

Vienna Record



Volume 25 Issue 6

December 2022/January 2023



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Selectmen's Minutes

October 4, 2022

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

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant # 19 (\$71,376.57).
4. The selectmen made a copy of a property card for a resident.
5. Received an estimate from Parker Appraisal for the revaluation of the town. The town was unable to get any other bids and will be signing with Parker Appraisal. The work will begin July of 2023 and will finish by August of 2024.
6. The selectmen received the certification of the election at the special town meeting. 82 residents attended and voted unanimously to pass the article

for Broadband. Vienna will have High Speed internet. YES!!!!

7. Meeting adjourned.

October 11, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Devin Webster

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen opened the winter sand bids. The winner of the bid is Steves of Belgrade. The bids were as follows:
Lenny Meader, no sand to sell
Robin Day, \$6.50 per yard
Castonguay, \$7.00 per yard
Dave Steves, \$5.00 per yard
4. The selectmen discussed purchasing a fire resistant file cabinet to hold Property Cards.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

5. The Selectmen talked with a contractor about installing a double headed heat pump in the meeting house. One to maintain the office and another in the general meeting area.
6. Meeting adjourned.

October 18, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Mark Ouellette, Bob Weingarten, Ed Lawless, Ridley Fuller, Sara Watson, Stan Webster, Wayne Reynolds, Zack Aubin, Jim Anderberg

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #20 (\$24,453.54).
4. The selectmen participated in a zoom meeting with Mark from Axiom. The Broadband Committee will review what needs to be done next in preparation for the grant application.
5. Meeting adjourned.

October 25, 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 selectboard reviewed the updated Broadband numbers.
4. Laura sent out copies of tax cards requested by Real Estate agents.
5. Meeting adjourned.

November 1, 2022

Present: 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 #21 (\$103,853.61).
4. Meeting adjourned.

November 8, 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. The selectmen worked on the Tree Growth

paperwork.

4. The selectmen signed the Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP). This money is used towards road paving.
 5. The Selectmen signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Axiom. This is required to apply for the grant.
- Meeting adjourned.

November 15, 2022

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Annie Tibbetts, Brian Church

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #22 (\$61,082.58).
4. The Broadband grant application has been submitted and the town is waiting to hear the results.
5. Chief Church brought to the attention of the selectboard that someone backed into one of the garage doors at the fire station. Chief Church contacted the State Police and filed a report that will be shared with the town's insurance company when a claim is filed. Phil, from Vienna Garage Doors, will look at the door and provide an estimate for the repairs.
6. Meeting adjourned.

November 22, 2022

Present: Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Brian Church

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The Selectmen looked into concerns about map 4, lot 5, as it appeared a building was built without proper permits. It was found to have had the proper permits.
4. Chief Church inquired about the balance in the Fire Department's account. The department has more gear to purchase as the department is growing with members. The current roster has 15 active members.
5. Meeting adjourned.

November 29, 2022

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

Planning Board Minutes

September 28, 2022

At 6:30 PM Regular members Waine Whittier, Alan Williams, Ed Lawless and Creston Gaither visited Angela Bell's property on Davis Pond and at 70 Jesse Ladd Road shown on tax map 6 as lot 82. She would like to build a house on the lot.

At 7:00 PM these members arrived at the Town House for the Board's regular meeting. The Bell proposal was discussed; erosion control measures having been observed on site, and based on its site visit and the site sketch provided, and a subsequent examination of the flood hazard maps, the Board found 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.

Waine received a call from Jeremy Law regarding construction of a deck for a camp on Flying Pond. Waine outlined Shoreland Zoning requirements for him.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

October 26, 2022

The meeting convened at the Town House at 7:00 PM; regular members present were Waine Whittier, Alan Williams, Ed Lawless, Creston Gaither, and Tim Bickford. Minutes of the September 28 meeting were read and accepted.

Kathryn Dion's inquiry about removing a diseased tree on her lot on Cemetery Road, shown on tax map 10 as lot 56-F, was discussed. The Shoreland Zoning Ordinance was briefly reviewed. Item 5 in its Table of Uses clearly indicates that the tree can be removed without a permit. Evidently only one tree is involved. The Board voted 5 - 0 that neither a permit nor a site visit is required. Waine will advise her of this.

Recent permits issued by members were briefly reviewed and discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Creston Gaither, secretary

From the Town Clerk



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

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

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News



“A library...is a cross between an emergency exit, a life-raft, and a festival. They are cathedrals of the mind; hospitals of the soul; theme parks of the imagination. On a cold rainy island, they are the only sheltered public spaces where you are not a consumer, but a citizen instead.”

- Caitlin Moran

Wintry weather: During the winter months, if the weather is bad, please call us during our usual hours to see if we are open or if we will be closing early, before you go out on the roads to visit us. We try to keep patrons, staff, and volunteers safe on snowy or icy days! Our number is 293-2565.

Story Hour, and Take&Makes: The next planned story hour with Bobbi Jo is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14 at 10AM. Bobbi Jo chooses great stories to read to the kids, and she and Alice collaborate on putting together some art or craft activity for everyone to do together. We hope you can join us! Meanwhile, Alice will put together another winter holiday Take&Make, and will have them ready by the middle of the month. Please stop by and grab one for your child, they are quite popular among our young patrons!

Knitting/Crocheting group: The knit & crochet group is hoping to reassemble at the library, to craft together and teach others who might be interested in joining but who don't quite have the skills yet. Please call or email the library if you are interested, and we'll let Amy know, so she can start planning on good times for the group to meet.

Giving Tree: The Rescue folks delivered a small Giving Tree, as usual, to us. We have it on the round table near our circulation desk. Please come in and take a tag. They will take monetary donations, which can be delivered to Flying Pond Variety, or can be sent directly to the address written on the tags. Your generosity and support of this community tradition is greatly appreciated!

Lifelong learning: Bendable Maine is part of a nation-wide project supported by the Drucker Institute, to provide opportunities for learning at all stages of life, through digital learning centers. You can read more about this elsewhere in this issue of the town newsletter. As an introduction, local libraries are working together to provide a Zoom meeting about all of the resources available through Bendable Maine on Wednesday, January 18, from 6-7pm. As we get closer to the date, we will post the zoom link on our website and our Facebook page. This project shows a lot of promise, and libraries and other organizations are becoming involved in order to support our communities of learners!

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

Tax Help: Our marvelous Tax Gurus, David and Christine, will be back to provide tax help for community members who need assistance, as a service of AARP. They will have appointments on Saturdays: February 25, March 11, & March 25. Please call the library after January 3rd to schedule an appointment. You can see further information in this issue of the newsletter.

Digital Connectivity: The wonderful Broadband Committee folks have reached out to us to see if we might be able to collaborate with them regarding helping anyone who would like to sign up for the Affordable Connectivity Program, which can help reduce monthly costs for internet access for people who meet the income criteria. If you want to learn a bit about the ACP, you can visit their site at: <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/>

If you want to know more, you can view an AARP article about it here: <https://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/info-2021/fcc-subsidy-helps-broadband-internet-access.html> Applying can be a bit difficult for individuals, so the Broadband folks are learning how they might be able to help. We will let you know what assistance we can all offer later this winter, after we've finalized any plans.

Also, if you are in need of a device, the nonprofit group that used to be called the PC's for Maine Project is now re-formed into Give IT Get IT.org. They will accept and recycle your old computer, or you can get a low cost computer & support from them. You can call them at 207-338-4233, or visit their website at www.giveitgetit.org

One more item about digital access, you can learn all kinds of skills about being online and using various programs by visiting the National Digital Equity Center. They have a variety of videos about increasing your digital skills, and are a wonderful resource: <https://digitalequitycenter.org/classes/> Many folks around Maine are exploring these. If you are interested, and don't have access to a computer at home, let us know, and we can set you up at one of our public access computers, to get you started.

I just finished Elizabeth Strout's novel, *Oh William!* What are you reading or listening to as you prepare for winter and the holidays? Be well, everyone. The light will begin to slowly return after winter Solstice!

Editor's Notes

Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the February/March issue of the *Vienna Record* by **January 25, 2023.**

Format

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

Send us your photos!

We want your seasonal photos of Vienna! viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net

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.

WINTER REVELS RETURNS TO THE VIENNA UNION HALL WITH RANDY JUDKINS

After a 3-year break the Vienna Union Hall will host "Winter Revels" on December 17 at 7p.m. This year's Revels will be headlined by the return of Randy Judkins aka "Judd the Jester". Randy has been performing to Maine audiences for many years. He is Chief Entertainment Officer of the Maine Hysterical Society whose mission is "to Preserve, promote and provoke laughter."

Randy has appeared in a handful of television commercials and independent films in Maine. Randy has instructed at the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey's Clown College in Florida and has served as a character consultant for Tri-Star Pictures. The Juilliard School of Drama in New York City hired Randy to teach a series of master classes in character and physical comedy.

Randy will be joined by a group of Pineland Fiddlers including Owen Kennedy, Accordionist Gary Chapin and a troupe of local youngsters, opening the show.

You won't want to miss this one. Tickets are \$10 for Adults and \$5 under 12 and are available at <https://www.viennaunionhall.org/arts-and-events>.



Men's Breakfast - On hiatus until Spring 2023

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



Vienna Fire Department

Kimball Pond Road, Vienna

207-293-2727

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.



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

Did you know? More than **1 in every 5** Christmas tree fires were caused by a heat source too close to the tree.

As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.

Make sure your tree is **at least 3 feet away** from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators and space heaters.

U.S. Fire Administration | Fire is Everyone's Fight | NFPA

The Vienna Fire Department wishes you and your family safe and happy holidays!



Become a Volunteer Firefighter!

What do volunteer firefighters do?

All kinds of things! Some of us are certified to go into burning buildings. All of us learn how to run the hose, inspect our trucks and gear, and safely engage in traffic control. We run chainsaws to remove trees from the road, hang flags prior to Patriotic holidays, and offer community events throughout the year (like Chicken BBQ!) to raise money for the department and foster community.

Meetings

Meetings take place every Thursday at 6:30 at the Vienna Fire Station, Kimball Pond Road, Vienna

Business Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the Month

Trainings are the 3rd Thursday of the Month

How do I become a volunteer firefighter?

To be a volunteer firefighter, we ask that you care about your community and want to help others, sometimes on the worst days of their lives. We welcome anyone to join the fire department and can always find you something to do. No formal training required to join. If you are interested in becoming a regular member, we will provide all the gear you need to safely respond to calls.

Interested? Contact us!

Fire Chief: Brian Church

207-293-3892, 207-860-0127

Deputy Chief: Paul Leblond

207-491-6738

Asst. Chief: Michael Church

207-242-7955



TOWN OF VIENNA

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

Laura Church, Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff

Treasurer - Kerry Casey

Town Clerk and Tax Collector - Annie Tibbetts

Road Commissioner - Dan Goucher

Fire Chief and Warden - Brian Church

Health Officer - vacant

Animal Control Officer - Donald Tibbetts

Code Enforcement Officer - vacant

Plumbing Inspector - John Archard

Alternate Plumbing Inspector - Andy Marble

Addressing Officer - Tim Bickford

RSU#9 Representative - Josh Robbins



Office of the Selectmen

Vienna Town House

P.O. Box 38

212 Townhouse Road

Vienna, ME 04360

