



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN SELECT BOARD

Minutes

Town Office/Virtual Hybrid
Tuesday, March 28, 2023
5:00 PM

1. **Roll Call** – Selectmen Pam Alley, Leslie Dyer, and Donald Young; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton; and Deputy Town Clerk Elizabeth Bunker. Also present: Deputy Josh Lemoi, Elin Elisofon, Banner Moffatt, Ryan Nizolek, and Marc Candage, all in person; Millie Martin via Zoom. Jacob Thompson was absent, and Donald Poole arrived late.
2. **Approve Agenda** – Add 7d. Ambulance Report. *Motion by Pam Alley to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
3. **Approve Minutes – Approve the minutes from the March 7, 2023 Special Town Meeting and Board of Selectmen’s Meeting.** – *Motion by Donald Young to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Leslie Dyer. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
4. **Approve and Sign Treasurer’s Warrants #39** – *Motion by Leslie Dyer to approve and sign Treasurer’s Warrants #39. Seconded by Donald Young. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.*
5. **Communications** – The Board received a letter from Elin Elisofon relating to the Land Use Violation (8a.).

Donald Poole arrived and took over the meeting.

6. **Speakers from the floor** – None
7. **Committee and Department Reports and Appointments**
 - a. Woodard & Curran Status Report – The Board reviewed the 3/10 and 3/24 status reports from Woodard & Curran.
 - b. Knox County Deputy’s Report – Deputy Lemoi was present to go over February and March reports. He discussed the different types of calls responded to. Deputy Lemoi has been working with the Wardens Service to schedule a hunter safety course for kids 10+ years old. The two-day course is scheduled for April 15-16. If there is enough interest, there is the possibility of having a bow course in the fall.
 - c. Housing Committee - Elin Elisofon asked if the Board would take any action on the letter received from Jason Bird at the last meeting. The Committee continues to meet with agencies on the mainland. The Board discussed the Gartley & Dorsky assessment that was done on the Net Factory property and holding a public meeting to determine what the community would like to see that space used for.

*To join the meeting virtually, visit the Town’s website for details. www.townofvinalhaven.org/

- d. Ambulance Report – Marjorie talked to the Board about a proposal from North Haven to contract with VH to have Ryan Nizolek as their EMS Director. Ryan feels he can do the work concurrently with what he does here, and it would be minimal additional hours. Marjorie asked for the Boards approval to continue with negotiations and drafting a Memorandum of Understanding. There was a consensus of the Board to continue.

Ryan talked about concerns with PIA’s continued service to the islands. PIA states they are “at a crossroads” financially. They currently have no flights on Sundays and have discussed canceling flights on Saturdays as well. They have also discussed a seasonal option, wherein they would only operate during peak summer months and move their business south over the winter (and no clarification on what “peak season” would be). PIA states they would need \$400,000/year from the island communities to continue business as they have year-round. This would be in addition to \$900 each emergency trip. All while refusing to share financial statements. Ryan has been working closely with Rick Lattimer (North Haven Town Manager), EMS and EMA Directors, and representatives from APEMS to pursue possible solutions. With the Boards permission he will begin researching any other air and/or boat services.

Ryan would like to apply for a grant from The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for up to \$200,000/year for three years. The requirement would be to train EMS personnel on Substance Use Disorder and Co-occurring Disorders in emergency situations, and the Town would contribute 10%. The Board approved Ryan to proceed with the grant application.

8. **Old Business**

- a. Land Use Violation – 142 Pequot and Cripple Creek – No action taken. Postponed until Faye Grant could be present at the meeting.

9. **New Business**

- a. Annual Town Report – Dedication/In Memoriam and ATM date – The Board was asked to consider the dedication and in memoriam pages for the Town Report. June 21, 2023 at 5:30pm was set as the Annual Town Meeting date.

10. **Budget Workshop –**

There was discussion on the fund balance and the anticipated balance after the FY22 audit, and reducing the amount used to offset taxation.

The Board discussed the amount budgeted for Legal Services and recommends \$50,000.

Marc Candage was present to discuss the replacement schedule for the fire engines and purchasing new versus used. Currently new trucks have a two year wait time from purchase date, with nothing due until delivery. With some modification a new vehicle will fit in the station without extending the bay. Marc’s recommendation is to purchase new, and to ask the Town to reallocate the \$150,000 previously approved for the bay extension to the purchase of a new truck. Marc asked the Board if they wanted to initiate the purchase now or wait until Town Meeting. The Board agreed to proceed with the purchase now.

Marjorie asked the Board about the remainder of \$750,000 approved for paving, of which

only about \$264,400 was used, leaving \$485,600 of the authorized amount, and if the Board wanted to consider using this for paving on Round the Island. Millie said she received notice from Maine Municipal that they were inviting bids for municipal paving jobs and hope to have some reasonable prices come back. There was discussion on other roads that need work – Dogtown and North Haven Rd. Millie is also going to contact paving companies directly and ask about estimates on chipseal.

11. **Report of Town Manager** – Marjorie reviewed items on her memo.

12. **Report of Members** - None

13. **Adjourn** – *Motion by Donald Poole to adjourn at 7:06pm. Seconded by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk

Next BOS: April 18