

**MINUTES
TOWN OF VINALHAVEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023
5:00 PM
TOWN OFFICE**

1. Roll Call – Selectmen Pam Alley, Leslie Dyer, Ladd Olson, and Tom Anthony; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton, and Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Bunker. Also present: Millie Martin, Rebecca Chambers, and Patience Trainor. Donald Young was absent.
2. Approve Agenda – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. Minutes – Approve the minutes from the November 1, 2023 meeting – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
4. Approve and Sign Treasurer’s Warrant #20 – *Motion by Pam Alley to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrant #20. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
5. Communications
 - a. Vinalhaven Land Trust – PILOT payment – The Town received a \$13,349 payment in lieu of taxes from the Land Trust. This amount is figured as if their land was considered “open space.”
 - b. Maine Municipal Association – Employee Health Trust Notice – The Board reviewed the notice from MMA regarding the increase in health plan rates.
6. Speakers From the Floor
7. Committee and Departmental Reports and Appointments
 - a. Woodard & Curran – Brent has found a contractor to address the remaining issues at the Public Works garage. There is about \$30,000 left in the reserve to cover costs.
 - b. Downtown Project – Gabe and Brent will be meeting with the new director of the Star of Hope to go over the downtown project.
 - c. Public Works – PW worked at Folly Pond Monday getting the culvert back in place and the road repaired. Millie and Marjorie have had multiple discussions about mowing the ballground. They’ve talked with Shawn Chilles and it is far too wet to get any equipment in there. There have also been issues with water backing up into the nearby pumping station. For those reasons, Millie will not be flooding the ballground this winter.

Discussion moved to culvert/water issues at 263 North Haven Road. Rebecca Chambers claims the “town’s diversion” of the “town’s water” is washing out her driveway. She prepared a statement and proposal for the Board (included in the packet). There is a culvert under North Haven Road that allows water to drain towards the commonly known “Trotting Park” area. Then there is a culvert under Ms. Chambers’ driveway. She states neither of these culverts have been maintained by the Town and are not functioning properly. Millie has assessed the area. The record amount of rain this year has caused some pooling in those areas, but the culverts are doing their job. Millie’s recommendation is for Ms. Chambers to raise the driveway. The Board offered to give

Ms. Chambers a larger culvert but cannot do work on private land.

- d. MSFS Advisory Board Appointments – Alan Barker and Jenn Feezor – Phil Crossman is stepping down from the Advisory Board at the end of this term (December 2023.) Alan Barker, who has been an alternate member, is willing to be the representative. Jenn Feezor would like to be appointed as an alternate member. *Motion by Leslie Dyer to appoint Alan Barker as representative to the MSFS Advisory Board, and Jenn Feezor as an alternate member. Seconded by Ladd Olson.*
8. Old Business
 - a. Special Town Meeting Warrant and Certification of Official Text – All present Board members signed the Warrant and Certification.
9. New Business
 - a. Island Institute Fellow Proposal – Patience Trainor presented the Board with a proposal for a Fellow. This person would coordinate events/activities/programs for all ages. She sees the Union Church Vestry as an underutilized space. Patience has also approached the school as a sponsor. They feel because it wouldn't necessarily be for only school-aged kids, that the Town might be a better sponsor. The board thought this was a very good concept but was hesitant to commit to the expense. Patience will contact Kate Tagai to see if there may be any other way for the Institute to help.
 - b. Wastewater User Change Request – Kim Radley asked Marjorie to look into Carver's Harbor Market's Wastewater bills. She is asking for a reduction in users. Based on language in the Sewer Users Ordinance, they should be considered 2 users, not 3. *Motion by Pam Alley to change the users for Carver's Harbor Market, 36 Main Street, for Wastewater Department invoices from 3 to 2 users beginning with the October to December invoice issued in January. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*
 - c. Abandoned Trailers – Possible Action – There was a consensus of the Board to advertise abandoned trailers for sale by sealed bid in the Wind.
 - d. Set date for Public Hearing – Automobile Graveyard Application – There needs to be revisions to the permit and the notifications to abutters before setting a date. There was agreement of the Board to take this up again after corrections are made.
10. Report of Town Manager – Marjorie will be out of the office next week. Don Young and Marjorie received an email from Kurt Andrick announcing the hiring of a new deputy for Vinalhaven. He has started work for Knox County but will train on the mainland for a few weeks before starting patrol on the island. There is also talk of a possible second deputy interested in the island position.
11. Report of Members – None
12. Adjourn – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to adjourn the meeting at 6:17pm. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Clerk