



## Town of Mt. Vernon, Maine

Mt. Vernon Town Office  
1997 North Road  
Mt. Vernon, ME 04352  
(207) 293-2379  
Fax (207)283-3507  
Email [selectboard@mtvernonme.org](mailto:selectboard@mtvernonme.org)  
Website <http://mtvernonme.org>

### Mt. Vernon Selectman's Minutes

Date: 09-14<sup>th</sup>-2020

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

Members Absent:

Present: Alexander Wright, Heather Wheeler, Kate Raymond, Greg, and June Cauldwell, Chuck Wright

#### 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 08/31/2020

**Motion** by Crockett seconded by Gilman

**Motion** passed: unanimous

#### Clerks hours/days, Heather Wheeler

Hardy spoke about the special town meeting for the Clerks position and the approved job description. Hardy mentioned the conversations he had with the members of the governance committee over the internet of how many times the Clerks should be open on Saturday. Heather spoke about her preference for once a month on Saturday. The Selectboard discussed some of the related cases of residents coming in early before work and using rapid renewal as other means to access services from the town. The Selectboard and Heather Wheeler agreed to move forward with having the first Saturday every month starting in October from 9AM-12PM.

Wheeler mentioned the refrigerator that recently died. Hardy mentioned the town could maybe look at a smaller more compact refrigerator or get an older model.

Gilman asked about absentee ballot being received by the town after the election. Wheeler said the mailmen delivered that same day of the election to the community center to be counted. The Selectboard asked about the ways to receive an absentee ballot. Wheeler mentioned you can come in or call to have one mailed or given to you. You can also go to the state website requesting a ballot. Wheeler mentioned there will be a station for people to fill out their absentee ballot at the town hall closer to November.

KVCOG, Kate Raymond

Presented to the Selectboard the benefits of membership for joining KVCOG. This includes some of the services they provide including working the comprehensive plan, LOU, and GIS mapping for tax maps. Coordinating with broadband to overlay the information to create a digitized map for broadband services. Joint purchasing for highway products, including salt and sand. Crockett is mentioned it might be prudent to look at cost-saving and membership costs and see if there would be a greater incentive. Including fabric and culverts along with other accessories related to roads. Grant assistance is another assessor, including brownfield support.

WKLCA, Chuck Wright and Michael Wenzel

Chuck Wright presented to the Selectboard an update from the broadband committee. Wright talked about communicating their broadband initiative message to the Mt Vernon public. Needing 600 and more to justify the costs. Presenting posters, cards for people to fill out, link to a website for information, Alex Wright will be linking the survey on the town website. The survey needs several hundred to gather info on the consensus. Looking at \$75 for 100/100 upload and download is the goal. Wright talked about other towns that have installed a government-owned broadband committee. Hardy commented about a Farmington group that is trying to have people commit to the broadband including the increase in costs. Crockett asked about what the rate could be, Wright responded that he would not know but some town residents pay only \$210 annually. Hardy asked about the broadband timeline, Wright responded a survey is needed first, sometime in October, including service based on streets, then a proposal to the voters. Gilman mentioned we are good moving forward and putting it on the website.

Executive Session pursuant 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A)

**Motion** by Gilman pursuant 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A) seconded by Crockett

**Motion** passed: unanimous

Other Business

- a. Letter to Committees/Dept heads

Hardy spoke about he sent the letter and some of the responses. Mentioning that Dan Onion had concerns about people not being reached resulting in a point where they cannot be helped anymore. Onion spoke about creating an outreach program for the elderly. Hardy mentioned he will be meeting with Dan tomorrow. Gilman mentioned this would be a time to look at all the other resources by the town could use to reach people. A couple of the department heads have reached out already and waiting to hear from more.

- b. Phone Systems

All good

- c. Vote of Purchasing and Bidding Policy

Next meeting

- d. Discussion of DEP Grant Proposal for Blake Hill Bridge

Hardy presented the to the Selectboard the grant, move forward with the grant.

e. Community Center

June Cauldwell talked to the Selectboard, recommending Zach Sepholois to the Community Center. Also spoke about some of her goals for the Community Center and some improvements for the basement. Crockett recommended they have some written quotes for the projects. Gilman spoke about having a process for quotes including verbal quotes for the projects for the auditors.

**Motion** by Hardy to appoint Zac Ephlsis to the Community Center seconded by Crockett

**Motion** passed: unanimous

- f. Hardy discussed if the Selectboard is in favor of shimming, Gilman would propose he uses money from all other accounts but not capital improvements, that are reserved in case of FEMA send money back.
- g. Crockett mentioned there is needed some corrections on the website.
- h. Gilman discussed with the Selectboard some of the meetings to improve the website and Facebook. Writing an informative booklet that would be detachable to the annual report containing information that would be used as a reference for daily use. Website, updating the website, and being presented by Wright at the next meeting. Facebook is another goal on the roster.
- i. Gilman talked about a solar farm and Clyde Dyar spoke about the prospect of having a solar farm for the town. Gilman responded by referring them to send in a letter.
- j. Sign painting, a citizen would like to donate time and effort to repair and improve our signs for the town.

4. Adjournment: 9:15 pm

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

**Motion** passed: unanimous