

Vienna Record



Volume 24, Issue 5

October/November 2021



*Mill Stream Grange won a blue ribbon at the Farmington Fair!
Our many talented artisans created an award winning booth, tying for first place.*

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Selectmen's Minutes

August 3, 2021

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

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #15 (\$132, 771.30).
4. Talked with Laura Rose Day from the Kennebec Highlands. Laura explained the funding for the purchase of the "blueberry fields" on Vienna Mountain.
5. Meeting adjourned.

August 10, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura

Church, John Archard

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The Plumbing Inspector discussed a couple of plumbing concerns.
4. Meeting adjourned.

August 17, 2021

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.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #16 (\$124, 287.64).
4. The Treasurer provided the selectmen with budget reports.
5. The selectmen discussed the Kimball Pond Road paving project.
6. Meeting adjourned.
9. Mr. Trask came to discuss land concerns.
10. Received a check from the MMA for non use of the Worker Compensation Insurance.
11. Meeting adjourned.

August 24, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen worked on insurance paperwork.
4. The selectmen worked on a broadband grant.
5. Meeting adjourned.

August 31, 2021

No Selectmen's meeting as it is the 5th Tuesday of the month

September 7, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Stan Webster, Allan Trask, Tyler Nadeau, Diane Staples, Brian Church, Jim Anderberg, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #17 (\$78, 378.99).
4. Selectmen sent a copy of the Property Card for property located at 110 Kimball Pond Road to Clair Staples. This property has been put up for sale.
5. The selectmen Sent a copy of the Property Card for the property located at 51 Jesse Ladd Road to Chrisy Johnson. This property has been put up for sale.
6. The Vienna Fire Department has purchased insurance to cover the firefighters while performing non-traditional firefighter activities. This will cover the firefighters while cleaning chimneys, putting on the Chicken BBQ or any other activities that are not covered under the traditional workers compensation insurance.
7. The selectboard discussed the grants available to help bring high speed internet to the town. This is an ongoing process/discussion.
8. Stan inquired about his tree growth application.

September 14, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Glenice McKechnie

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectboard issued an abatement for a property that was owned by a person who has passed away along with one who did not receive their Tree Growth credit.
4. The selectboard worked on Tree Growth.
5. Meeting adjourned.

September 21, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Jim Anderberg, Ed Lawless, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #18 (\$10, 815.59).
4. The selectmen and Jim discussed the Casco Bay Advisor Contract completing an inventory of electric poles that are needed in order to apply for Federal Grants. This would assist in paying for Broadband. The town will use the ARPA money to fund this. Casco Bay is willing to start the project while the town waits for the ARPA funds.
5. Meeting adjourned.

September 28, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Alan Williams, Allan Trask

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen talked with Allan Trask about some of his properties.
4. Selectmen discussed tax bills with a local resident.
5. Meeting adjourned.

Planning Board Minutes

July 28, 2021

At 6:30 PM a quorum of regular members, comprising Alan Williams, Creston Gaither, Ed Lawless, and Tim Bickford met with Doug Baston on his Berry Hill Road site, depicted on tax map 7 as Lot 26, at a bridge recently constructed there for him by Dirigo Timberworks. The Board had issued a permit to Russell Burt on April 27 2015 for improvements to a previously existing bridge at this location. The Board generally found the work to be impressively workmanlike.

At 7:00 PM the same Board members arrived at the Town House and held the Board's regular meeting. Alan was elected Acting Chair in Wayne Whittier's absence. Minutes of the June 23 meeting were read and accepted.

The "pole permit," or CMP Co. Form 1190 recently issued to Marshall Leavitt was discussed. It was agreed that the site (tax map 10 Lot 93) is unlikely to constitute a Subdivision as defined by State law and that it is not in the Shoreland Zone.

Creston expressed concern that we may be setting an unfortunate precedent by issuing an 1190 without having documentation as to the nature of the applicant's interest in the parcel, such as a copy of the deed or lease.

Selectman Jeff Rackliff appeared briefly, and The Planning Board's presence on the Town website was discussed. Jeff said it might be preferable to have replies to emails coming from a Town email address. All agreed that it would best to have Town email addresses listed on the site, though automatic forwarding to members' private addresses would be convenient.

Brian Rehea appeared and presented a sketch plan for a proposed subdivision of tax map 5 lot 5-2, which he has under contract. He expects to place some restrictive covenants on the lots but hasn't decided on exactly what they will be.

It was voted 4 - 0 that the sketch and this meeting meet the requirements of Sect. 4B, Items 1 - 3 (page 3) of the Subdivision Ordinance.

The Board scheduled a site inspection for the night of its next meeting, August 25, at 6:15 PM. Brian expects to close on the property by August 20 or sooner.

Doug Baston's bridge replacement (see above) was discussed. Based on its on-site observations and Doug's verbal representations and a subsequent examination of the pertinent flood hazard map, the Board determined that the project as constructed:

- 1) Will maintain safe and healthful conditions;
Will not result in water pollution, erosion, or sedimentation to surface waters;
- 2) Will adequately provide for the disposal of all wastewater;
- 3) Will not have an adverse impact on spawning grounds, fish, aquatic life, bird or other wildlife habitat;
- 4) Will conserve shore cover and visual, as well as actual, points of access to inland waters;
- 5) Will protect archaeological and historic resources as designated in the comprehensive plan;
- 6) Will avoid problems associated with floodplain development and use; and
- 7) Is in conformance with the provisions of Vienna's Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (SZO), Section 15, Land Use Standards.

Planning Board Minutes

July 28, 2021 (continued)

The Board then voted 4 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue an after-the-fact SZO permit for the bridge. As it replaces a prior structure, it was agreed that no Notification of Construction permit is required.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

August 25, 2021

At 6:15 PM regular Board members Waine Whittier, Alan Williams, Creston Gaither, Ed Lawless, and Tim Bickford met with Brian Rehea, representing Maine Woods and Waters LLC, at the site of his proposed Stream Road Subdivision, and viewed the site as required by the Subdivision Ordinance, it being depicted on tax map 5 as Lot 5 - 2.

At 7:00 PM the same Board members arrived at the Town House and held the Board's regular meeting. Minutes of the July 28 meeting were read and accepted.

Stream Road Subdivision was discussed. Brian presented a Preliminary Plan dated 8/25/21. He said the subdivision comprises all of the LLC's currently held contiguous property. It does not appear to be subject to any known zoning regulations. Some concern that the name "Stream Road Subdivision" had previously been used for an unrelated subdivision was raised. Creston will check on this at the Registry of Deeds. Brian said the parcel corner pins are not yet in but will be set prior to final approval. Proposed deed restrictions appear in Brian's application. Existing wetlands and approximate contours are shown on the Preliminary Plan. The subdivision's restrictions outline soil erosion control measures at length.

The Board agreed that the Preliminary Plan meets the requirements of Sect. 4.D. of the Subdivision Ordinance, "Submission of Preliminary Plan." Creston will send Brian an email confirming that it does so.

Existing diversion ditches diverting water from the road onto the proposed lots were discussed. The possibility of explicit acknowledgement of these and the Town's right to maintain them was discussed. The Board suggested that the final plan include this note: "Road water diversion ditches existing at the time of subdivision approval may be maintained by the Town."

Brian may propose an alternative solution for this matter. He is concerned that the ditches may create a stream of water which might create a financial hardship for the landowner. He may rewrite the 75-foot road setback covenant to permit ditch maintenance within that buffer zone.

Creston will advertise the Board's September meeting as a public hearing on the subdivision. Brian will add a note to the final plan requiring Planning Board approval for further division of any lot in the subdivision.

Waine has discussed boat mooring ordinances with an MMA attorney. She did not think we could prohibit houseboats but could regulate them in some measure. Waine presented copies of an ordinance which was recently enacted in Belgrade. The Board will discuss this at its September meeting and may present a version of the ordinance to the Town for adoption at its March Town Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.



Creston Gaither, secretary

From the Health Officer

Covid Delta Variant Surge and Recent Advance Directives Conference

Dan Onion, MD, MPH

Mt. Vernon/Vienna/Fayette Health Officer

293-2076; dkonion@gmail.com

October 2021

As morbid as it may seem, these two topics converged these last two weeks of September here for the 3 towns for which I serve as local health officer, as I outline below.

First, the surge. I am perplexed and frustrated that so many fellow residents in our part of Maine are either not recognizing or ignoring the recrudescing COVID19 risks since the summer lull in infections. I'm terrified as I watch the state-wide numbers of infections, hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and deaths all increase to 5-10 times what they were in late June and July, 2021, and are still climbing logarithmically. I see friends, neighbors and acquaintances suffering these events, the Maine CDC contact tracking system overwhelmed, hospitals overwhelmed, COVID testing availability becoming limited and limiting, but at the same time I see few people wearing masks or distancing in grocery and other stores, in meetings of social groups including churches, grange, and many other town groups. Several groups are now closing down and going back to virtual-only meeting or working on doing so.

The COVID delta variant has taken us back to pre-vaccine numbers of last winter and beyond. Why aren't people more aware? Why doesn't the Governor explicitly retract her summer "take off the masks" advice, albeit that was for outdoor activities except for closely-packed ones. Not shutting down schools should be our highest priority. We've got to diminish the openness elsewhere in the rest of the community, to cut transmissions in schools until we can get children under 12 vaccinated this fall.

These observations about a local raging and potentially fatal disease bring me to the excellent conference run at the Mt Vernon Community Center in mid-September on advance directives. If you catch COVID, just how far do you want medical care to go in trying to save you if you should get sick right onto death? The COVID delta variant is filling our intensive care units with old and young alike.

I've written about when and how to establish such a document in my July 2019 newsletter. Advance directives are important, because over the past decades, the default medical response, starting with rescue units right up to ICU admissions, is to aggressively treat, even to defibrillate or put a pacemaker in a stopped heart, intubate the lungs to artificially breathe, and to use all other means to try to reverse the dying process. That's fine and good if the patient is a relatively young (under 70 or 75) person free from other terminal diseases, but such aggressive resuscitation doesn't make medical sense if such treatment is very unlikely to succeed. Most people over 70 or 75, have other life-limiting conditions. Temporary resuscitation success usually condemns such patients to their final weeks in the world on a ventilator, and thus isolated from family, even more isolated now during the COVID pandemic.

So, if you decide you'd want to be spared such terminal indignities and isolation, you must create your own advance directives describing the limits to which you want medical care to go. Ask your primary

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

The November Election is November 2, 2021 at the Community Room (from 8am to 8pm.

Dogs can be registered with the Town Clerk after October 16. Altered dogs are \$6 and unaltered dogs are \$11.

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"

Format

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

Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the December/January issue of the *Vienna Record* by **November 24, 2021.**

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

Trunk or Treat! Sunday, October 31



4:30-6pm
 North Vienna
 UMC
 parking lot

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News



“A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.”

Henry Ward Beecher

People have been using George’s memorial garden (and George’s porch) for a comfortable spot while they use our wifi, or to take a few minutes to pause and breathe. The little garden is yet another magical place at the edge of the library, created by committed, hard-working volunteers and staff. Many thanks to you all for making this happen! And, thanks to Charlene for the wonderful autumn arrangements by the main entrance, and for clearing out the porch!

Our Storywalk will end later this month. Take a nice walk through the trails at the Ezra Smith Conservation Area off of Pond Road and enjoy reading the lovely picture book Alice chose for this summer – Amy MacDonald’s Little Beaver and the Echo. We are so grateful that Kennebec Land Trust is always willing to collaborate with local communities in order to make activities like a story walk happen.

Programs:

We haven’t done any story times on Facebook for a while. We are thinking of reading a Halloween story during the last week of this month (exact date to be determined) online. We will also offer Take & Makes during that week. Please sign up (email, phone, in person) for your kids to get a Take & Make, so we know how many to prepare. We’ll have stories and Take & Makes during Thanksgiving and Christmas season, too. We’ll let you know dates as we go along. Please check our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information on timing.

We are also wondering about adult programming on Zoom. Some people say they are “zoomed out”, others are glad not to have to drive to events or programs, so they can just participate from home. What are your thoughts? Let us know if you are interested in participating in zoom programs, and we would love to hear your suggestions on topics that would be of interest. We’d love to share ideas with you!

Contact us for Take & Makes, or for ideas about zoom programs, at:

librarian@drshawlibrary.org

293-2565

or leave us a private message on our Dr. Shaw Memorial Library page on Facebook.

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News (continued)

Some fun online resources for families:

These three links are all associated with University of Maine. They have information and activities for various age groups.

<https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/learn-at-home/activities-all-ages/> Learning activities in many subject areas, including astronomy, physics, government, coding, crafts, music and much more.

<https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/learn-at-home/> Videos and learning about cooking, gardening, science aimed at teens, outdoor adventures, healthy living. Much of it is based on 4H activities.

<https://astro.umaine.edu/online-resources/younger/> All about NASA and astronomy, from the Emera Astronomy Center. They have activities aimed at children, and even have some educational guides for teachers.

I've been reading some of N. Scott Momaday's poetry, and just finished two novels from our library collection: Sofia Sebovia's *The Murmur of Bees*, and Laurie Frankel's *One Two Three*. Stop by the library and grab something good to read, listen to, or watch. We're always glad to see you.

Submitted by Mary Anne Libby

From the Health Officer (continued)

care clinician (PCP) to discuss with you the odds of various levels of interventions should you get acutely ill and their likelihood of success. Ask your PCP literally to sign off on your conclusion on the last page of the forms. Then they, plus the hospital and the local rescue unit should all get copies AND you should put a copy of that last page on your refrigerator. I know, from my work with Mt Vernon Rescue, that's the first place rescue/ambulance crews will look for your guidance on how aggressive to be.

So, please be aware of the current COVID surge and respond with vaccines, distancing, masking, and ready use of covid testing when you visit others outside of your household. And please put together advance directives, if you haven't already, and be sure, if you choose less invasive approaches rather than a full court press, to get your clinician's signature on the directives and post them on your fridge.

1. In late August I was able to get rapid COVID testing (Binax) for Pat and me at Manchester Walgreen's drive-up window, having made the appointment a day or two in advance. Last week the nearest available free Binax tests at Walgreens were only in New Hampshire or Vermont; they did have and we bought over-the-counter home tests at \$26 for two. And last week Dr. Shah, at his newly resumed weekly news conference, voiced his concerns over shortages of testing across the state and backlogs for PCR testing results at the CDC lab.

2. <http://www.themha.org/policy-advocacy/Issues/End-of-Life-Care/advdirectivesform.aspx>

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.

Neighbors Driving Neighbors: Still Coping with Covid—The communities we serve and the volunteers that provide rides have come through for us even during a pandemic! All of our drivers and all of our active riders are now vaccinated, and we continue to transport to appointments, errands and other destinations. We also do food and pharmacy pick-ups & deliveries. Anyone who wishes to get the Covid vaccine, may do so by NDN drivers with barriers in their cars. Contact NDN if you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver! 207-866-0677; neighborsdrivingneighbors.org; neighborsdrivingneighbors@gmail.com



Recurring Community Events



Our community is beginning to resume in-person activities, with some modifications. See details below!

Mt. Vernon Community Center Café - Temporarily on hold.

Men's Breakfast - Temporarily on hold.

Women's "Juliet" Breakfast - Second Tuesday of each month at the Mill Stream Grange 8-9 AM. Pot luck breakfast plus \$2.00 per person. Gatherings resume on July 13!

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



MOUNT VERNON FALL CRAFT FAIR

to benefit
Community Center Building Fund

Outside at town beach

SAT. OCTOBER 9, 2021

9AM-2PM
(raindate Sun. October 10)

LIVE
DEMONSTRATIONS
9AM-2PM
Glassblowing ~
Jonathan Railo
Stained Glass ~
Kayla Brennan





HAUNTED BEACH HALLOWE'EN

You're Invited to hunt for treats on the beach

SATURDAY, 30th October

At Minnehonk Beach and Community Center 6-8 PM

All activities are outdoors

Wear your costume; Stay for cider, donuts and ghost stories

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 - Daniel K. Onion

Animal Control Officer - Donald Tibbetts

Code Enforcement Officer - vacant

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

