



Town of Mt. Vernon, Maine

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Mt. Vernon Selectman's Minutes

Date: 12-09-2019

Members Present: Trish Jackson, Paul Crockett (Chair), Clyde Dyar

Members Absent:

Present: Alexander Wright, Ron Lockwood, Mark Gilbert, and Kerry Casey, Lee Dunn, Susan Herman, Barbra Skapa, and Jo Tibby

1. Signed Warrant.
2. Call to order: 7:02 pm
3. Additions/adjustments to the Agenda:
4. Action/Discussion/Informational Items

Open Regular Meeting and Accept Minutes from 11/25/19

Motion by Jackson seconded by Crockett to accept

Motion passed: Dyar Abstained

Ordinance Review Committee, discussion

Crockett spoke about their previous conversation in regards to the Governance committee looking at the positions and having an ordinance of office times for the clerk's position. Sue Herman spoke about having a report by the end of the year. Susan Herman mentioned having a special town hall meeting sometime in January. Crockett concurred, mentioning we will heavily advertise and suggested we have it at the community center. Dyar wants to listen to the governance committee report then make a decision on what to do for a special town hall meeting. Crockett asked Wright to see if in the 2016 town meeting we made the decision to have the tax collector and the clerk made it two-year terms. Crockett, 10 years ago the governance committee made some recommendations but the town has only partially met. Dyar mentioned sharing a town manager with some other local towns, possibly hosted by the county.

Jackson made a list for ordinance review: Fireworks, Drones, Accessory Dwelling units (comprehensive plan), Holding Tanks in the Shoreline Zone. Crockett thinks this is something we should look into. Dyar wants us to look into it but not hastily move forward with a new ordinance. Also, look into enforcement and how other towns enforce firework and or drone ordinances. Dyar mentioned he is a believer in having it as a state statute especially in regards to Drones and fireworks. Dyar suggests the ordinance committee speak to Bill Brown in regards to the specifics of the holding tanks.

Speed Zone Review for Route 41, Pond Rd, discussion

Crockett reiterated the reasons why we are discussing the letter: to help support pedestrian safety on the Pond rd near Camp Loyal. The letter would be sent to MDOT to request they conduct a Speed Zone Review.

Motion by Crockett seconded by Jackson to sign the letter

Motion passed: unanimous

Snow Plow Contract, discussion

Crockett mentioned the snow plowing contract has an extension clause in the contract and L.K. Dunn & Son current has the contract. Crockett asked what would be the cost? Wright replied the cost for this coming year would be for the fiscal year 2020-2021 \$215,000 +\$4239.56 Ithiel Gordon Rd for a total of \$219,239.56.

Motion to approve by Jackson and Crockett

Motion passed: unanimous

RJD Contract proposal, discussion

Wright mentioned RJD Assessing sent us a new contract but Wright mentioned the contract did not include quarterlies for the town. Wright suggested we hold off on the contract until we get the final numbers. Selectboard concurred.

Other Business

Motion to appointed Kerry Casey for the Aging in Place committee by Crockett second by Dyar

Motion passed: unanimous

Jackson, planning a February Frolix, announced to the audience this event is for all ages and all are welcome.

Crockett wanted to mention a special thank you for Scott Herrick for donating the Christmas tree for the town. Crockett also mentioned Herrick runs a Christmas tree farm on the Bean Rd in Mt Vernon.

Barbra Scapa and Jo Tibby wanted to raise concerns about the animal control officer, they wanted to make a note about normal complaints: not responsive and does not take calls. Scapa spoke about an incident on the 18th of November, where she came across a wounded cat. A resident brought this cat to Barabra's house and she noted that the cat was in distress. She contacted the animal control officer, to bring the cat to the shelter in Augusta. two days later, she called the shelter about the cat, and the cat was not delivered to the shelter. Finding out the animal control officer found the cat had died during transit and went on to bury it. Barbra was shocked and asked the Selectboard what are we going to do about the animal control officer? Crockett mentioned the animal control officer, is now living nearer to Mt Vernon and the Selectboard is watching him diligently and monitoring his situation. Dyar mentioned we need to treat each other with respect and mentioned he heard how Barabra conducted herself through a voice recording to the animal control officer. Crockett mentioned the ACO has lapse certification and they have proposed he get recertified by the state by a certain time. Barbra mentioned she is concerned about how the Selectboard conducted personnel especially in regards to the former dump manager and the current ACO.

5. Adjournment: 8:00 pm

Motion by Crockett seconded by Dyar to adjourn

Motion passed: unanimous