

**MINUTES
TOWN OF VINALHAVEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

5:00 PM

TOWN OFFICE

1. Roll call – Selectmen Pam Alley, Leslie Dyer, Don Young, Ladd Olson; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton, and Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Bunker. Also present CEO Faye Grant, Sumner Hatch, Wilson Boone, Peter Drury, Tim Achorn, and Banner Moffat, all in person; Gabe McPhail and Phil Crossman via Zoom. Tom Anthony arrived off the last ferry.
2. Approve agenda – Add 8g. Appointment to Waste Watchers, Darline Beckman; and 10e. Fire Department Appropriation from Equipment Reserve. *Motion by Leslie Dyer to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. Executive Session – Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E), Consultation with legal counsel *Motion by Leslie Dyer to enter executive session at 5:02. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
Motion by Pam Alley to come out of executive session at 5:49. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 4/0/0.

Motion by Pam Alley to authorize and direct the Town Attorney to take appropriate actions against Dana Blackington for land use violations occurring at 143 Pequot Road and Mr. Blackington's Cripple Creek property, up to and including proceedings to enforce the stipulated judgment the Town obtained against Mr. Blackington in Court. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 3/1/0. Pam Alley voted against. Motion carried.

Motion by Leslie Dyer to issue a Notice of Violation regarding the operation of an automotive repair shop at 143 Pequot Road. Seconded by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.

Tom Anthony Arrived

4. Minutes – approve the minutes from the September 12, 2023, public hearing and regular Board of Selectmen's meeting – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2023 meetings. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 4/0/1. Tom Anthony abstained as he was absent from these meetings.*
5. Approve and sign Treasurer's warrants #14 – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to approve and sign Treasurer's warrants #14. Seconded by Pam Alley. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
6. Communications
 - a. Maine Resource Recovery Association – The Board reviewed the notice from MRRA regarding a change to their bylaws.
 - b. State of Maine – Proposed 2024 State Valuation – Vinalhaven's proposed valuation is up 18.5% from last year.
7. Speakers from the floor - None

8. Committee and departmental reports and appointments

- a. Public Works – Storm damage report – The Board reviewed Millie's report.
- b. MSFS Advisory Board Report – Phil Crossman was present via Zoom to talk with the Board about various issues with the Ferry Service and Coast Guard. Peter Drury echoed Phil's memo and encouraged the Board to write to the legislature and DOT, going on the record to strongly object to changes being proposed at this time. Phil will draft a letter and present it to the board very soon. It was agreed to send letters as high up the chain as possible.
- c. KC Sheriff's report – Aug & Sept – The Board reviewed the report provided by Deputy Lemoi.
- d. Woodard & Curran Status Report – The Board reviewed two status reports.
- e. Downtown Project Update – Gabe McPhail was present via Zoom to give an update on the Downtown Project. Brent Bridges was on the island last week for discussions on parking lot ideas/concerns. The Environmental Reviewer is on break so that piece is on hold until they get back. The best-case scenario is we will have the Notice to Proceed by December. There is 1 (ONE!) mortgage holder easement left to receive for FIEC. There was discussion on the location of handicapped parking spaces on Main Street. There was discussion on fishermen and vendor parking in the Main Street parking lot.
- f. Fox Island LED Streetlight Conversion and Community Education Project – Gabe also gave an update on the streetlight project. North Haven was awarded the Grant, with the exception of a piece to cover clearing trees/bushes.
- g. Appointment to Waste Watchers Committee – Darline Beckman – *Motion by Pam Alley to appoint Darline Beckman to the Waste Watchers Committee to a term expiring 06/2025. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*

9. Old business

- a. Harbor Master Boat – Hopkins Boatyard has installed new batteries and a regulator for the solar charger, along with some other maintenance (lights, switches, etc.). The Fire Department is willing to take responsibility for the upkeep of the boat and Marc Candage has created a weekly checklist.
- b. Sign winter road closure notices – The Order of Closings as voted on at the last meeting were passed for signatures.
- c. Certificate of Discontinuance by Abandonment – Young Road – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to discontinue by abandonment Young Road from the property line of Ken Hopkins to the terminus. Seconded by Don Young. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*

10. New business

- a. MMA Presentation – Timothy Achorn, AB Training courses – Tim Acorn from Maine Maritime Academy gave a presentation on the AB National training course that MMA offers, hoping to spur some interest among the lobstermen and high school kids. He gave a description of the online course which consists of PowerPoint slides and

videos. Tim offered to send the introductory video to anyone interested and provided examples of a few of the lessons. It is a self-paced course and would require only 4-5 participants to have testing here on the island.

- b. Certificate of Settlement – 2023 Taxes – This settlement discharges the tax collector from further liability or obligation to collect the balance due for the tax year 2023. The Certificate was passed for signatures.
- c. Policy Development – Post Audit Policy – Marjorie brought the draft policy to Matt Eddy (MCOG) to see if he had any recommendations. He thought it was brief but not a bad idea to have it in place. *Motion by Leslie Dyer to accept the Post Audit Policy as presented. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
- d. Exile Ad – Audrey Anthony of the Yearbook staff contacted the Office about placing an ad in the 2024 school yearbook. Elizabeth Bunker provided the Board with a couple of options; half-page or full-page. *Motion by Tom Anthony to place a half-page ad in the 2024 Vinalhaven School Exile. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
- e. Fire Department - Appropriation from Equipment Reserve – Marc Candage is requesting \$13,176.50 from the Fire Department Equipment Reserve for 10 sets of turn-out gear. *Motion by Tom Anthony to appropriate \$13,176.50 from the Fire Department Equipment Reserve for the purchase of turn-out gear. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*

11. Report of town manager - None

12. Report of members – Don Young asked where the contract with Knox County for the island deputy stands. Marjorie said she and Rick Lattimer (North Haven) have sent their draft to the County Commissioners. The last she heard, the Commissioners were finishing union negotiations before addressing the contract. Marjorie has had an increasing number of complaints about calls made to dispatch receiving no follow-up or call-back from law enforcement.

Pam Alley asked about the truck in the parking lot of the former Public Works building. It appears to have been towed there and abandoned. There was a discussion on installing a camera, it being a deterrent, but also the responsibility of monitoring it.

13. Adjourn – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to adjourn at 7:11pm. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Clerk

Next Meeting: October 17, 2023