

**MINUTES
TOWN OF VINALHAVEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023
5:00 PM
TOWN OFFICE**

1. Roll Call – Selectmen Pam Alley, Leslie Dyer, Don Young, Ladd Olson, and Tom Anthony; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton, and Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Bunker.

Also Present: Alan Parker, Patrick and Patience Trainor, Ryan Nizolek, Faye Grant, Andrea Hogan, and Dan Martin.

Present via Zoom: Dick Young, Douglas Fincham, Gabe McPhail, Millie Martin, George Kendrick, Dinah Moyer, Gail Eierweiss, Linnell Mather, Katie Butler, Jonathan Busko, Caitlyn Clapham, Susan Clapham Morrison, Christina Quinlan, and Claudia Dengler.

2. Approve Agenda – *Motion by Pam Alley to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. Executive Session – Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E), Consultation with legal counsel
Motion by Pam Alley to enter executive session at 5:00 pm. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.

Motion by Leslie Dyer to come out of executive session at 5:31 pm. Seconded by Pam Alley. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.
4. Minutes – Approve the minutes from the November 28, 2023, meeting – *Motion by Donald Young to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 4/0/1, Leslie Dyer abstained as she was absent.*
5. Approve and Sign Treasurer’s Warrant #24 – *Motion by Don Young to approve and sign the warrant. Seconded by Tom Anthony. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.*
6. Communications
 - a. Rockland Animal Hospital – The Board received a letter from Dr. Caron stating he will no longer be offering veterinary services on Vinalhaven.
 - b. State of Maine – Notice of application for wharf extension, Carvers Harbor – The Board reviewed the notice from the State regarding the application from Mackerel Wharf LLC (property located at Mary Wentworth Road, Carvers Harbor). It is posted in the office.
7. Speakers From the Floor – Andrea Hogan said the Vinalhaven Land Trust is applying for a grant to have another chainsaw safety training in the spring. There was a consensus of the Board to authorize Marjorie to sign a letter of support for the Vinalhaven Land Trust.
8. Committee and Departmental Reports and Appointments
 - a. Woodard & Curran – Gabe reported that EDA has 30 days to review the project now that all easements have been collected and submitted. Gabe will check in with them before the holiday break. It is estimated that the project can be advertised by January 11, 2024, with bid openings on February 15, 2024. That put the water/drainage work phase on track to begin in April 2024. Brent will be on island tomorrow, December 13, and will begin work orders for phases 2 and 3. The Northern Borders Grant is delayed by an

environmental assessment, which is currently being done and should be completed in two weeks.

- b. Downtown Project – See above
 - c. Planning – Possible Grants for Road and Infrastructure Resilience – Gabe spoke to the Board about applying for a BRIC Planning Grant to help bring the town closer to discussed road projects. The grant would be applied for collectively with other islands. There was a consensus of the Board to support this grant application.
 - d. MSFS Advisory Board – Alan Barker has stepped in for Phil Crossman as Advisory Board representative. The Board reviewed the proposed increases. There was discussion on the truck rates being increased 30% and an increase to special/emergency trips. Alan said these rates are being presented as what will be implemented. Marjorie was asked to find out if there will be time for public comment. Alan also requested the Ferry Tariff Committee meet to review the proposed rates.
 - e. Knox County – November Report – The Board reviewed the report provided by Deputy Lemoi. Marjorie also reported that the contract with Knox County expires at the end of the year. The Town is again looking for a rental for the hired deputy that is large enough for his family.
9. Old Business
- a. Island Fellow Proposal – Patience Trainor said she has received good community support since she last met with the Board. She has plans to meet with an architect to review the Union Church vestry, she has spoken with the recreation director on Chebeague, and she has spoken with Kate Tagai from the Island Institute again who said the cost of the fellow would be \$6000 if a rental is provided, and \$4400 if a rental is provided with all utilities included. Patience has also talked with Monte Selby again about support from the school, and she has talked with the newly formed Vinalhaven Community Development Partnership about the possibility of sharing a fellow. At this time, Patience would like to make this proposal to the Budget Committee. They can then consider the proposal and make a recommendation to the Board.
 - b. Follow-up with Dr. Busko – Community Health Services Access Needs Assessment-Solutions Generation Process – Dr. Busko and Katie Butler were present via Zoom to go over the project with the Board. The Provider Workgroup has met, and the EMS Workgroup will meet on Thursday. The Steering Committee will review all proposals from each Workgroup and make recommendations. Dr. Busko defined the Steering Committee as Marjorie, representing the Town; Ryan, representing EMS; and Cam Garrett, representing ICMS. As Marjorie never signed up to be on any of the committees, it was first discussed to have Don Young represent the Town, further discussion led the Board to nominate Dinah Moyer as their representative. Financial decisions don't come into play until stage 4. It was asked what other towns have participated in this project. Dr. Busko answered that Monhegan and Rangeley are participating now, and Jackman has completed their study. The timeline of meetings between Dr. Busko, ICMS, and the Town was discussed again. Leslie stated that when the Board was initially approached, they were asked to write a letter of support for ICMS to complete the grant application, and not for municipal participation. It was stated at that time that the Town Manager didn't have time to devote to the project, and it was estimated that Ryan would need to commit 20 hours. Marjorie spoke to the Town's concerns with the transparency (or lack of) on the part of ICMS. If there is a financial need, a drawn-out study is unnecessary; If a detailed proposal was brought to the community, it would undoubtedly be supported. Christina Quinlan suggested that IMCS put together an analysis of emergency calls,

provider responses, and hours spent on emergency runs, and if that was presented it would help the community better understand where the needs/gaps are. Andrea Hogan asked if the apparent separate issues need to be addressed at the same time, or if the EMS staffing issues could be addressed in a different track from ICMS issues. Dr. Busko answered that that is basically what has already developed from the Workgroups. The discussion came back to the question asked by many... “What changed?”

10. New Business

- a. Net Factory Site Reuse Committee Formation Document – Gabe presented the formation document for the Reuse Committee. *Motion by Pam Alley to form and appoint the named members to the Net Factory Site Reuse Committee. Seconded by Ladd Olson. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.* The Board is excited by the high school students’ interest and participation.

Members:	Patience Trainor	Donald Young
	Margaret Qualey	Pat Lundholm
	Darline Beckman	Susan Philbrook (alt)
	Vacant	Vacant
High School Students:	Payton Warren	Peyton O’Donnell
	Audriana Hunsinger	Chad Lazaro
	Aidan Hoffses	

- b. MEDOT Cooperative Agreement re: Maintenance of State Roads – The Board reviewed the proposed seven-year contract with MEDOT. There was a consensus to have Pam Alley sign on behalf of the Board.
- c. Schedule meeting with ICMS – January – The Board is proposing a meeting with ICMS on January 17, 2024 at 5 pm.

11. Report of Town Manager - None

12. Report of Members – Ladd addressed the issue with the culvert in front of the grocery store. Because that catch basin does not drain, water pools in that area. The concern is that if this freezes it could be a safety issue, both for vehicles and pedestrians. Marjorie will speak with Millie and see what options may be.

Pam thanked Phil Crossman for his service and guidance during his tenure on the MSFS Advisory Board.

Pam also thanked all those who helped mow, week whack, and trim the ball ground to get it ready for winter skating.

Next meeting will be December 28, 2023.

13. Adjourn – Motion by Donald Young to adjourn at 7:38 pm. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 5/0/0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Clerk