

Vienna Record



Volume 25 Issue 4

August/September 2022



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Selectmen's Minutes

May 31, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Brian Church, Richard Nystrom, Robert Neal.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen worked on finalizing this year's Mill Rate.
4. Richard Nystrom talked with the selectmen about changing his property to a Church Status and the history he has with the town.
5. Robert Neal Introduced himself to the selectboard and shared he is running for State Representative. He discussed what he would like to accomplish if elected.

6. Meeting Adjourned.

June 7, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, 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 #11 (\$184,909.91).
4. The selectmen filed property cards.
5. The selectmen helped a resident with finding their correct postal address.
6. Meeting adjourned.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

June 14, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Tim Bickford, Kerry Casey.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. .01990 will be the 2022 Mill Rate. The Mill Rate is up from the 2021 rate of .01940.
4. Tim Bickford discussed a request from a New Sharon land owner to create a driveway from the landowner's property in New Sharon to the Davis Road in Vienna using the right of way listed on his deed. The selectboard believes this is a civil matter and the land owner needs to talk with the landowners of the properties they will need to cross.
5. Meeting adjourned.

June 21, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Stan Webster, Brian Church, 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 #12 (\$15,095.73).
4. Rebekah Church completed W4 paperwork. Rebekah is a member of the Vienna Fire Department.
5. Stan Webster inquired about the property abatement process.
6. Meeting adjourned.

June 28, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Peter & Debbie Byrnes, Wayne Whittier, Richard Scott.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Selectmen reviewed bids for paving the Townhouse parking lot. The project was awarded to King & Sons, out of Wilton.
4. Richard Scott reviewed and answered questions about the town insurance policy.
5. Selectmen made and organized 3 binders with property tax information to use as a quick reference.
6. Girl Scout Troop 2096 sent a thank you letter to the Town for letting them use the Community Room for their meetings.

7. Peter & Debbie Byrnes discussed taxes on their camp property.
8. Wayne Whittier brought in Tree Growth Information for a new piece of property which he purchased this last year.
9. The selectmen administered two property abatements.
10. Meeting adjourned.

July 5, 2022

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 #13 (\$67,904.04).
4. The selectmen and treasure reviewed and discussed the Homestead Exemption and the towns property tax ratio.
5. The Broadband Committee updated the selectboard on an additional option and how the project is proceeding.
6. Meeting adjourned.

July 12, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Laura Church, Laura Neal, Clyde Neal.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The Neals inquired about the process to get a permit to put a septic system at their camp on Flying Pond.
4. Meeting adjourned.

July 19, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, 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 #14 (\$18,913.42).
4. The selectmen discussed the new legislation on freezing taxes for elderly people.
5. Meeting adjourned.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

July 26, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Tom Jewett, Ed Lawless, Jim Anderberg, Jason Buzzell, Ridgely Fuller.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. A resident inquired if he had any recourse for the cost of his wife being taken to the hospital during a welfare check. His wife called someone by accident and that person in turn called 911 for a welfare check. The officer that arrived called for an ambulance which transported his wife to the emergency room in Augusta. The Selectboard knew of none.
4. The Broadband Committee updated the selectboard on the progress and outlined the future process as follows;
 - August 31, 2022- Information meeting at 6:30p.m. at the Vienna Community Room.
 - September 01, 2022- the Special Town Meeting Warrant will be posted on the Vienna website, at the post office, and at the Townhouse.
 - September 19, 2022- Public hearing at 6:30p.m. at the Vienna Community Room.
 - October 01, 2022- Special Town Meeting for VOTE on the Broadband warrant at 9:00a.m. at the Vienna Community Room.
5. Meeting adjourned.

From the Town Clerk



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

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

Broadband Committee

The Vienna Selectboard has scheduled a Special Town Meeting for Saturday, October 1 at 9AM at the Vienna Community Center. At that time Vienna residents will vote on an article that authorizes the Selectboard to move forward on constructing and operating a municipally owned fiber to the home broadband network. Full details on the article will be published September 1.

In order for voters to make an informed decision, there will be an Informational Meeting at the Community Center on Wednesday, August 31 at 6:30 and a public hearing on the article at the Community Center, Monday, September 19 at 6:30.

To keep informed on this exciting development be sure to watch our website: viennamaine.org/broadband_committee and sign up for our mailing list at viennamaine.org/subscribe-broadband-vienna.

Planning Board Minutes

May 25, 2022

At 6:30 PM Regular members Wayne Whittier, Ed Lawless, Alan Williams, and Tim Bickford visited the Landis site at 582 Ithiel Gordon Road, and shown on tax map 11 as lot 11-30-1; regular member Creston Gaither arrived soon thereafter and walked the site. The Landises would like to build a 12' x 16' screen porch and a 10' x 12' deck onto the existing house. Alan is their contractor. At 7:00 PM those 5 Board members convened the regular meeting at the Town House; minutes of the April 27 meeting were read and accepted. The Landis proposal was discussed. The site slopes somewhat toward Parker Pond and the surface has been partially disturbed. It was agreed that best management practices for soil erosion control should be required. Alan expects to place stone beneath the drip edges. He recused himself from the Board's deliberations and vote.

Based on its on-site observations and Alan's verbal representations, and a subsequent examination of the pertinent flood hazard 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.

Bonnie Patti has contacted Wayne and would like to place a third residence, a recreational vehicle, on her Tower Road property shown on tax map 11 as lot 4-1. The Board understands that she intends to allow certain relatives by blood, adoption or marriage to live there free of charge. The Vienna Subdivision Ordinance and the State Subdivision Statute, Title 30-A, §4401, were reviewed.; Because the intended occupants are relatives and no payment is being rendered, and the Statute's definition of "dwelling unit" includes a reference to "sale or lease," the Board voted 5 - 0 that the proposal would not create a subdivision requiring municipal approval. Wayne will advise her of this and that she will need the proper SSWD permit to proceed.

Mark Rains appeared at 7:40 PM to discuss the possibility of building a hut about 100 feet or more southerly of Webber Brook and about 40 feet westerly of the Plymouth Line border of his property (as outlined in his email to the Board of May 25. Subdivision Ordinance requirements as they might apply to this project were discussed informally. He was advised that these are ultimately legal questions which should be referred to an attorney.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Planning Board Minutes (continued)

June 22, 2022

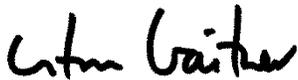
At 6:30 PM Regular members Alan Williams, Ed Lawless and Creston Gaither, made site visits to the Weisz and Medina sites on Flying Pond.

The regular meeting convened at 7:35 PM at the Town House. The aforesaid members were present. Minutes of the May 25 meeting were read and accepted.

The Weisz application was discussed. Doug Weisz would like to build an addition and to extend the existing roof and place a kayak rack, at his property shown on tax map 11 as lot 8-W. As there is to be no net gain in the number of bedrooms, it appears that a SSWD permit is not required. In view of the apparent non-conformance with the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (SZO) 15-foot sideline requirement, it was agreed that an easement to allow this must be obtained from the northerly abutter. In view of the slopes observed on the site it was agreed that best management practices should be required. The Board made Findings of Fact as outlined in the permit and voted 3 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue a SZO permit upon receipt of proof that the aforesaid easement has been recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

The Medina proposal was discussed; the Medinas own land shown on tax map 11 as lot 14 - H and would like to replace the existing camp there with a new house. The Board has received their application dated June 21. As there is to be no net gain in the number of bedrooms, it appears that a SSWD permit is not required. In view of the slopes observed on the site it was agreed that best management practices should be required. It was agreed that the existing setback from the pond must not be reduced. The Board made Findings of Fact as outlined in the permit and voted 3 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue a SZO permit with restrictions as outlined above.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.



Creston Gaither, secretary

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News



“To add a library to a house is to give that house a soul.”
Cicero

The summer is flying by! It has been so heartening to see our community members and summer friends coming in and out of the library. Enjoy the rest of the season!

Stories from the Metroplex: On Sunday, August 7th, 3PM, at the Mt. Vernon Community Center, we will host community story telling. We haven't done it in a couple of years, so we hope you have some new stories to tell your neighbors and friends – stories about the pandemic, or about how you came to this amazing community, something from your childhood, any piece of your history you'd like to share. Refreshments will be served.

The Story Walk will still be set up along the trails at the Ezra Smith Wildlife Conservation Area through the rest of the summer. This year's book is *The Wildlife Tree*, by local author Peter Emery and illustrator Deborah Emery. Come enjoy a lovely family walk and read as you go. Thanks, as always, to Kennebec Land Trust for their care of this beautiful outdoor space in our community.

The Library Trustees will be welcoming a new piece of artwork to the landscape at the Library in the upcoming weeks. The Board commissioned Perry Johnson, II, proprietor of FoeHammer Forge Works, to design and construct a memorial tree to add to the garden landscape. Beautiful metal leaves with engraved loved one's names will be available to purchase, to honor those you love. Proceeds from the sale of leaves will go to the George Smith Memorial Fund at the library for the continued upkeep of the gardens. The pricing for the engraved metal leaves is \$20.00 each for the large size leaf, \$15.00 each for the small size leaf. A sample of the leaves may be seen at the library during regular open hours. Orders and payment may be given to the librarian in attendance. Each leaf will then be added to the tree by FoeHammer Forge Works to grow a very special and beautiful Memorial Tree.

We are so thankful for all the help we received each week from the parents and kids who participated in our summer reading programs. They helped stack chairs and tables, brought all of our craft supplies back and forth (including a heavy bin of Legos!), and were so supportive of our efforts. What a fun group of people! Many thanks to Tara Marble for her presentations – and the kids always love whatever projects Alice puts together!

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

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

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. 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.

The district school librarian has put together a list of Maranacook Black Bear Book Awards for area students to enjoy throughout the upcoming school year. She has shared the list with us, and we've purchased them and they are currently stacked on the mantel in the children's room. We hope you enjoy this collection, it covers a wide variety of topics, both fiction and nonfiction. I especially love Max Greenfield's *I Don't Want to Read This Book* - it is quite amusing!

Online Resource: a good resource for families is the Raising Readers website. You can visit it at <https://www.raisingreaders.org>. They have all sorts of wonderful book lists, and they also offer printable downloads for various early literacy activities and ideas for parents to try with their kids.

Currently I am paging through a lot of books of poetry, to prepare for the Community Poetry Reading on Saturday, July 30 (3pm) at MVCC. Otherwise, I have just started Susan B. Inches' book, *Advocating for the Environment*. I will pass it along to the library when I have finished. What are you reading as you check your tomato plants each day, put up raspberry or blueberry jam, and stack firewood?

Editor's Notes

Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the October/November issue of the *Vienna Record* by **September 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

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



The Men's breakfast group is Calling ALL Men to come to breakfast on Tuesday mornings at 7 AM sharp. Donation is \$5.00 for a hearty breakfast cooked by our own men, so you know it will be good. The group is looking to invite new people to the weekly ritual and have a sit-down breakfast chat. Get to know your neighbors in the Metroplex!

Coming up in August on the 20th is a Benefit Auction for the Community center foundation repair fund. Without a good foundation, our building could have even more severe issues if not attended to now. This summer, probably after the auction, the foundation will be needing repairs to the front of the building and also to mitigate water filtrating into the basement from all

sides but especially under the handicap platform. The Auction begins at 10am for viewing and 11 am for bidding.

After all these events are completed, the CC will be installing a generator for those unexpected outages in the summer as well as the winter.

A wonderful donation of a 57" television was donated to the CC for use. We will need a table with wheels so it can be maneuvered at will. If anyone has such a table, please let me know! This television can be used by the public for various events. Someone with electrical/computer wisdom could help us figure out to make that happen.

We are also looking into Sound mitigation for the Great room at the CC. If you know of a company or even a university locally, with that knowledge of how to do this, please contact any member of the Board of Trustees.

We would like to make the CC of more use to the public for speaking engagements, meetings, etc.

Viva la community center! June Cauldwell, Chairman, Board of Trustees

Men's Breakfast - Tuesdays, 7am at the Mount Vernon Community Center

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

Thank You!



Thanks to everyone who joined us for the Vienna Fire Department Chicken BBQ this year! With your support, we sold over 400 meals. We are overwhelmed with gratitude and can't wait to do it again next year! Save the date for **July 30, 2023!!!**



Manning the barbeque pits



Selectman Chris Smith was our first customer!

Community Breakfast Fundraiser



PLEASE JOIN US!

NDN welcomes you to connect with your neighbors at the annual NDN Community Breakfast on August 6. Stop by to enjoy delicious homemade egg casseroles, potatoes, French toast bakes, fruit, pastries and more!

Meet old and new neighbors, and support a great cause!

What: Community Breakfast

When: 9–11 am, Sat., Aug. 6, 2022

Where: Mount Vernon Community Center
Mt. Vernon

Neighbors Driving Neighbors
207- 860-0677

www.neighborsdrivingneighbors.org



News Release

For immediate release, July 19, 2022

Travis Mills Foundation to Host First Open House of 2022 (Visitors welcome to tour the property and meet SSG Travis Mills)

ROME, MAINE – The public is welcomed to attend the first open house of 2022 at the Travis Mills Foundation Veterans Retreat, located at 1002 Watson Pond Road in Rome, Maine. The event includes tours of the main Retreat building, the newly renovated Marbury House from the original Elizabeth Arden estate, which now serves as the TMF main office, the waterfront, labyrinth and more.

The open house is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6 and is free to attend, but the Foundation asks that visitors RSVP here: <https://give.classy.org/august2022openhouse>.

The open house is also an opportunity to meet U.S. Army SSG (Ret.) Travis Mills, who established the organization in 2017 to serve recalibrated veterans like himself and their families. SSG Mills lost portions of all of his limbs in 2012 while serving in Afghanistan; he is one of only five quadruple amputees to survive the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“The Retreat isn’t opened up to the public often,” said SSG Mills. “We ensure the privacy of our nation’s heroes and their families, but I’m excited when we can fully open up the Retreat to the community to share our mission with everyone.”

In addition to the Foundation’s Family Program, six other programs are offered for our nation’s heroes: Warrior PATHH (Progressive & Alternative Training for Helping Heroes) for combat veterans and first responders with post-traumatic stress; a Caregiver Program; the Recalibrate Program where we capitalize on a participant’s motivation after attending the Retreat. We provide financial assistance, goal setting, and long-term follow up; Ambassador Program; Virtual Program; and offsite programs, including bringing veterans to cage dive with sharks.

FMI, contact Molly Lovell-Keely, Communications and Marketing Manager:
molly@travismillsfoundation.org.

About

The Travis Mills Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports post-911 veterans who experienced life changing injuries while in service to our country. The Travis Mills Foundation Veterans Retreat offers our nation’s recalibrated veterans and their families a week-long, barrier free, all-expenses-paid experience at its world-class retreat in the Belgrade Lakes Region of Maine. It offers various programs that help these brave men and women overcome physical and emotional obstacles, strengthen their families, and provide well-deserved rest and relaxation. The Foundation also offers the Warrior PATHH Program (Progressive Alternative Training for Helping Heroes) for combat veterans and first responders, the nation’s first-ever program designed to cultivate and facilitate post-traumatic growth.



647 Castle Island Road
Mt. Vernon, ME 04352

www.travismillsfoundation.org
foundation@travismillsfoundation.org

Tel. 207-480-3490
EIN 46-4239670



YOU'RE INVITED TO A

Benefit Auction

August 20, 2022 at 11:00 A.M. (preview at 10 a.m.)
2 Main Street, Mt. Vernon Com. Ctr.

Join us as we auction off new, old items and Handcrafted items for the Mt. Vernon Community Ctr. building maintenance fund to restore the foundation and mitigate water damage. – Mt. Vernon Com. Ctr Board of Trustees

Vienna/Mount Vernon Community

Antique Fair and Flea Market



Saturday, August 27, 8 am to 2 pm
At the Vienna Historical Society Grounds
Hwy 41 in Vienna

Antiques, Collectibles and Junque
Lots of Treasures – Lots of Parking

FOOD

FREE SPACE FOR SELLERS!!!

CFMI 293-4815

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



Office of the Selectmen

Vienna Town House

P.O. Box 38

212 Townhouse Road

Vienna, ME 04360

