

Mt. Vernon Selectboard Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2021

1997 North Road, Mt Vernon, ME 04352

Board Members Present: Paul Crockett (Chair), Anna Libby

Support Staff & Guests: Alice Counts (Administrative Assistant), Mark Gilbert (Ch 7), Kerry Casey (Treasurer), Ron Lockwood (Ch 7), June Cauldwell (Community Center Chair, Safety Committee Chair), Bill Rosenberg, Chuck Wright, Ken Elliot

Select Board Members Signed Weekly Warrant

Meeting Called to Order

- SB Meeting was Called to Order by SB Crockett at 7:11pm

Meeting Minutes of 08-30-21 and 09-13-21

- Amend the meeting minutes of 08-30-21 as follows:
 - Under the Approval to Hire Electrician for Fire Exit, change “designated Steve Mallen as the Town electrician” to “recommended Steve Mallen to Replace the Town Hall Fire Exit lights”
- Amend the meeting minutes of 09-13-21 as follows:
 - Under Alice Counts brought up the following: Delete the duplicate occurrence referencing the Water Extraction. And change the second occurrence “Water Extraction to be placed on Town Meeting Warrant in June 2022’ with “Water Extraction – the Select Board will have a conversation on this to decide if this should be placed on the Town Meeting Warrant in June 2022 for Ordinance Review.” Also under this same section replace “Traffic Calming Cones are hard to see” with “Traffic Calming Cones are hard to see for some residents, as they blend in with the road markings.”
- Motion by SB Crockett to accept the meeting minute as amended above, 2nd by SB Libby. Motion Carried. Vote was 2-0. **PASS**

Public Hearing and Adoption of the 2021 Update to the General Assistance Ordinance.

- SB Crockett stated that the State of Maine updates what they will pay for General Assistance on October 1st of each year. MMA publishes this Ordinance and the Town of Mount Vernon adopts this Ordinance. A photo copy needs to be made before binding and then signed copy is then given to the Town Clerk for safe keeping.
- Motion by SB Libby to sign the new GA Ordinance, 2nd by SB Crockett. Motion Carried, Vote was 2-0. **PASS**

Broadband Committee update – (Broadband to every home)

- Bill Rosenberg, Chuck Wright and Ken Elliot attended the meeting via Zoom to give update on Broadband. For further information, see the document posted on the Town website.
- There were inquiries into the ARPA funds which could arrive as early as next week, with half of the Town’s allotment being available at that time and the remainder available in 6 months. The Town does not need to specify how they are going to use the funds at this time, however will need to specify at a later date. The amount allotted for Mount Vernon, is \$178,000
- The Broadband committee is requesting \$5000 for someone to write the RFP. They were hoping to give the RFP writer the go ahead with the promise of paying him later when the funds are available. SB Crockett and Treasurer Casey were not comfortable with that solution but did mention the Broadband Committee currently has \$2650 in their account that they could use at their discretion.
- The Spectrum deal is currently off the table as they are looking for other alternatives. Bill Rosenberg mentioned that Spectrum’s coaxial cable will not serve the town well, in the future, whereas Fiber Optics will.

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- Treasurer Casey asked how the Coalition is going to work if Fayette and Vienna don't have Spectrum? Bill Rosenberg answered that The Coalition may still be an option down the road as the Town of Mount Vernon has some roads contiguous with these towns. However, Spectrum would rather go town by town instead of with the Coalition.

Discuss Safety Committee Update

- Next Quarterly meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2021.
- MMA Audit findings have been received and responded to with either correction or a plan for correction.
- The Smith Cemetery Hazard Tree is scheduled to be removed next week.

Town Hall Update – Flooring and Repairs after the “Flood”

- No bids have been received thus far.

CMP LED Street Light Conversion Program. Discuss and Sign Contract

- SB Crockett decided to accept the inventory list submitted by CMP.
- Motion by SB Libby to have SB Crockett sign the CMP Agreement to upgrade all Street Lights the Town leases from them. This contract is for 15 years.

Consider Appointments for the following positions:

- SB Libby Nominated both Railo and Codd for appointments to the Community Center, 2nd by SB Crockett, Motion Carried, Vote was 2-0.
- Jonathan Railo – Community Center. Jonathan needs to sign oath of office
- Tori Codd – Community Center, Tori needs to sign oath of office.

Other Business

- Bridge and Paving updates
 - Lee Dunn is waiting on Pike Industries to Pave Bean Road
- TRIO meeting update
 - SB Crockett tabled this until next meeting

Motion to Adjourn

- Motion by SB Libby to Adjourn, 2nd by SB Crockett at 8:15pm. Motion Carried, Vote was 2-0. **PASS**