

# Vienna Record



Volume 26 Issue 2

April/May 2023



2023 Mill Stream Grange officers. Learn more on page 7.

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## Selectmen's Minutes

### January 31, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen and Kerry worked on CMP and Consolidated pole licensing for Broadband.
4. Meeting adjourned.

### February 7, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Troy Bean, Michael Rogers

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.

3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #3 (\$97,578.52).
4. The selectboard talked with Troy Bean about the plowing contract and the current cost of fuel.
5. The selectboard worked on the Town Warrant.
6. The selectboard worked on Broadband paperwork.
7. The selectboard received an offer from Creston Gaither to maintain and upkeep the tax map. The selectboard voted to accept the offer.
8. Michael Rogers, from the State of Maine Property Tax Division, completed the Turn-around document.
9. Meeting adjourned.

## Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

### February 14, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Laura Church,

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen worked on tax cards.
4. The selectmen worked on preparing for the Town Meeting.
5. Meeting adjourned.

### February 21, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Ed Lawless, Jim Anderberg, Brian Church, Sarah Watson, Zack Braband, Stan Webster, Wayne Renyolds

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #4 (\$13,705.53).
4. A resident raised concerns about the dumpster located at the end of the Klir Beck Road. The dumpster has not been emptied for a few weeks and seems to be frozen in. Chris is going to give Riverside Disposal a call and check on this.
5. The Selectboard met with Jim and Ed from the Broadband Committee to discuss how the paperwork is coming along and talked about what needs to be done next. The selectboard is looking to work with Skowhegan Savings Bank for the Broadband project. The selectboard will provide Maine Connectivity with a list of names that represent the Town. The Vienna Broadband Committee will stay intact and continue to work on this project with the Selectboard. The selectboard is looking at possible project managers for the Broadband project.
6. Received the bill from Franklin Printing for the Town Reports: \$16, 898.00 for 450 reports.
7. Meeting adjourned.

### February 28, 2023

No Selectmen's meeting due to inclement weather

### March 7, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Mark Ouellette, Kristen Collins, Jim Anderberg, Ed Lawless, Sarah Watson, Stan Webster, Wayne Reynolds

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #5 (\$90,822.98).
4. The Selectboard discussed the Broadband process with the Vienna Broadband Committee, Mark Ouellette, and the Town Legal Representative, Kristen Collins.
5. Meeting adjourned.

### March 14, 2023

No Selectmen's meeting due to inclement weather

### March 21, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Vickie Alward, Angel Quick

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #6 (\$14,145.71).
4. The Selectboard met with Vicki and Angel from Skowhegan Savings Bank for \$300,000.00 Letter of Credit for the Broadband project.
5. Meeting adjourned.

### March 28, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen worked on the Broadband paperwork.
4. Meeting adjourned.

## Planning Board Minutes

### December 28, 2022

The meeting convened at the Town House at 7:00 PM; regular members present were Waine Whittier, Ed Lawless, Creston Gaither, and Tim Bickford. Lory Zamboni was also present. Minutes of the November 23 meeting were read and accepted.

The Board reviewed attorney Paul Mills' email of December 2 regarding the dividing of the Kohtala Trust land and arguing that the proposal would not be exempt from municipal subdivision review because the parcels would be "exchanges" rather than gifts, even though no money will change hands, and because the grantors have not held the land for at least 5 years as required by Title 30-A § 4401. The Board then determined that review will be required.

Creston will email Lory a copy of the Town Subdivision Ordinance.

The Board reviewed the Subdivision Ordinance Section 4D and agreed to waive the requirement for a location map. Lory says no new sewers or culverts or roads are planned.

The Board also waived the requirement for contour lines and that for cross-sections, which is evidently not applicable. Page 4 was reviewed and Lory was advised that a written application will be required.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

### NO FORMAL MEETING HELD IN JANUARY

### February 22, 2023

Because of a snowstorm there was no quorum available for the meeting scheduled for January 25. Alan and Waine met briefly at the Town House at 7:00 PM but no formal business was conducted. Tonight's meeting convened at the Town House at 7:00 PM; regular members present were Ed Lawless, Creston Gaither, and Tim Bickford. In the absence of chairman Waine Whittier, Creston was elected Acting Chairman. Minutes of the December 28 meeting were read and accepted. The Board voted 3-0 to concur with Waine's email to Wally Seymour of January 31 advising Wally that no permit is required for the tree removal at tax map 11 lot 11-W about which he has inquired, so long as the work conforms with Shoreland Zoning Ordinance standards.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.



Creston Gaither, secretary

## From the Town Clerk



Annie Tibbetts: 207-293-2915  
 Email: ClerkTax@Viennamaine.org  
 346 Townhouse Road, Vienna, Maine

Tuesday 5-7pm                      Wednesday 9am-12pm and 12:30-5pm  
 Thursday 10am-1pm              Last Saturday of the month 9am-12pm

We had our Municipal Election on March 10, 2023.

The results were:

1st Selectman: Laura Church - 38 votes

RSU #9 School Representative: Joshua Robbins - 35 votes

Congratulations to both!

RSU #9 Community Forum for the budget is scheduled for April 11 at 6PM at the Mount Blue Campus.

## Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

“The library is an arena of possibility, opening both a window into the soul and a door onto the world.”

- Rita Dove

**Kids Create!** This group for our young patrons, put together by our wonderful, creative volunteer, Bobbi Jo Weeks, happens on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month, from 4:00 - 5:15pm, for a couple more months (till we begin the Summer Reading Program). There are art supplies, Playdoh, Legos, and other games for the kids to try together. Join us!

**Knit & Crochet:** This group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month, from 1-3pm. Bring whatever yarn project you are working on, come ask for help on getting started, or bring a different craft to work on while you sit with this lovely group. Amy always makes sure there are knitting needles, crochet hooks, and some spare yarn available!

Alice's **Take & Make** kits will still be available through April and May. Usually they are ready for you to grab for your young ones during the second week of the month. Come see what she comes up with, and take home a small, simple craft for your child to put together/

**Improv Theater!** Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 4PM at Mt. Vernon Community Center. The Marti Stevens Interactive Improv Theater group is returning this year. They have been awarded an AARP grant to present scenarios & discussions about challenges Maine's elder citizens encounter as they live & age in their communities. Each scenario will be followed by a chance for audience members to ask questions of the players, and come up with possible solutions to topics presented. This program can be helpful for all community members, as well as family, friends, & neighbors of aging citizens. Join us! Sponsored by the Mt. Vernon Aging In Place committee and by the Dr. Shaw Memorial Library.

## Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

And then, on **Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2PM at the Vienna Grange Hall**, we and the Vienna Historical Society folks will host an **author talk by the wonderful local historian and author, Dale Potter-Clark**. She will discuss her new novel, Escape From Bunker Hill, about the Underground Railroad and how it led folks into Maine, including Hallowell, Manchester, and Winthrop. After the talk, Dale and members of the historical society will be glad to answer questions. Copies of the book will be on sale at the talk (and we have a copy in our collection at the library). Potter-Clark has been speaking all over central Maine about this book, and the Mainers who helped enslaved people escape to freedom – this will be a great program!

We are still testing out how to help local citizens with tech assistance through the library, as part of the goals of the town Digital Equity/Digital Inclusion work. We have set up a few sessions for folks with our wonderful tech volunteers, so they could learn about their devices (phone, laptop, tablet), various programs or apps, email, or other topics. We'll let you know what assistance we can offer as soon as we can!

Once again, many thanks to our tax gurus David and Christine, for helping so many local people with their federal & state taxes this year! This is such a fundamental, greatly needed service offered by these two, through the Spectrum group at the Cohen Center in Hallowell. The clients are so grateful for your flexibility and knowledge!

Spring is coming. We have lots of helpful, inspiring gardening books in our collection, both for adults and children. And, regarding another sign of Spring – don't forget you can visit the Cornell Lab of Ornithology website to learn about bird life and learn to identify some of the birdsong you hear in your yard and out in the woods!

<https://www.birds.cornell.edu/home/>

I am reading The Librarian of Burned Books, by Brianna Labuskes. It is a great novel to pair with two nonfiction books: 1) Molly Manning's When Books Went to War: the Stories that Helped Us Win World War II (our call number is 028.9 MAN), and 2) Kathy Peiss' Information Hunters: When Librarians, Soldiers, and Spies Banded Together in World War II Europe (our call number 940.54 PEI). All 3 are excellent reads. What are you reading as you watch the perennials popping up through the diminishing snow, and listen to all of the songbirds returning to us?

**Dr. Shaw Memorial Library**

293-2565

[librarian@drshawlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@drshawlibrary.org)

Open Mondays 3-6, Wednesdays 9-12 and 3-7, Saturdays 10-3

## Community News

### Fire Department News (continued)



Vienna Fire Department, Inc. meets every Thursday at 6:30PM but the following Thursdays are specifically designated as written:

Business Meetings: 2nd Thursday of *every month*

Training: 3rd Thursday of *every month*

Save the date for our Annual Chicken BBQ Sunday, July 30th!!

We can't wait to cook for you!

### Editor's Notes

#### Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the June/July issue of the *Vienna Record* by **May 25, 2023.**

#### Format

Submit all items via email as a word document (.doc) or as a .jpg. Please no .pdf or other formats.

#### Send us your photos!

We want your seasonal photos of Vienna!  
[viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net](mailto:viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net)

### Mill Stream Grange

Grange meetings are the first and third Fridays of each month at 6:00.

Stop by and check us out!

Grange, also known as Patrons of Husbandry, was started in the 1860's to help farmers. While our roots are agricultural, we are also involved in community service projects, including funding a scholarship, donating dictionaries to area schools and supporting the local food pantry. Plus, we have fun!

Open to anyone in the area who is interested. FMI call 293-2330 or 293-4960.

**Community Breakfast** - First Saturday of the month, 9-11am at the Mount Vernon Community Center

**Men's Breakfast** - On hiatus

**Women's "Juliet" Breakfast** - Second Tuesday of each month at the Mill Stream Grange 8:30-9:30 AM.

Potluck breakfast plus \$2.00 per person.

**Vienna Union Hall Association** - Second Wednesday of each month. 7:00 at the Vienna Community Center (Nov.- March.) or at the Union Hall (April - Oct.) Welcome new members.

To submit a recurring event for future inclusion, please email details to [viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net](mailto:viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net)

# Upcoming Book Talk and Reading

by

Readfield Historian



Dale Potter-Clark

On her latest book about the Underground Railroad

## Escape from Bunker Hill

Sunday, April 16 – 2pm

at

Mill Stream Grange

Hwy. 41 in Vienna

Potter-Clark will take questions after her talk and reading. Copies of Escape from Bunker Hill will be available for purchase and signing during the event. Refreshments will be served.

The **Vienna Union Hall** is excited to announce a rich array of performers coming up this year. Please join us in enjoying these talented musicians, actors and dancers.

Check our media (**viennaunionhall.org**; **Facebook:Vienna Union Hall**) for updates. Unless otherwise noted, shows begin at 7PM, but may vary - so check in! We are also looking for you, the folks of our communities, to support these efforts by volunteering some time at the shows or in baking some tasty refreshments. If you are able to join in this community effort, please email us at **viennaunionhall@gmail.com**. Thank you for your support!

April 8th: **A Nod to Jenny Lois Hinckley**, one of Vienna's Singer/Songwriters. Four area songwriters will be on stage to commemorate her legacy, and joined by the rising talent of an exciting new local duet! The evening features sets by **Elsie Gawler, Ruth Hill, Stan Keach, Steve Richardson**, and **Sagittarius Rising**.

April 28th: **The Gawler Family Band** - a perennial favorite bring their blend of joyful, fun-loving, New England traditional folk music.

May 13th: **Katahdin Valley Boys**.

June 9<sup>th</sup>: **Greg Boardman, Elsie Gawler** and **Steve Muise**, return this year for another heartfelt evening of traditional music.

July 1st: **Oshima Brothers** - Wow! We are very fortunate to have these brothers from Whitefield, Maine come and charm us with incredible harmonies and masterful song-writing - great musicianship!

July 20-22: **Vienna Historical Society** plays - They're back! After a too-long absence due to the pandemic, the Society is back for more home-grown fun and entertainment.

August 4th: **Kyle Knuppel and Matt Davis**. We've hosted this talented duo in the past and are looking forward to another evening of fine music.

August 10-12th: **Vienna Woods Players** - The Players are really raising the bar this year as they bring Noel Coward's spellbinding play, "Blithe Spirit" to the stage.

August 25th: **The Porch Party Mama's**. The Mama's bring their Boston porch party to our stage again and fill it with a blend of folk, country, Celtic and Blues instrumentals including originals and covers.

August 26th: **Bearnstow Dancers**. Another of our traditional delight as the young people return to share their artistic expressions through dance.

September 16 (4 PM): **The Pihcintu Multinational Girls Chorus - Voices for the Voiceless**. "Welcoming immigrant children from around the globe, the Pihcintu Multicultural Chorus helps restart young lives.". Following their performance there will be a chance to meet them in person. December:

December: **Winter Revels**.

## TOWN OF VIENNA

### Town of Vienna Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor -

Laura Church, Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff

**Treasurer** - Kerry Casey

**Town Clerk and Tax Collector** - Annie Tibbetts

**Road Commissioner** - Dan Goucher

**Fire Chief and Warden** - Brian Church

**Health Officer** - vacant

**Animal Control Officer** - Donald Tibbetts

**Code Enforcement Officer** - vacant

**Plumbing Inspector** - John Archard

**Alternate Plumbing Inspector** - Andy Marble

**Addressing Officer** - Tim Bickford

**RSU#9 Representative** - Josh Robbins



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### Office of the Selectmen

Vienna Town House

P.O. Box 38

212 Townhouse Road

Vienna, ME 04360

