New Business** 
   1. **FY 20 Fuel Oil Bids** - *Three bids were received. Vinal Energy offered two plans: Pay-as-needed and pre-pay (-25¢/gal), Granite Island Fuel offered 85¢ over rack, and Stanley Fuel offered $1.00 over rack.  
      Evan Brown provided a table of rack prices.  
      Motion by Eric Gasperini to accept Vinal Energy’s bid and pre-pay $40,000. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0.*
   2. ~~Surplus Equipment Bids – Jeep -~~
   3. **Town Property - Public Meetings Policy** - *After a couple chaotic hearings (ie. MSFS) Phil is proposing a policy for Public Hearings and requesting Hearings have an experienced moderator. There was discussion on how much benefit can come of meetings without structure. There was also discussion on creating an application for building use and having a space to list a moderator and the responsibility that would fall on the staff scheduling meetings. There was discussion on having the BOS oversee/moderate hearings.*

*Motion by Jake Thompson to adopt the policy as written. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*

* 1. **Equipment Reserve - Computer Purchase** - *Six computers need to be replaced. Three computers in the office, two computers at the fire station, and the computer Carl Philbrook (PW) had been using all need to be replaced. There was money budgeted for 4 of these (Three in the office, and one at the fire station).  
       
     Motion by Eric Gasperini to authorize the purchase of a computer for the Fire Department from the General Equipment Reserve, not to exceed $550. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.   
       
     Motion by Donald Poole to authorize the purchase of a laptop computer for Public Works from the General Operating budget, not to exceed $1400. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
  2. **Sewer FY 20 Budget Approval** - *Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the FY 20 Sewer Budget at $309,500. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
  3. **Selectmen’s Goals 2019-2020** -

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| Pam Alley: | - Shields Hill/Harbor Hill sidewalks improved |
| Jake Thompson: | - Review the Harbor Ordinance (now that the new version has been in place it should be reviewed to make sure it’s helping the Harbor Master) -See progress with the Town Garage project -Review ordinances |
| Phil Crossman: | - See the airstrip extension completed - See Broadband on the warrant for 2020 Town Meeting - Town Committees and Ordinances  -Downstreet Master Plan completed -Take action on the Sea Level Rise Committee’s recommendations -See effective Law Enforcement |
| Donald Poole: | - Streamline the budget process (start a month earlier) - Review inventory of Town maintained roads - Broadband progress -Review Ordinances and ordinance enforcement |
| Eric Gasperini: | - Explore changing the date of the Town Meeting to Spring (March/April) - Review Selectmen by-laws - TIF (Fox Island Wind), abatement given by the Town of VH with no implications for North Haven - Explore legal obligations for snow removal on Main Street sidewalks (businesses become responsible) - Install pay phones at the Quarries - Create a payment plan with minimal interest for people who can’t pay their property taxes (avoid the 9% interest on late payments) |

Andy and Gabe will review the list of goals and work on sorting long term and short term. The Board will need to work on setting benchmarks for goals to show progress. There was discussion on having a special goals workshop.

1. **Report of Town Manager -** *Harbor Master Jim Knowlton sent a copy of the new Harbor Ordinance to the Army Corps of Engineers for review and comment. Senior Project Manager Jay Clement sent a response with good feedback. There was a consensus of the Board to talk with Jim and review the Ordinance.   
     
   The State’s Transportation System Funding Commission is asking for nominations for a municipal representative. No nominations.  
     
   Andy received quotes from Sea Coast Security for installation of cameras in the Town parking lot, Fish Plant parking lot, and at the Library. It was budgeted $10,000 for both parking lots, and the Library’s cameras could come from the reserve fund.  
     
   Proposed Whale Rule Changes - Andy has been in contact with Kathleen Billings in Stonington. There have also been discussions with Sarah Curran from Hannah Pingree’s office. The BOS are encouraged to write a letter with concerns and impact on the Town. The deadline for comment is September 16, 2019 at the NOAA Hearings.  
     
   Andy has been meeting with Rick Lattimer on North Haven. They have drafted a letter to the County Commissioners regarding law enforcement. Four main topics of concern: Coverage, increasing the budget for coverage from three officers, providing a safe vessel to cross the Thoroughfare, and contracts for lodging.  
     
   Andy received Maine Municipals annual ballot. Motion by Eric Gasperini to authorize Andy to fill out and submit. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.  
     
   Andy received the Bridge inventory from the State. He will forward it to the engineers.*
2. **Report of Members -***Phil Crossman: The trash truck used to have a tray that caught fluids and “critters” but had been coming over on the ferry without it. The Ferry crew would then have to rinse off the deck before loading for the next trip. Andy said he had asked Debbie Young to ask them about this the next time she scheduled their trip.  
     
   Jake Thompson: Is going to the Whale Rule Making Hearing in Waldoboro tomorrow if anyone wants to go.  
     
   Pam: Asked when work could be done on the Boy Scout Point parking area. Andy said after the paving project was complete, or by next spring.  
    :asked if the Public Works could sweep the debris by the crosswalk at the entrance to the School (Arcola Lane).   
    :asked that the Board use the provided Town email address vs. personal accounts.*
3. **Executive Session - Executive Session pursuit to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) - Acquisition of Real Property -**

*Motion by Eric Gasperini to enter into Executive Session at 7:41 PM. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0.*

*Motion by Eric Gasperini to come out of Executive Session at 8:07 PM. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0.  
  
Motion by Eric Gasperini to close with a Quit Claim Deed for access. Binding Mills to dig a trench if deemed appropriate by the Town for utilities. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0.*

1. **Adjourn -** *Motion by Eric Gasperini to adjourn at 8:08 PM. Second by Donald Poole. Vote 5/0/0.*

**Special Board of Selectmen meeting at 4PM on Thursday August 15, 2019 for a site visit.**

**Next Board of Selectmen meeting August 27, 2019.**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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*Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk*