

Vienna Record



Volume 23, Issue 5

December/January 2021



*Good Tidings We Send, to You and Your Kin. Wishing You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
From, Vienna/Mt. Vernon Historical Society*

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Selectmen's Minutes

October 6 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Dan Goucher, Troy Bean, Alan Williams, Kirsten Heck

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #19 (\$99,065.73).
4. Alan asked when the ditching project at the intersection of Tower Road and Ithiel Gordon Road would be completed. This project is going to redirect runoff water away from Parker

Pond Road and will be completed by the end of November 2020.

5. The selectmen abated taxes on a property and rebilled taxes owed on the property.
6. Meeting adjourned.

October 13, 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Lidie Robbins

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

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

October 13, 2020 (contd.)

3. Lidie and the selectboard discussed the Tower Road Project in which 30 Mile River Watershed Association is contributing to. Concerns have been raised over the paving, water run-off, and blasting. The project has been updated, blasting will not be needed, and the water will be redirected to reduce the flow and allow smaller diameter culverts to be used.
4. Meeting adjourned.

October 20, 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Lidie Robbins, Brian Church, Ed Lawless, Dan Goucher, Kirsten Heck

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #20 (\$16,753.06).
4. Mr. Lawless provided the selectboard with an update on Broadband.
5. Meeting adjourned.

October 27, 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen reviewed and signed the cost sharing agreement with 30 Mile River Watershed Association for the Ithiel Gordon Road Project.
4. The selectmen are seeking to fill the Town Assessors position. The selectboard contacted MMA to seek a list of accredited assessors.
5. Meeting adjourned.

November 3, 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Dan Goucher, Kirsten Heck

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #21 (\$130,426.53).
4. Mr. Goucher updated the selectboard on the road projects. The Ithiel Gordon Road/ Tower Road Project should be finished by the end of the week. Egypt Pond Road will be paved next week.
5. Winter sand and salt will be put up for the 2020 and 2021 winter season next week.
6. Meeting adjourned.

November 10, 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Mike Rogers

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectboard signed an agreement with the state giving funds to a resident in order to replace a septic system. (Small Community Grants are available to Maine residents within income limits).
4. The selectboard reviewed the contract with the state for the purchase of the property known as the "Salt Shed". All changes requested by the town attorney have been made and will be reviewed one more time before town officials sign it.
5. Mike Rogers from Maine Revenue Service visited to check on the town's appraisal paperwork. This coming year the town will be going through a reevaluation in order to keep the town up to date to receive state grants and finance assistance.
6. Meeting adjourned.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

November 17, 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kirsten Heck, Jim Anderberg, Ed Lawless, Mike Rogers, Danny Goucher.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #22 (\$52,261.17).
4. Mike Rogers assisted the selectboard with finishing paperwork for the state and assisted with an abatement.
5. Jim Anderberg and Ed Lawless updated the selectboard on the broadband process and how things are progressing.
6. Danny Goucher updated the Selectboard on the progress of the Ithiel Gordon Road/Tower Road project, winter sand, and the Egypt Pond

paving. The town is expected to receive some reimbursement for the Ithiel Gordon Road/Tower Road project from a grant with the 30 Mile River Watershed Association. The Kimball Pond Road will be paved 2021.

7. Meeting adjourned.

November 24, 2020

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectboard signed abatements on two properties.
4. The selectboard signed appointment papers for the 5 planning board members.
5. Meeting adjourned.

News from the Town Clerk



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

The Town Clerk's office is open regular hours:
 Tuesday and Thursday 5-7
 Wednesday 9-12 and 12:30 - 5
 Last Saturday of the month 9-12

I will be closed December 24 for Christmas Eve and December 31 for New Years Eve.

I will be sending out reminders for taxes still due for 2020 sometime in December. Please call for your total due to avoid still owing interest.

Nomination papers will be available December 3, 2020 for the March Election:

Road Commissioner
 3rd Selectman
 Tax Collector
 Town Clerk
 Treasurer

Annie

Planning Board Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VIENNA PLANNING BOARD

September 23, 2020

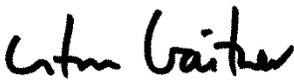
The meeting convened at the Town House at 7:00 PM. Regular members present were Waine Whittier, Creston Gaither, Alan Williams, Ed Lawless, and Tim Bickford. Also present were Code Enforcement Officer Matt Drost and Beverly Harpine and her brother Eric Moore. Minutes of the July 22 meeting were read and accepted along with those of the August 26 meeting.

Beverly Harpine said that Pincushion Island on the northerly end of Flying Pond is for sale. It lies opposite her shoreline property. She asked what is permissible on the island. Waine has received an inquiry about putting a houseboat or a dock in. Richard Flewelling at MMA said we have no existing prohibition against houseboats. He said the Town could pass an ordinance in this regard. Beverly is concerned about possible excess traffic to the island and about water - related recreation that could be dangerous. She was advised that she could 1). buy the island; or 2). petition the Town to pass an ordinance, and that no existing Town ordinance addresses her concerns, and that Edgecomb may have an ordinance regarding houseboats that might serve as a model. Waine will ask John Archard about pertinent restrictions on waste disposal.

Ed reported on the broadband committee. It received a proposal from a provider who did some work in some Franklin County Towns. Fayette and Vienna are considered underserved. The provider suggested that Fayette and Vienna join forces. They want 180 people from these towns to sign up at \$90/month. The Committee is hoping for one or two more proposals.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

THE VIENNA PLANNING BOARD has cancelled its regular meetings scheduled for late November and for Dec. 23 (in view of the holidays) and will hold a meeting on Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00 PM at the Town House.



Creston Gaither, secretary

From the Health Officer

COVID Times

Dan Onion, MD, MPH
Mt. Vernon/Vienna/Fayette Health Officer
293-2076; dkonion@gmail.com
December 2020

Maine, along with the rest of the world, is surging into overwhelming circumstances and will continue to do so for at least the next 4-5 months until the vaccination cavalry arrives. We can dampen the devastation during the next several months by even greater efforts at community-wide compliance with Gov. Mills' 3 W's: **W**ear a mask, **W**ash your hands frequently, and **W**atching our distance.

I and my extended family are pretty stressed out by trying to live in these surge times, as must most of you are too, I'm sure. Glasses fog up more easily in the cold with masks. Hand washing has dried out my hands to their late winter cracked condition; hard to type with band aids covering fingertips. It's tough taking care of ourselves, celebrating holidays and/or birthdays in small COVID-tested groups, or virtually. At least Zoom is free for meetings under 1 hr; or for \$15/month you can have long extended Zoom suppers with every- and anybody you wish. Sure better than phone calls!

Test results are much delayed now; Pat and I got tested 3 days before Thanksgiving and now 5 days later still no result. State Lab is overwhelmed, I'm told. Not ideal for sure. Worried about shut-ins around us. Neighbors Driving Neighbors cutting back to only pickups and deliveries without riders. Neighborhood phone check-in systems being set up.

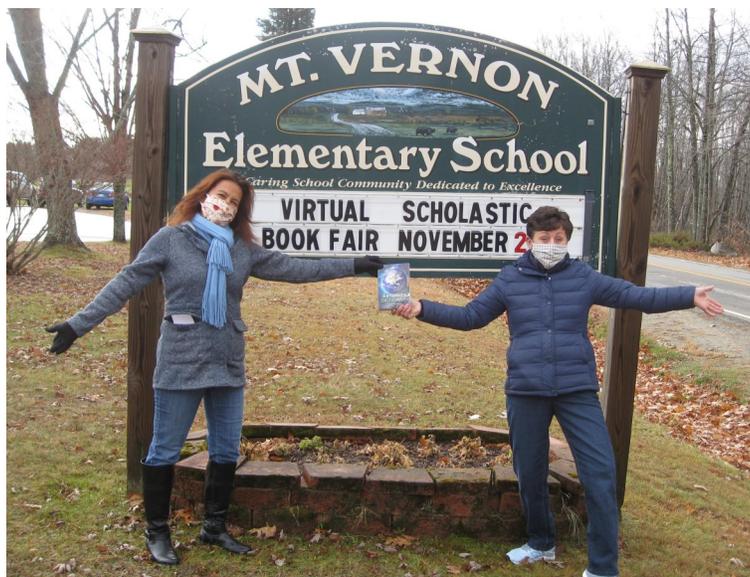
I got a break from constantly worrying yesterday by sitting in a tree, deer hunting. No deer but the serenity was nice, in the quietly falling snow and freezing rain. They, most of the birds, and the squirrels were hidden away in the cedar thickets and other drier places.

So where do we go from here? I liked Laura Church's consolation last Sunday, to hang in there until spring, probably about Easter time, when the new vaccines become readily available. There are 3 now reporting good results and no serious complications. The clever messenger RNA ones cause our injected muscle cells to make the viral spike protein, which our immune system then recognizes as foreign and promptly makes antibodies against. These vaccines must be kept frozen until used, but no problem in Maine! 30,000 Americans were given the double shot series this fall, half the real stuff and half the placebo (saline shot). Of the 95 people who got sick with COVID, only 5 had had the active vaccine and the other 90 had not. The surge helped get enough cases so researchers could judge efficacy more quickly. The federal government has bought millions of doses and will start distribution of the first 70 million the day after the FDA awards emergency authorization, probably next week. Another 130 million will come out over the winter into the spring. I presume they will be distributed based on the population size of each state. Maine and the others have already established how they will distribute, with the first going to healthcare workers, the next to first responders (rescue, emergency, police and fire personnel), then high risk people (especially those in nursing homes or congregate living centers, jails), then essential workers like teachers and grocery store workers, and finally to the rest of us.

I hope all offered vaccines will accept them, for their own and their friends' and family's sakes. There are some worries about how long immunity will last. Hopefully it will be like influenza, at least a year.

So, as Laura said, there's hope on the horizon, at least by spring.

Mill Stream Grange



On Monday, Nov. 16, Mill Stream Grange members Jill Sampson (left) and Lisa Goucher dropped off a box of dictionaries to the Mt. Vernon Elementary School for the third grade class. Unfortunately, this year, there could be no "live" presentation, but a letter was included for the teacher to read to the students explaining the Dictionary Project to them. "We wanted to continue this annual community service despite Covid, and all due caution was taken with the delivery," explained Grange Secretary Jill Sampson.

Editor's Notes

Advertisements or Personal Announcements

1/8 Page	\$8.00/issue or \$45.00/year
1/4 Page	\$14.00/issue or \$45.00/year
1/2 Page	\$26.00/issue or \$150.00/year
Full Page	\$50.00/issue or \$290.00/year

Make checks payable to the "Town of Vienna"

Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the February/March issue of the *Vienna Record* by **January 25, 2021.**

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! For consideration, please email photos to: viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net

BARB'S HANDPAINTED SLATES, SAWS & COLLECTIBLES



51 TOWN HOUSE RD.
RT. 41 VIENNA, ME
TEL: 293-2271

Email: gilmans2@fairpoint.net
Web: barbshandpainted.craftah.com

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News



“I was a hugely unchaperoned reader, and I would wander into my local public library and there sat the world, waiting for me to look at it, to find out about it, to discover who I might be inside it.”

Patrick Ness

Our new digital streaming subscription is up and running – Hoopla! Hoopla (managed by Midwest Tape) provides access to ebooks, audiobooks, comics, music, movies, and TV for our library patrons! With Hoopla & a valid library card, our patrons will be able to borrow, stream, or download content via Hoopla’s mobile app, or at www.hoopladigital.com. The service is simple to access, with no waiting. What you need to get started is: your library card, and a web browser, smart phone, or tablet. The staff will be glad to help you get set up.

Here is some information about the service:

1. It is a free service to library patrons, though we may need to restrict the amount of materials borrowed.
2. **To sign up, make sure you have a valid Dr Shaw Memorial Library card. During registration, Hoopla will ask you for an email address, which will be your username for logging in. You will set a password for your account as well, and will need to enter your barcode number on your library card. If you can’t find your card, give us a call or email us, and we can send the number to you.**
3. Hoopla constantly adds new titles from vendors, on a weekly basis and they always feature Bonus Borrowers – lots of extra material. Some titles will be added for just a limited time, so if you see something you like, check it out! You can scroll through what they feature on the app on your phone, or browse their site on your laptop – there are always materials they group by subject, by events like holidays, or other interests.
4. Your account information and borrowing history is private. No one can see what you have borrowed but you.
5. Material is available both on your desktop and on your Hoopla mobile app.

Ongoing Booksale! We have a large number of books of all kinds for sale in the old upstairs hall and in the Clayton Dollof Room. We are limiting browsing in the sale area to one person at a time. Hand sanitizer and gloves are at the foot of the stairs. Just tie a ribbon around the banister when you go upstairs, to let people know the sale rooms are occupied. Untie the ribbon when you come back down, so others will know the sale area is available. You can also make an appointment to come and shop on Wednesday mornings, between 9AM and noon. All hard cover & trade paperbacks are \$1.00, mass market paperbacks are \$.50. Proceeds from the sale of these books will go towards matching funds for a recently received grant from the Pilcrow Foundation. You might find just the right holiday gifts for folks on our shelves! Come take a look.

Reviewing our hours and safety procedures: We are keeping abreast of protocols and guidelines from the Maine CDC and Maine State Library, so we might make various changes throughout the winter. Currently, our hours are:

- * Saturday 10-3: (limit 5 people at a time, for 20 minute periods)
- * Wednesday 3-6: (limit 5 people at a time, for 20 minute periods)
- * Wednesday morning 9-noon and Monday afternoon 3-6: we will be open by appointment only, for 30 minute slots. Appointments for computer use can be made for an hour. Call ahead to reserve a spot.
- * We are continuing our curbside/pick-up service for those who want to contact us and request some materials that they have chosen or that they would like us to put together for them. Call us at 293-2565, or email DrShaw@shaw.lib.me.us . You can even contact us when we are open, and we’ll try to put together the order

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News (continued)

before the end of the shift. Then you can just swing by and grab the bag of materials.

* When entering the building, make sure to always wear a mask, sign in at the table right inside the main door (name and time of arrival), and use hand sanitizer. Touch as few surfaces as possible, and put handled materials inside the bins or baskets placed in each room so we can quarantine them. Families please stay together,

This year we applied for and received a Maine Public Library Grant, and as a result **we have a new wooden shelving unit in the Juvenile collection room (thanks so much for building it, Bob)!** We will be gathering all of the Juvenile nonfiction books together onto those shelves, so the books will all be easily accessible. That will give us a bit more room to play with the fiction collection also, and to display new books to entice our young readers.

As we move through this year, we are all finding that we might have to reinvent our activities. The crafty and skilled folks of **The Yarn Cooperative** who had always met at the library, are now on Zoom! They are meeting on Tuesday nights at 7pm via Zoom. Anyone is welcome but will need to email Amy Jajliardo for the link. Her email is jjlrdomom@gmail.com They hope they can still help those that want to learn, and they also want to be able to help with questions anyone has about working on their own projects. They still have resources available as well, they'll just have to work with you on how to deliver materials to you.

A few online resources:

In this time when we should stay home, it might be fun to take a look (virtually) at the world around us. The British Library just released a lot of beautiful historic maps that are fun & intriguing to browse through. The artwork is gorgeous. Here is the link so you can have a look: https://www.bl.uk/press-releases/2020/october/ktop?utm_source=ILL&utm_medium=article&utm_campaign=blmaps

And for young folks interested in geography and the art of mapping, there are two National Geographic sites that are fun to explore:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/idea/fun-geography/>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/map-skills-elementary-students/>

Reading as self-care!

One of our patrons told us that she has been delving into a mystery series by Maine author Julia Spencer-Fleming, and after a day at work and worrying about current news, she is able to simply lose herself and follow the adventures of the characters in this series set in New York State. Taking up a good series right now, with the approach of winter, is such a good idea, and it can be part of our self-care. Besides Spencer-Fleming's series, a few other authors you might try are:

Maine authors with series: Sarah Graves, Woody Hanstein, Paul Doiron, David Rosenfelt (mysteries with dogs!), Peter Scott (brief historical series), Kate Flora, Gerry Boyle.

Mystery series: Louise Penny, of course, Barry Eisler, Simon Brett, Alexander McCall Smith, Stuart Woods, Archer Mayor, Susan Wittig Albert (mysteries set in an herb shop), CJ Box, Ian Sansom (brief series of cozy mysteries set in a library bookmobile in Ireland), Rhys Bowen, Emily Griffiths, Walter Mosley (good writer), and Jacqueline Winspear.

I just finished Janae Marks' juvenile novel, *From the Desk of Zoe Washington*, and am starting Colin Woodard's latest nonfiction on the development of American culture, *Union*. I recommend them both! What are you reading, listening to, or watching this winter? Books, music, videos – they all help us relax and reflect a bit!

Community News

Fire Department News

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*

The Department is always looking for new members! If you are interested in joining the Vienna Fire Department, come down to the station on any Thursday evening to learn more.



Recurring Community Events



*Many of these recurring events are on hold until further notice. For more information, please reach out to the individuals listed below.

Mt. Vernon Community Center Café - Saturdays From 9:30-11:30 AM. Coffee, food and Conversation.

Men's Breakfast - Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 at the Mt. Vernon Community Center. Small donation appreciated.

Women's Breakfast "JULIET" - Third Tuesday of each month at the Mill Stream Grange 8-9 AM. Pot luck breakfast plus \$2.00 per person.

Creation Station - Faith-based, arts-based after school program of the North Vienna UMC. Meets Thursday during the school year. Open to all children grades K-6. For more information call Laura Church at 293-3892.



The Youth Group at North Vienna United Methodist Church - Most Sunday afternoons during the school year. Open to youth grades 6 and up. For more information call Laura Church 293-3892.

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

To submit a recurring event for future inclusion, please email details to viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net

TOWN OF VIENNA

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

Laura Church, Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff

Treasurer - Kirsten Heck

Town Clerk and Tax Collector - Annie Tibbetts

Road Commissioner - Dan Goucher

Fire Chief and Warden - Brian Church

Health Officer - Daniel K. Onion

Animal Control Officer - Donald Tibbetts

Code Enforcement Officer - Matthew Drost

Plumbing Inspector - John Archard

Alternate Plumbing Inspector - Gary Fuller

Addressing Officer - Tim Bickford

RSU#9 Representative - Josh Robbins



Office of the Selectmen

Vienna Town House

P.O. Box 38

212 Townhouse Road

Vienna, ME 04360

