

Town of Mount Vernon  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
**December 11, 2017**

The next meeting will be held on December 26, 2017

**Present:** Paul Crockett, Clyde Dyar, Patricia Jackson, Marti Gross, Mark Gilbert, Andre Dube, Ben Lawler, Ona Fast, Lee Dunn, Dana Dunn, Amanda Couture

6:30pm **Signed Warrant.**

7:03pm Open Regular Selectmen's Meeting- Dyar called meeting to order.

7:00pm **Open TV Broadcast.**

7:01pm **Approved minutes.** Dyar motioned to approve minutes of the 11/27/17 meeting. Jackson seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

7:01pm **Public Hearing- Road closures to winter maintenance.** Dyar motioned to close the same sections of road as last year, which are:

- Mooar Hill Road from the Transfer Station driveway to the North Taylor Road;
- 129 North Taylor Road (Glowa) to 153 South Taylor Road (Leone);
- Karabin Way to Ingraham Pond Road;
- 2284 Echo Lake (Greenough) to Mt. Vernon town line; and
- 87 Ithiel Gordon Road (Vivenzio) to Walter Green Road.

Ona Fast is present to voice her concern about being able to access property she purchased on the unimproved mile of Ithiel Gordon Road that is normally closed to winter maintenance. She recently had CMP install poles and her house is scheduled to be delivered this week.

Fast asked Select Board to sign off on and fax a Town Road Permit to CMP. CMP requires this permit before they go live with the lines. Crockett will ask CEO if he can generate a permit stating that the town accepts the road is considered an acceptable road to have CMP poles.

There was discussion about the road not being wide enough for the regular plow truck to make it through and that portion of road not being included in this year's budget. Dunn went in with the truck he would normally use and he didn't have a problem getting in but there was nowhere for him to turn around unless her driveway is widened with a 20' culvert to what a standard driveway would be. He can back into the driveway but cannot get back out. There is a turn-around down below her driveway, but without the town putting in at least a couple of loads of gravel he cannot use that either. Dunn stated he can make it work but the major issue is the turn-around if only going halfway, otherwise an additional mile needs to be added to the contract.

Crockett asked Fast if she would be able to widen her driveway if the Town made the decision to add that section of Ithiel Gordon Road to the plowing route. Fast responded that she has to anyway for navigational purposes to get the house into her property.

The Select Board looked at the contract book and the cost per mile for winter maintenance is \$4,038 and \$2,019 for a half mile. It is written in the contract that the Select Board has the option to add or subtract distance. Gross stated it is not in the winter snow plow budget authorized by the town. The Select Board will need to hold a Special Town Meeting to see if citizens are willing to add that to the

contract. Gross added that before we have a town meeting we need to have an exact amount that needs to be raised. Gross suggested the Board contact MMA and ask them about the situation.

If Fast widens her driveway, Dunn may be able to use it as a plow turn around. Fast stated she cannot commit to a particular date between now and next Wednesday. There was a discussion about where exactly the driveway would be widened. Fast stated that the modifications she may make for her needs may not accommodate Dunn's needs for plowing. Dunn stated in that case he will need to go all the way through the road.

Dyar stated the town would also need to raise the money to create a turnaround if Fasts' driveway is not useable as a turnaround. There was a discussion about liability the Town may have if the road is very bad in the spring. Dunn stated he is not sure that road will support spring travel. Dyar stated in that case the Town could post the road.

Dyar motioned to hold a Special Town meeting at the next Select Board meeting at 7:00pm to appropriate \$4,038 to open Ithiel Gordon Rd. to winter maintenance. Crockett seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

The Select Board decided to leave Ithiel Gordon Road out of the normal road closures to winter maintenance. The Board also left out '129 North Taylor Road (Glowa) to 153 South Taylor Road (Leone)' from the motion after discussing this with Dunn because they are no longer town roads. Dyar motioned to close the following roads to winter maintenance:

- Mooar Hill Road from the Transfer Station driveway to the North Taylor Road;
- from Karabin Way to Ingraham Pond Road (Cottle Hill); and
- from 2284 Echo Lake (Greenough) to the Mt. Vernon town line.

Crockett seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

Crockett closed the public hearing on road closures to winter maintenance.

**7:36 Junkyard permit hearing.** Robert Coburn, Sid Smith, Steven Herb, and Elizabeth Lucas have applied for junkyard permits. The Board has all of the applications and all locations have been inspected by Andrew Marble, the Code Enforcement Officer. Marble noted there is an illegal junkyard at 604 Wings Mill Road. Dyar motioned to accept the CEO's recommendation to approve junkyard permits. Jackson seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

**7:39pm Library contract signing.** Dube is here with Ben Lawler. The Select Board, the Library, and Andy Dube have been working together to finalize contract terms. Dyar motioned the Chair sign on behalf of the Board. Crockett seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

Dube asked how any change orders would be handled. The Select Board needs to sign a change order on any contract. Lawler asked who would come out to inspect the job site before release of funds. Dube will be the individual to do that.

Dyar motioned to have Crockett sign on behalf of the Board any invoices incoming for the Library construction. Crockett seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

7:51pm **Fire Chief & Civil Defense Director- Emergency plan discussion.** There has been past discussion about designating a building, most likely the community center, as a warming building for the Town during emergencies. Legally, there would need to be showers and other updates made before it could be officially designated. Dana Dunn fire sub-station has a shower. He added that the main station is more set up but it does not have an elevator for handicap access. Dyar suggested not installing a shower at the Community Center, but using the one at the substation. Crockett suggested asking the RSU about using the elementary school. Dana Dunn and Lee Dunn agree. Another consideration is emergency power, which the school does not have. The Board and the Dunns will consider the next steps to take.

Jackson asked if there was a copy of the Town's Emergency Management Plan available. Lee Dunn will look for a copy of it.

Crockett asked Lee Dunn if they had tracked their hours from the last storm for FEMA consideration. Dunn answered that he had documented everything.

Jackson asked if there was a call list through emergency management to contact people who may need to be checked on during a storm. Lee Dunn stated that is usually done through the fire station and with neighbors. Jackson asked if it would be helpful to make a new list of people to be checked on. Dana Dunn stated through the fire department and rescue they have a pretty good idea of who needs to be checked on. Fast suggested coalescing the names into a list. Fast would be interested in creating a list. There was further discussion about assisting individuals in emergency situations.

Jackson asked if there was anything the Board could have done better during and after the recent storm and anything they could do in the future to help more. Dunn stated he tries to communicate to one of the Select Board members at least to let them know what is going on.

Mold underneath floors needs to be taken care of and Greg Cauldwell is looking into that.

Jackson thanked Dana Dunn and others for saving Halloween. The power was out all over town but the kids had a blast. Dunn stated they are in the process of working with CMP on improving outage restoration notifications.

8:11pm **Other business.**

**Implementing x-mas meeting schedule.** The Select Board will meet Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the town office.

**-Town hall hours.** Rachel is considering changing town office hours but wants to make sure there is time in any given week where people can come in before or after work to do town business. Rachel suggested opening the town office every weekday at 7:00am and no longer doing the Saturday hours.

**-Transfer Station discussion.** Requests for smaller cards of what is acceptable at the transfer station. Crockett asked Fast if she would like to join the Transfer Station committee. Fast stated she is interested in joining. There was a discussion about whether doing single stream recycling or having people sort it out.

**Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area** sent a thank you to the Town for their donation of \$800.

**Generator-** Dyar got a quote of less than \$1000 to hook it up a generator for automatic start. Dyar suggested doing two hookups, one at town hall and one at community center, because the generator is on wheels and could be brought to either location. Dyar proposed the Town do it if they have the money. Gross stated the only thing it could come out of is capital improvement if they have enough in there. Dyar stated the generator is \$1600 with not many hours on it and he thinks it is a good buy for the Town. It is a 13,000 triple fueled generator. Dyar estimated it will be approximately \$300 in total if they decide to do the switches at both buildings. Crockett motioned to make the purchase for the generator out of capital improvement fund. Dyar seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

Money needs to be transferred from the road capital improvement fund to cover the culverts.

There was a discussion about a citizen on Echo Lake Road, and how to best improve the snowplow turn around by his house. Lee stated that if the rock wall was moved back some than he could swing in and have enough room to turn around with the plow truck.

8:37pm **Adjourn.** Crockett motioned to adjourn. Dyar seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.