



MEET THE CANDIDATES

Saturday, March 7th, from 8:15 to 12:15, are the town elections. The following is a list of the candidates (with incumbents indicated) and elsewhere in this issue of *Vienna Voices* you will find brief biographical statements about each of them.

1st Selectman: **Al Raedle** (Incumbent 3rd Selectman) and **Alan Williams**

2nd Selectman: **Rachel Meader** (Incumbent 2nd Selectman)

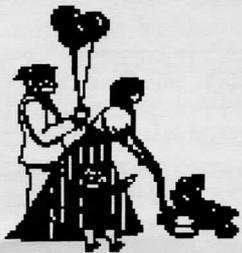
3rd Selectman: **Kathy Kelley** and **Steve Lilley**

Town Clerk: **JoAnn Pillsbury** (Incumbent)

Town Treasurer: **Ed Collins** (Incumbent 1st Selectman) and **Ed Hinckley**

Tax Collector: **Debbie Byrnes** (Incumbent) and **Kathy Neal Meader**

Road Commissioner: **Frank Berry** and **Lenny Meader** (Incumbent)



*It's
Town
Meeting
Time!*

VIENNA ACQUIRES WATER FRONT PROPERTY

by Al Raedle

The Town of Vienna has acquired two small parcels of land on the shore of Flying Pond, with no purchase cost to the town. One lot came to us, in part, as a generous gift to the Town from Bill and Doddie Thompson. The rest of the land was acquired through a federal grant. For the first time, everyone in Vienna owns a share in over 800 feet of its most beautiful pond's shore land.

With ownership, however, we also acquire the responsibility to take excellent care of it. We hope that, in the coming summer, we will have volunteers to cut and remove brush and blown-down or dead trees, clear paths, plant perennials and make the land more accessible and attractive to us all.

The Town can then decide to leave the land as it is and appreciate it for its extensive natural beauties, or it could decide to make it into a place with some benches, or picnic tables, or perhaps even a small screened building for summer sitting, or whatever we decide is most appropriate for us.

Whether or not money (Continued on Page 2.)

DID YOU EVER WONDER about the traditional designation of a town's Selectmen as "1st", "2nd" and "3rd"? The Maine Municipal Association's *Handbook for Municipal Officers* provides the following information:

"Under state law, there is no difference between the first, second and third selectman. In fact, these terms are not used at all in state law. In most towns, the distinction results from tradition and custom, and is not written down anywhere. In those towns, the first selectman does not have any inherent legal authority to draft the warrant, call meetings, or be the board's chair. We recommend that tradition be followed if it works, but if problems arise then an ordinance should be adopted which clearly specifies the rights and duties of each municipal officer, and the manner in which each municipal officer is given his or her particular authority. This can also be done by charter.

Regardless of how or whether the various seats on the board are distinguished, it is necessary to have a chairman, or "chair". A charter or ordinance may designate how the board chair is selected. Otherwise, the municipal officers must choose among themselves who will be the chair. Where the board of municipal officers cannot choose their own chair, the town clerk chooses the chair by lot. [30-A MRSA s.2526(4)(D)(1)]."

In Vienna, the 1st Selectman has traditionally been designated as chairman, and has all the responsibilities of that position; the 1st Selectman sets the agenda for meetings of the Selectmen and has ultimate responsibility for the financial records of the Town, and gets paid more.

(Continued from Page 1.) is needed or raised for developing the land will be decided in Article 41 at the March Town Meeting.

If you have any questions about this (or any other) Warrant Article, we will be happy to answer your questions at the Selectmen's Meeting on the Tuesday prior to Town Meeting, March 3rd at 7:00 PM at the Town House.

Article 41 reads: **"To see what sum of money the Town will raise or appropriate for the Flying Pond Land Acquisition Development matching grant."**

Al Raedle, the present 3rd Selectman, is a candidate for 1st Selectman. Al was born and grew up in the state of New York, moving to Vienna in 1965. He has a degree in Mathematics from Columbia University and describes his primary professional experience as teaching. He has served as Selectman for 5 years, served on the SAD-9 Board of Directors for 6 years, and has also served on the Franklin County Cooperative Extension Service board. Al has four children - one in college and three graduated. He and his wife, Carolyn, live on the Stream Road.

VIENNA EXPLORES THE COMPUTER AGE

Article 4 of the Warrant reads: **"To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use the Town computer for all of the Town's financial accounting, and require that elected officials responsible for revenue or expenditure accounts ensure that their accounting entries are made on the Town computer."**

The Town's computer, purchased in '88, was under-utilized until last year, being used initially only for the preparation of tax bills from the Town's assessment records. More recently, the Town's expenditure accounts have been added as well, so that an on-going record of how much is left in each account is easy to maintain and access.

The last step will be to get all revenue accounts entered into the computer. The purpose of this article is for the Town to make it clear that all elected officials are responsible for seeing that any revenue or expenditure accounts over which they have jurisdiction are added to the computer's records, either by doing it themselves or arranging for some one else to do it for them.



ONE TAX BILL OR TWO?

Article 9 asks if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to continue to send two tax bills. Some people have found the "installment plan" begun last year easier; others think the old way was the best. How did you feel about it? Bring your suggestions and opinions to Town Meeting and let's discuss it.



JoAnn Pillsbury seeks re-election as Town Clerk after holding the position for 1 year. Born in Rumford, she moved to Vienna in 1981. JoAnn has been office and payroll clerk for Woolworth's, and has experience in retail sales and the shoe industry. She was chair and treasurer - two years each - of the Vienna Extension Homemakers and helped organize the Franklin County Family-Community Leadership Board, with which she is still actively involved. In the past year as Town Clerk, she has taken several classes, including Election Procedures, Recording, and Municipal Law, to help her do her job better. With one more class she will be a Certified Town Clerk. JoAnn lives on Route 41 with her husband, Phil, and 2 children, Amanda and Kyle.

Ed Collins is retiring from 10 years as a Vienna Selectman and seeks the office of Treasurer. Born in Indiana, Ed and Ann moved to Maine in '71. After a stint as Livermore High School's assistant principal, Ed and his family moved to Vienna in '74 and Ed worked as director of the state's Materials Testing Laboratory. Ed has served a number of years on the town Planning Boards in both Livermore and Vienna. He is currently the founder and president of Eaton Mountain Data Services, which offers bookkeeping, accounting and data management services to small businesses. Ed, Ann and their two children—Laurel and Edward—live

Ed Hinckley is a candidate for Treasurer. Ed was born in Massachusetts and grew up in Florida, Michigan and Massachusetts. He and his wife, Priscilla, moved to Maine in 1965 and bought land in Vienna in '72, where they built their present home 3 years later. His professional experience has been primarily in teaching and administration. He retired from State of Maine service last June, having spent the previous 20 years in various administrative and fiscal positions in the Department of Education and the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. The Hinckleys have one adult son in Massachusetts; they live on the Kidder Pond Road.

REVENUE RAISING ARTICLES

(Information as of February 21)

Following are the topics of some of the revenue raising Articles, showing the amount actually raised last year, and the amount recommended for this year. (Article numbers are shown in parentheses.)

To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for —

<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED</u>
Ambulance Service (# 15)	\$4,808.00	\$4,780.00
Mt. Vernon Rescue (# 16)	\$650.00	\$650.00
Fire Department - basic operating expense (# 17)	\$6,500.00	\$7,787.00
Fire Department - capital equipment	\$8,000.00	-0-
Fire Department - equipment repair (# 18)	-0-	\$318.75 *
Fire Department - debt service (# 19)	-0-	\$10,000.00+\$7664 escrow
Winter Road work (# 20)	\$45,000.00	\$47,000.00
Highways and Bridges (# 24)	\$4,000.00	\$10,000.00 +\$4,000 DOT
Brush Account - hand cutting	\$2,000.00	-0-
Brush Account - tree cutting	\$12,000.00	-0-
Brush Account - flail mowing (# 21)	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
Ditches and Culverts (# 26)	\$52,000.00	\$45,000.00
Major Road Rebuilding (# 25)	\$18,000.00	\$9,600.00
Patch and Shim (# 23)	-0-	-0- \$20,000 DOT
Administration (# 27)	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Dump (# 28)	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Legal Fees (# 32)	\$4,000.00	\$10,000.00
Town House repairs (# 40)	\$1,000.00	-0- \$2500 Surplus
Street Lights (# 33-1)	\$850.00	\$1,200.00
Animal Control (# 33-2)	\$150.00	\$250.00
Franklin Cemetery (# 33-3)	\$100.00	\$100.00
Dr. Shaw Library (# 33-4)	\$600.00	\$600.00
Family Violence Project (# 33-5)	\$100.00	\$100.00
Kennebec Valley Land Trust (# 33-6)	\$50.00	\$50.00
General Assistance (# 34)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Interest and Loans (# 35)	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Archiving old town records (# 39)	-0-	\$2,000.00
Land acquisition development (# 41)	-0-	\$2,000.00

* This would be the first year payment on a loan of approximately \$8,700.00.

TOTALS	\$195,808.00	\$187,435.00
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Personnel

Road Commissioner (# 5)	Foreman D.O.T.	Foreman D.O.T.
Tax Collector (# 6)	\$5,200.00 + Munic. Fees	Not determined
Town Treasurer (# 7-1)	\$1,500.00	\$1,800.00
Town Clerk (# 7-2)	\$1,500.00 + Munic. Fees	\$1,500.00 +Munic. Fees
1st Selectman (# 8-1)	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
2nd & 3rd Selectmen (# 8-2)	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Deputy Assessors (# 42)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

Steve Lilley is a candidate for 3rd Selectman. With the exception of 5 years in Farmington, he has spent all of his life in Vienna. He has been a volunteer fireman for the past 4.5 years and has also served on the Farmington Fire Department. He is currently the Parts Manager at Gray Ford, where he has worked for more than 7 years. Steve and Belinda and their two-year-old live on Route 41.

Frank Berry is a candidate for Road Commissioner. Frank was born and raised in Vienna; then spent 30 years working in Connecticut as an over-the-road driver. He is a lifetime member of the Teamsters Union. Frank moved back to Vienna in 1982 and started B&S Enterprises. He served as Vienna's Road Commissioner from 1984 to 1989, served as a volunteer fireman for 5 years, and is a member of the Grange. Frank and Kathy live on Route 41.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TAX BILL

(EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT!)

by Libby Harville

Do you ever wonder how your taxes are determined? The first step is Town Meeting, where those attending vote on the Articles in the Town Warrant. All "money Articles" that pass mean that the Town has to raise enough money, through taxes, to pay for those items. To fairly distribute the collection of the needed funds, your property is assessed and assigned a value. The more value your property is assigned, the more taxes you pay.

Next, all the money that was voted to be raised at Town Meeting is totaled. Other expenses, such as County Tax and School Tax, are added. Subtracted from that total is any money the Town receives to help reduce taxes, such as Revenue Sharing, Road Assistance, etc. The remaining figure is the total dollars the Town is legally required to raise.

The value of **all** taxable property in Town is added up for a total Town value. To determine the Tax Rate, the total amount of dollars to be raised is divided by the total property value of the Town. The resulting figure is the Town's mill rate. (A "mill" is 1/10th of a cent, or 1/1000 of a dollar.) One mill (.001) raises \$1.00 for every \$1,000.00 of property value that you have.

(Continued on Page 5.)

Alan Williams is a candidate for 1st Selectman. Born in Hartland, ME, the family soon moved to Mt. Vernon where Alan spent his early years. He moved to Vienna in '72; for the past 20 years he has primarily concentrated on lumbering and related woods work. He served as Road Commissioner during 1980-1982 and has been active on the Vienna Planning Board for the past 10 years. Alan, Donna and their three children live on the Tower Road.

Kathy Neal Meader seeks election as Tax Collector. She was born and raised in Vienna, and has worked for LaVerdiere's Drug Store, with sales and clerical experience. She has also worked as a waitress at Castle Island Camps. She has spent many hours volunteering in MSAD # 9, both in the library and as a classroom aide. She is an avid walker, and attends the North Vienna Methodist Church. She, her husband Jimmy, and two children - Jamie and Jeremy - live off Route 41. (Information obtained from Kathy's brother and sister, in her absence.)

Debbie Byrnes is a candidate for re-election as Tax Collector for a third year. Debbie spent every summer in Vienna from age 2 until she permanently moved here from New Jersey in '87. She has been actively involved in many organizations, and in '82 she received an Outstanding Citizen award. She continues community involvement here as a member of the Planning Board, the Historical Society, the Vienna Extension, and the Grange. During her 2 years as Tax Collector she has attended much training and is now able to register vehicles and issue license plates in town; she also registers boats, snowmobiles and ATVs. She is a member of the Maine Municipal Tax Collectors and Treasurers Association. Debbie, Pete, Jennifer and David live on the Kimball Pond Road.

Rachel Meader seeks re-election as 2nd Selectperson for her third term. She held the office in '86 and '87. Born in Franklin, ME, Rachel moved to Vienna when she was 5. After her marriage to Charles, she and her husband raised poultry in Augusta and Mt. Vernon for Lipman Poultry. In '76 they bought their own farm in Chesterville, with 85,000 birds. While in Chesterville, Rachel received extensive training from the Volunteer Fire Department. Rachel moved back to Vienna in '85 and has worked in area shoe shops - with a year out for college - since then. Rachel is a member of the United Methodist Church and lives with Charles and the youngest of their three daughters on the Cumner Road.

Lenny Meader, seeking re-election as Road Commissioner, was born and raised in Vienna. He is Captain of the Fire Department, where he has been an active member for 15 years. He serves as Trailmaster of the Minnehonk Ridge Riders—the Mt. Vernon snowmobile club. Before starting Meader's Construction Company with his father, Lenny worked as a mechanic and parts man for Augusta's Mercedes-Pontiac dealer. Lenny and Colleen live on Route 41, with their son, Adam.

Kathline Kelley, candidate for 3rd Selectperson, spent her early years on the east coast, from Virginia to Maine, as a "Military Brat." She settled in Lisbon, Me. in '70 where she assisted the Town Clerk and the town highway department. She then worked 13 years for the State Bureau of Motor Vehicles. She has been vice president of the Androscoggin Maine State Employees Association and participated in a number of leadership training programs. She became a resident of Vienna in '88 and is active in the Grange and the Extension Service. Kathline, Harold and their four children live on Route 41 in the new log house.

Thanks for this first issue of *Vienna Voices* are particularly due to Libby Harville, who collected the biographical notes on the candidates; Ed Hinckley, for the Desk Top Publishing, and Al Raedle, who provided information and explanation on the Articles in the Town Warrant.

For example (all figures are hypothetical):

Total Cost of Articles passed at Town Meeting	\$175,000.00
Plus MSAD # 9 School Tax	\$150,000.00
Plus County Tax	\$15,000.00
Plus "Overlay" (Up to 5% of anticipated costs)	<u>\$15,000.00</u> (4.4%)
Equals Total Dollars to be raised by the Town	\$355,000.00
Less Revenue Sharing	\$30,000.00
Less Department of Transportation Road Assistance	\$30,000.00
Less miscellaneous State reimbursements	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
Equals Total Dollars to be raised by taxes	\$292,000.00
Divided by Total Valuation of all property (house & land)	<u>\$20,000,000.00</u>
Equals Mill Rate	.0146
Rounded	.015
Value of your house and land	\$50,000.00
Multiplied by Mill Rate	<u>.015</u>
Equals your Tax Bill	\$750.00



RECYCLING REVISIONS REVIEWED

The present curbside pickup of trash and recyclables may need to be revised. Article 31 of the Warrant reads: **"To see if the Town will recommend that the Selectmen change the schedule of Trash and Recyclables Pickup."**

Selectman Al Raedle explains the matter as follows. The present schedule of weekly Trash and monthly Recyclable pickup provides "too much" in the way of Recyclables and "not enough" in the way of Trash in terms of the capacities of Jim Greenough's trucks. Present annual costs of this schedule are approximately \$20,800. One option would be to alternate Trash and Recyclable pick-ups "week-about". This cost is estimated at \$14,600 per year, but two weeks might be too long to wait for a pick-up particularly in the summer, when the increased population produces more trash.

Another option would be to continue to pick up Trash weekly, and increase the pick up of Recyclables to twice each month. It is estimated that this would cost approximately \$23,400 per year, a significant increase over the present cost.

A third alternative would be to have alternate Trash and Recyclable pick-ups on a weekly basis during the period November-April, and provide weekly Trash and every-other-week Recyclable pick-ups during May-October. This cost is estimated at \$20,300, a little less than the present cost.

Bring your best thinking to Town Meeting - you'll need it for this Article!



Ideas, suggestions and contributions of material for future issues of "Vienna Voices" will be welcome. Call Libby Harville at 293-2362 or Ed Hinckley at 293-2051.

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