



Town of Mt. Vernon, Maine

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Mt. Vernon Selectman's Minutes Date: 3/04/2019 DRAFT

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

Members Absent:

Present: Alexander Wright, Ron Lockwood, Mark Gilbert, Marti Gross.

1. Signed Warrant. 6:32pm
2. Call to order: 7:00
3. Additions/adjustments to the Agenda:
4. Action/Discussion/Informational Items
 - a. Approval of the minuets 2/18/2019

Motion by Paul seconded by Dyar to approve minutes of 2/04/2019 and 2/18/2018

Motion Carries: unanimous

- b. Abatement requests per assessor

Motion by Dyar seconded by Jackson to accept all abatements in accordance with the assessor's recommendation.

Motion carries: Unanimous

- c. PSAP update

Dyar disused that the group is still floundering and no definitive answer. Dyar recommends if there is no definitive answer by the end of the fiscal year we continue to appropriate the same amount for next year's budget 2019-2020. Crockett hopes the PSAP group makes a decision before the end of budget in June. No new information. Dyar suggest we put on the agenda for next Selectboard meeting.

- d. Discussion prior to RSU joint board meeting

Paul and Trish will be able to make it weather depending. Trish wishes that we discuss about the increase in expenses. Crockett asked Alex Wright about where the Schoolboard is on their budget and what they are thinking. Wright responded, that the school has put to get a bond anticipation note for the bond that has passed January 8th 2019. Crockett asked about the priority of the boilers. Wright responded that the boilers and the roads, hopefully will be done by October 2019. Crockett also asked about the budget. Alex responded that teacher's contracts are being negotiated and there are talks at the state legislature about raising teacher minimum wage, and if the state is going to pay for some of the increase expense incurred. Crockett also asked about the benefits and what they may be aiming for this budget. Wright responded, that teacher's contract negotiations are confidential. Crockett asked if they could questions about benefits and what statues prohibit them from asking certain questions. Wright responded that the Superintendent would know the statues and what information can and cannot be revealed. Crockett also asked about operating expenses, especially after the bond passed. Wright responded there are additional facility proposals that are not included in the bond. For example the Middle School roof is scheduled to be replaced and is part of this year's budget proposals. Wright also spoke about additional proposal around increasing hours and positions in the district. Also there is a proposal to create a program at the high school for kids with special needs. Jackson asked what would be the percentile for reimbursement by the state. Wright responded we are waiting for more information, working with the state it is a slow process. Wright also brought up that the district is discussing the Strategic Plan 2018-2023. Wright suggested that the Selectboard looks at the older strategic plan for reference. Crockett also asked if there is a snow day for the meeting on the 13th. Wright responded that there is not one planned, Jackson pointed out that the school board does usually meeting on snow days usually. Jackson wishes that the school board be aware of the costs and suggests be cautious about raising budget.

e. Personal property tax discussion

Crockett, discussed a bill in the legislature, eliminating business equipment tax. Crockett mentioned that some towns have not enforcing the tax. Dyar mentioned the old mill payed for most of the expenses in South Portland and how the town did not continue implementing the tax. Trish mentioned that the reasons for the bill, is farms and faming equipment. Crockett, asked the questions does the state plan to reimburse the towns for the loss of tax revenue; Dyar and Jackson doubt the state would not pay for the loss in revenue. Dyar, gave the example of the Mill in the town of Jay payed most of the tax. Crockett mentioned that the equipment tax was not a main source of income for the town of Mt Vernon.

f. Other Business

Crockett brought a letter, Camp Laurel informed the Selectboard that they will be appearing before the planning committee to discussed expansion. Sexual assault and crisis center sent a letter thank them. Letter from the DEP, about recycling, and a fee that may be associated.

Crockett, mention that the Selectboard is beginning budget seasons for the June budget, the budget meetings meets on Mondays at the town office.

Andy Dube, will draw up a sketch for the town office for the ramp and the roof. Dyar will meet with the National Guard sometime during the week. Crockett mentioned replacing lights in the town office and also replacing the glass for the clerk's office.

Dyar mentioned adding cameras for the town office. He corresponded with a Sea Coast and is waiting to hear back.

After tonight's meeting the Selectboard, will observe the basement for next course of action in regards to shredding retired files and unused equipment.

Dyar, mentioned, talking about corrections for the maps. Dyar talking with Andy for the need of dimensions. Adapting the map scale. Possibly be done this or next year. DOT to be responsive about replacing the culvert at the fire station, also working with the Community Partnership Corporation.

Dyar also mentioned about the oldest citizen plaque. Also work on the Spirit of America and the newsletter to be further discussed.

5. Adjournment: 7:33

Motion by Crockett second by Jackson

Motion Carried Unanimous