



## Town of Mt. Vernon, Maine

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### Mt. Vernon Selectman's Minutes

Date: 07-20-2020

Members Present: Mac Hardy, Paul Crockett (Chair), Sherene Gilman

Members Absent:

Present: Alexander Wright, Kerry Casey, Tyler Dunn, Roger Peppard

#### Signed Warrant.

1. Call to order: 7:00 pm
2. Additions/adjustments to the Agenda:
3. Action/Discussion/Informational Items

#### Open Regular Meeting and Accept Minutes from 07/06/2020

**Motion** by Hardy seconded by Gilman

**Motion passed:** unanimous

#### Selectboard Officers, Chairmen Election

Moved to the end of the meeting

Crockett nominated Mac Hardy to be Chair seconded by Gilman

**Motion passed:** unanimous

Hardy nominated Crockett for GA seconded by Gilman

**Motion passed:** unanimous

#### Treasurer, Discussion

Casey talked about helping the Clerks with a time study for their job as mentioned by the budget committee. Casey mentioned her concern over a GA concern over a letter. Crockett mentioned he sent the letter, a copy provided by to the Casey. Casey asked if it would be alright to move forward with payroll service. Crockett gave a brief history of the reason for a payroll management company. The Selectboard agreed to move forward with Payroll Management. Crockett mentioned the town is in the queue to install TRIO Web to our services.

## Other Business

Roger Peppard, presented to the Selectboard the different tax commitments for the town. Peppard presented several different calculations for the mill rate. Leaving the current mill rate would leave a \$92,000 overlay. Crockett wanted to note that a primary residence can apply for a Homestead exemption. Gilman mentioned she would like to see the mill rate go down. The Selectboard discussed what would be a good overlay, then decide the mill rate. Gilman asked how much money did we use for abatements, Casey mentioned that we went over \$12,000 for this past year's account. The Selectboard looked at \$80,462 overlay setting the mill rate at .01740 mill rate, arguing the RSU budget will increase and would be sizable for next year.

**Motion** by Crockett to sign the broadband resolution seconded by Gilman

**Motion passed:** unanimous

**Motion** by Crockett motioned to set the mill rate at .001750 seconded by Hardy

**Motion passed:** unanimous

Chuck Wright, presented to the Selectboard the Broadband committee to move quickly on, chuck suggests that we have a Selectboard representative on the committee. Chuck proposed there is a zoom meeting on Thursday to discuss their goals and resolution. Hardy asked about how many companies are interested in being involved in the committee. Chuck mentioned we would like to present to the Selectboard 5.1 million to replace and expand the current system or working on a gap service focusing on the underprivileged costing 1.5 million. Spectrum is aggressively marketing its current customers while requiring another provider to service those not with Spectrum. Gilman spoke about her perspective of the relationship with the committee and not to overextend their goals, she would like them to develop and present at a later date. Chuck further discussed the options for the Mt Vernon. Casey asked if the state would get involved in the improvement of internet improvement. Chuck comparing it to any utility and the relationship any utility has with the local town. The Selectboard agreed to sign the broadband committee resolution and have the Selectboard on the email list.

Wright and the Selectboard explained most of the town committees to Tyler including their time commitments and their responsibilities.

**Motion** by Crockett nominated Tyler Dunn for the Budget Committee seconded by Gilman

**Motion passed:** unanimous

**Motion** by Hardy to accept the Quitclaim deed presented by Casey seconded by Gilman

**Motion passed:** unanimous

Wright presented a legal opinion in regards, to a Selectmen also serving on the library trustees. The Selectboard discussed the various scenarios where there have been lines crossed. The Selectboard concurred in their option there wouldn't be a conflict in the case of having a Selectboard member also be on the Library Board of Trustees. Casey mentioned it would be good to have that member abstain from any vote for the budget.

Gilman suggests having a Facebook page for the town, noting that it is worth exploring. Mentioned looking an integrating the comprehensive plan into the goals for the Selectboard. Hardy, mentioned we want the Selectboard to work with all 5 members, including the treasurer and the Administrative

Assistant. Gilman mentioned we should look at the Governance Committee recommendation for the Administrative Assistant position.

4. Adjournment: 8:57 pm

**Motion** to adjourn by Gilman seconded by Crockett

**Motion** passed: unanimous