

# Vienna Record



Volume 25 Issue 3

June/July 2022



*Vienna Fire Department drove two trucks in the Mount Vernon Memorial Day Parade. Photo: Beverly Olson*

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## Selectmen's Minutes

April 5, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Tim Davis, Valley Lehr, Katie Lehr, Annie Tibbetts, Ernestine Emery, Brian Church, Alan Williams, Rebekah Church 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 #7 (\$110,891.84).
4. Ms. Valley and Katie Lehr purchased a cemetery plot for a recently deceased relative.
5. Mr. Williams enquired on progress of roof repairs on the sand/salt shed.
6. Mrs. Emery, The Cemetery Sexton, brought paperwork for the Lehrs to sign and collected payment for the cemetery lot.
7. Mrs. Tibbetts, The Town Clerk, witnessed and notarized the purchase of the Lehrs' cemetery lot and the quick claim deeds in which the selectboard signed.
8. Mr. Church, The Fire Chief, collected payment for reimbursements and salary.
9. Mr. Davis enquired how/when he can have his recently purchased property placed into the tree growth program. The selectboard shared he will be able to enter the property into the Tree Growth Program in 2023 once he has presented an updated tree growth plan.
10. Meeting adjourned.

## Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

### April 12, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Tom Jewett, Ed Lawless, Jim Anderberg, Edward Albert, Mark Ouellette, Wayne Reynolds, Felicia Audet, Stan Webster

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The Selectmen met with the Vienna Broadband Committee and Mark Ouellette, co-owner of Axiom BroadBand. The Broadband Committee went over a recent proposal from Axiom. Mark Ouellette presented what his Broadband Company has to offer and went over cost and timelines. The Selectboard will enter into negotiations with Axiom and will have a special town meeting later this summer to get the residents' approval to sign contracts. Once the project is completed, all residents will have the option to sign up for high speed internet with Axiom. Axiom is a Maine owned company out of Machias and would be able to complete the project in 12-14 months from the start date.
4. Felicia worked on preparing town reports for mailing.
5. The Selectboard chose a Spirit Of America Award winner. The recipient will be notified in the upcoming weeks.
6. The Vienna Health officer has expressed concerns of the high level of arsenic in the Spring located on the Kimball Pond Road. This is the property of the Vienna Historical Society, not the Town of Vienna. The Historical Society continues to post those levels at the spring site.
7. The Board of Selectmen has chosen the Maine School of Masonry to repair the chimney on the Vienna Town House as the chimney/roof is leaking. The previous company out of New Sharon did not show up to perform the previously required and agreed upon repair.
8. Meeting adjourned.

### April 19, 2022

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. Reviewed and signed Warrant #8 (\$18,817.14).
4. Reviewed a request from a resident for tax information.
5. The town will have an article about broadband on the June 2022 school vote ballot.
6. Meeting adjourned.

### April 26, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Jim Anderberg, Ed Lawless, Priscilla Hinkley, Tom Tarr

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. A Landowner came in to discuss proper trash/bulky pickup and use of Waste Management in Norridgewock. The selectmen explained the proper use of the system.
4. The Selectmen and Broadband Committee went over the writing of an article that will be voted on in June 2022.
5. A resident came in to discuss the name of the Vienna Mountain Road.
6. Meeting adjourned.

### May 3, 2022

Present: Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Dan Onion, Pat Onion, Laura Day Rose, Ernestine Emery, Annie Tibbetts, 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 #9 (\$80,978.49).
4. Dan Onion presented to the Selectmen reasons to close the Spring on the Kimball Pond Road. Tests have shown high levels of arsenic. This is owned by the Historical Society and they have voted to not close it. Several residents around the spring have had their water tested and found high levels arsenic.
5. Dan Onion will be retiring as the Vienna Health Officer. The town is looking for a new Health Officer.
6. Jeff Rackliff picked up 5 tires along the side of the Tower Road. These tires have been placed at the sand shed.
7. Laura Rose shared that the Vienna Mountain Blueberry Fields have been transferred to the Kennebec Highlands.

## Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

8. Ernestine Emery made copies of the Cemetery rules and regulations. Annie Tibbetts notarized the Cemetery Lot Conveyance.
  9. Devin Webster will start the clean up of the town properties this week. This contract term will be finished at the end of 2022 and will be put back out for bid in 2023.
  10. Meeting adjourned.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #10 (\$10, 879.54 ).
  4. The selectmen received a letter from a concerned citizen about a junk yard on the Egypt Pond Road. The property has become an eyesore and the property is near a bog that feeds into Lane Brook.
  5. The selectboard reviewed building permits from 2021.
  6. Meeting adjourned.

### May 10, 2022

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 agreed to purchase a new laptop.
4. Signed the waste management contract.
5. The town's property value is certified at a ratio of 88% and a reevaluation will need to be completed within the next few years in order to bring the town back to 100% property value certification.
6. Meeting adjourned.

### May 17, 2022

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

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

### May 17, 2022

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 will be meeting next week at 6:00 to set the mill rate.
4. The selectboard voted to accept the Kennebec county mitigation plan 2021 update (all 195 pages).
5. Meeting adjourned.

### May 31, 2022

Present: Laura Church Chris Smith Jeffrey Rackliff, Kerry Casey

The Selectmen set the Mill Rate for the 2022 Fiscal Year.

## From the Health Officer

To the Residents of Vienna:

I have submitted my resignation as town health officer as of June 1, 2022 because of my and my family's health issues. The select board, I believe, is initiating a search, which I will help with in any way they think might be useful.

I have enjoyed my many years (10, I think) in that role, especially holding the regular Covid conferences on zoom, and will miss all of it. Thank you to those of you who have helped me, and they are many.

Dan Onion, MD MPH

## Planning Board Minutes

### March 23, 2022

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM at the Town House. Regular members present were Waine Whittier, Creston Gaither, and Ed Lawless. Minutes of the February 23 meeting were read and accepted.

Creston will send Waine a cc of Creston's recent email to Mike McGuire.

Creston's email of 2/8/22 to the Eisemans was reviewed; it was agreed that they will need a new permit for their Kimball Pond project if they'd like to proceed. Creston will advise them of this.

Waine has committed the Board to a site visit on April 27 at 6:30 PM for Justin Piquard's Flying Pond lot shown on Tax Map 11 as Lot 3-H. The Board will first meet at the usual spot on Beck Road.

Waine noted that recent newspaper articles indicate that both Winthrop and Belgrade have adopted mooring ordinances; they are not identical.

Ed said that Axiom has been selected as the broadband provider for Vienna. Axiom's representative is to meet with the selectmen April 5 at 7 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

### April 27, 2022

At 6:30 PM Regular members Waine Whittier, Creston Gaither, and Ed Lawless met with Justin and Doug Piquard at Justin's Flying Pond parcel shown on Tax Map 11 as Lot 3 - H to discuss their proposal to build a house on this lot. Steep slopes were observed.

At 6:45 PM the same Board members met with Allan and Libby Harville at their Kimball Pond parcel shown on Tax Map 3 as Lot 16 - K to discuss their proposal to place a woodshed on the site.

At 7:15 PM regular member Tim Bickford joined these members at the Town House for the Board's regular meeting. Justin and Doug Piquard were also present. Minutes of the March 23 meeting were read and accepted. The Piquards presented a site plan for their proposal. Justin said his deed requires a 20 foot setback from the property lines and, thus, from the right-of-way limits. To meet this requirement they will have to demolish the back of an existing foundation made of 10-inch concrete. He would also like to build a stairway over the steepest portion of the slope. A footpath to the pond from the foot of the stairway is also proposed in accordance with Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (SZO) Section 15.P. He would like to leave an existing clearing near the pond undisturbed; any growth outside of the 250 sf limits allowed by the SZO will be left to grow.

The Board agreed that the usual conditions regarding erosion control should apply. Justin has discussed the existing septic system with Plumbing Inspector John Archard; John referred him to Deputy Inspector Andy Marble as John had designed the original system. Andy issued SSWD permit # 2022 - 2; the septic field will lie across the road, for which Justin has an easement. Tim noted that regarding the

## Planning Board Minutes (continued)

stairway the SZO requires a Code Enforcement Officer permit. It was agreed that this is a scrivener's error and that the Planning Board can issue such a permit as it has been doing for several years. It was agreed that the SZO should be corrected in this regard as soon as possible.

Based on its site visit, the Piquards' sketch, and their verbal representations, and a review of the pertinent FEMA flood map, The Board determined that the project as outlined above:

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

The Board then voted 4 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue a SZO permit for this work.

The Harvilles' woodshed proposal was discussed. Allan Harville has agreed to forward a sketch for the proposal. He may have to adjust the siting of the shed to make it at least 40 feet from the road centerline.

Based on its site visit, the Harvilles' verbal representations, and a review of the pertinent FEMA flood map, The Board determined that the project:

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

The Board then voted 4 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue a SZO permit for this work.

The prospective mooring ordinance and a recent related controversy in Winthrop were discussed briefly.

Regarding broadband, Ed said that other towns are trying to get in with Axiom. Leeds has received a grant for \$2.1 million. It appears that they will act on their own. Readfield, Wayne, Fayette, Mount Vernon, and Vienna continue to work together. Vienna does not have a specific proposal from Axiom yet.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.



Creston Gaither, secretary

## From the Town Clerk



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

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

Please Note:

The RSU9 referendum vote has been scheduled for June 14, 2022 from 8am-8pm (previously June 7).

## Broadband Committee

Upon recommendation by the broadband committee the Select Board has given initial approval to Axiom Technology's proposal for the construction and operation of a municipally owned fiber to the home network in Vienna. Axiom is also working with Readfield, Leeds and Fayette on similar projects.

There will be a special town meeting later this summer to get voter approval once costs are firmed up and a contract is negotiated. Final go-ahead on the construction will be contingent on Vienna receiving a sizable grant from the Maine Connectivity Authority that would cover a major portion of the construction. Vienna is in a good position to qualify for a large grant because we are underserved.

The Maine Connectivity Authority will be accepting grant applications this fall. They are responsible for allocating the upwards of 128 million dollars Maine is receiving from the Federal government under the American Rescue Plan.

## Happenings at Mill Stream Grange

Mill Stream Grange members (l-r) Ingrid Grenon, Debbie Lavender, Lisa Goucher, Jill Sampson, Laurie Cunningham, Allan Harville and Paul Lavender (taking photo) placed U.S. flags at three cemeteries on the Tower Road in Vienna to honor and remember veterans on Memorial Day. Ray Anderson (on stone) was a beloved long-time member of the Grange.

If we have inadvertently missed your military loved one, please call 293-4408 or 293-4960 and we will make sure the flag is placed.



## Editor's Notes

### Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the August/September issue of the *Vienna Record* by **July 25, 2022**.

### 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)

## Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News



“The health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries.”  
Carl Sagan

We still recommend that people wear masks while in the library, just so we can help protect some of our elder and youngest patrons. We have some masks on our desk, if you forgot your own.

We couldn't keep the library going, with all of the programming, patron interactions, management of the collections, and information & education we try to provide, without our wonderful volunteers. Currently, we are looking for a few people who could be Tech Instruction volunteers. We are working with the Broadband committee's digital inclusion efforts as they develop their plans, and it would be so good to connect folks of all ages with a few volunteers who could instruct people about use of cell phones, email, google docs or Word, or other basic skills. Call the library at 293-2565 and leave a message, or email us at [librarian@drshawlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@drshawlibrary.org). It might take a while to turn our ideas into action, and it would be great to know of people who might be able to help us get started on connecting community members to the larger world of information and communication.

**Tax Help:** Our wonderful local AARP Tax Guru, David Fuller, is willing to help any elders in the community file their Maine income tax for 2021, if they haven't already done so, in order to qualify for the latest \$850 in COVID relief funds. Please call and leave a message at the library, or email us, and we'll set up an appointment with David!

**Booksale at the library!** \$1.00/ bag of books, the week of **July 11 during our usual open hours** (Monday 3-6, Wednesday 9-12 and 3-7, and Saturday 10-3). Here's a chance to stock up on beach reads to get you through the summer. We have a wide range of fiction, nonfiction, children's books, and DVDs. Meanwhile, if you hope to donate books to the library, please remember that we can only use clean books in great shape, no musty smells or broken spines. Nonfiction should be fairly recent, and we can't accept nonfiction series like Time/Life books or encyclopedias. Thanks for your understanding!

**Fern Walk, Saturday, June 11, at 3PM:** Last year, our Fern Walk with Deb Stahler turned into a Fern Talk in the library, due to rather constant rains. This year, we are hoping for a Fern Walk, starting on the boardwalk at the Ezra Smith Wildlife Conservation Land (on Pond Rd, beyond Blake Hill Rd, as you leave the village). Deb is a Maine Master Naturalist, and will talk with us about some of the many varieties of beautiful ferns that grow in the woods and along the edge of our roads & yards. There are many kinds of ferns close to the board walk! Rain date, just in case: Sunday, June 12, 3PM.

**Summer Reading Program:** Oceans of Possibilities is the theme for this year's Summer Reading Program here at the library. We hope to gather outside under some new tents we purchased, for weekly story time and related crafts. Sign up will begin on Wednesday, June 29 at 3:30pm, when children can design and

## Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

put together ocean creations out of legos or work on coloring a huge Oceans of Possibilities banner! We will meet weekly at 3:30 at least through July. Projects are open-ended and should appeal to a wide variety of ages. Plans are still in progress, but some of the craft ideas include making suncatchers, sea glass art, drip jelly fish, puffer fish, and tidal pool sea scapes. We are also looking forward to 4-H hosting some STEM-related activities for us!

We are hoping to re-create some of our usual adult programs this summer – the annual Community Poetry Reading, and also Stories From the Metroplex. We aren't sure yet whether those will be held at the Community Center, or under the canopies we set up at the library, or possibly on Zoom. We'll get information out as soon as we can. Please check our Facebook page (Dr. Shaw Memorial Library) or our website ([www.drshawlibrary.org](http://www.drshawlibrary.org)) as we move towards summer, for further information.

For you to explore:

We currently have a display of gardening books for all ages, in the main room. Come take a look and find some inspiration and information. We will change displays occasionally, depending on season and interests. We hope you will enjoy them!

New York Public Library always provides so many amazing exhibitions. One of their subjects from earlier this year is: Intersects: Where Arthropods and Homo Sapiens Meet, curated by Peter Kuper. If you go to [www.nypl.org/intersects](http://www.nypl.org/intersects) you can access coloring book pages, fascinating information, and there are clips of audio recordings related to insects, including poetry, environment, butterflies, bees, ants, and more.

In keeping with this summer's theme of Oceans of Possibilities, there is a cool webpage that shows you what creatures live at various depths of the sea, as you simply scroll down. It is called The Deep Sea, at Neal. Fun. Find it here: <https://neal.fun/deep-sea/>

I am reading an epistolary novel (one of my favorite genres) called The Lost Manuscript, by Cathy Bonidan. We don't have it at the library yet, but I hope we can rectify that situation! What are you reading, as the dragonflies return and the bees flit from flower to flower?

## Vienna Union Hall

After two years of COVID-limited activity, the Vienna Union Hall has scheduled a season of entertainment. Some restrictions may be in place to assure the safety of our audience and performers. The current schedule can also be found on the Website or our [Facebook page](#).

\$15 advance; \$20 at the door. [Tickets are available on the Website-Vienna Union Hall](#). For more information or to order tickets by phone, call 293-2674 or 293-4321.

June 11 - [The Gawler Family](#)

June 25 - [Seagrass](#)

July 9 - [Pat Colwell and the Soul Sensations](#)

July 14-16 - [Vienna Woods Players](#)

July 30 - [Aztec Two Step 2.0](#)

August 27 - [Bearnstow Dancers](#)

September - To be announced

October - To be announced

December 17 - Winter Revels

## 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.

### Mount Vernon Community Center



Now that Memorial Day Weekend is here, the Community Center is gearing up for summertime activities! On the docket is the resumption of cafes on Saturday mornings. There will be groups having Cafes for fundraising and awareness of what they do for the community. For instance, Neighbors Driving Neighbors, 30 Mile River Watershed Assoc., and the Methodist Church in North Vienna. We have also instituted a program for a community volunteer to pair up with a Board member to open up the café and “learn the ropes” to take the pressure of weekly cafes off the Trustees. It’s fun work and you get to meet many of our outstanding community members.

On August 20th, the CC will be having an Auction to raise funds for the completion of the basement renovations. This summer, the board of Trustees and the Town Board of Selectman have authorized rebuilding parts of the stone foundation that supports our CC. This is part of the renovations we are planning to keep the CC in good maintenance condition. In addition, the old electric hot water heater in the basement has been replaced with an ON Demand heater under the sink. In keeping with our mission statement, we are becoming more energy efficient and cutting down on fossil fuel usage.

In the Fall, we are planning a Harvest Dinner, with contributions from our Metroplex community family with their best and most favorite recipes!

Many Moms have asked if there will be swim lessons at Minnehonk. The CC does not handle the Beach area activities. Contact someone on the Beach Committee for information.

So stayed tuned for more information or email me at [jrcaldwell@gmail.com](mailto:jrcaldwell@gmail.com).

June Cauldwell, Chairman, Board of Trustees

**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.

**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)



**Mount Vernon**

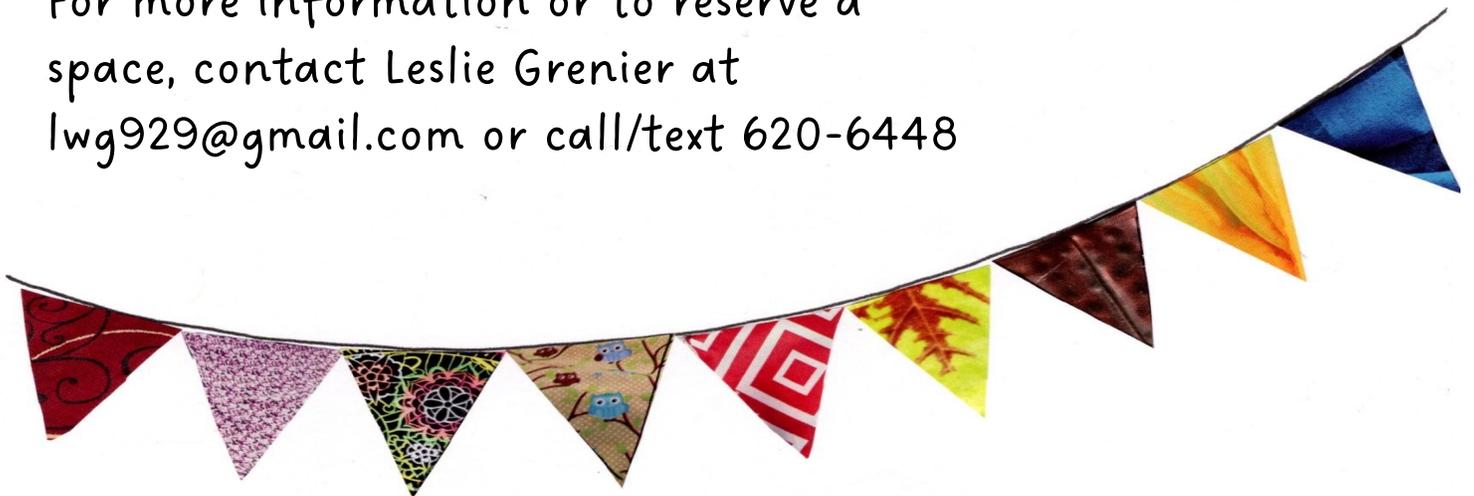
**Summer Craft Fair**

Saturday, July 16th from 9am–2pm

(rain date July 17th)

Come peruse and purchase the work of local artisans at the Town Beach and Community Center in Mount Vernon. Breakfast and Lunch will be available for purchase.

For more information or to reserve a space, contact Leslie Grenier at [lwg929@gmail.com](mailto:lwg929@gmail.com) or call/text 620-6448





**VIENNA FIRE DEPARTMENT'S**  
**ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ**

**Sunday, July 31, 2022**

**11:30am-1:30pm**

**Adults \$9.00**

**Children 12 & Under \$4.00**

**Place your order at the door, pick up at the window,  
and feel free to enjoy your meal at the picnic tables  
outside.**

## 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** - 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

