

Vienna Record



Volume 27 Issue 2

April/May 2024



Selectmen's Minutes

February 6, 2024

Present: Laura Church, Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Kerry Casey, Brian Church Ed Lawless, 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 #03 (\$104,398.77).
4. The contract with Franklin County Animal Shelter was signed.
5. The selectboard met with the Broadband Committee and discussed mailing flyers to all town residents updating them on the progress of the Broadband along with the pricing and information on the installation at each home.
6. Meeting adjourned.

February 13, 2024

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 prepped for the March Town Meeting.

4. Last year's road budget was and the FEMA reimbursements from the spring 2023 storm were discussed. The money will be added to this year's road budget.
5. Meeting adjourned.

February 20, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Lidie Robbins, Felicia Audet, 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 #4 (\$18,637.81).
4. A \$700.00 bill from Markham Enterprise was added to 2023's Warrant #26.
5. Lidie Robbins, from the 30 Mile Watershed Association, updated the selectboard on a Grant they are working on for the town. The money will help pay for the engineering process to repair the culverts on the Trask Road, Jesse Ladd Road, and the Kimball Pond Road. Each of these roads have a culvert that needs replacing and will require engineering.

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Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

6. Lidie Robbins, from the 30 Mile Watershed Association, is working on a grant through the Outdoor Heritage Fund to inventory the waterways and crossing. The 30 Mile Watershed will go out and do the inventory. The selectboard agreed to do a \$500.00 match, if the grant is awarded. Jeff was via Facetime and gave Laura permission to sign for him.
7. Meeting adjourned.

February 27, 2024

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 answered questions from a selectboard of another Town. They requested information on pay for our Road Commissioner.
4. The selectboard worked on information requested from FEMA.
5. The selectboard had the March Town Warrant posted.
6. Meeting adjourned.

March 5, 2024

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 #05 (\$15,341.66).
4. 2023's Warrant #26 added \$800.00 for a bill from the 30 Mile Watershed Association.
5. The selectboard worked on FEMA paperwork from the May 2023 flooding.
6. Meeting adjourned.

March 12, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Dick Scott, Ed Lawless

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen met with Dick Scott from Kyes Insurance to review the Towns Insurance policy and update the Towns information.

4. Ed Lawless inquired about Axiom.
5. Meeting adjourned.

March 19, 2024

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

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #06 (\$98,231.38).
4. The selectmen reviewed the new property cards and appraisals.
5. The selectmen and Annie Tibbetts discussed the new property cards and the process of entering the new values into the computer programs.
6. The selectboard signed off on a total of 5 Quit Claims Deeds.
7. Meeting adjourned.

March 26, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Nate Kane, Whitney Baker

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Whitney Baker presented a draft grant application for the selectboard to review. This Grant is for climate action and if awarded will be used towards road improvements, paying for engineering new culvert crossing.
4. The selectboard discussed residents parking in the snowplow turn-arounds. This prohibited the Varney Road from being plowed during the last Saturday snow storm. A letter will be sent to the resident who parked in the snow plow turn-around on the Varney Road in order to let them know that, next time, the car will be towed at the owner's expense. The Town has placed new signs at each of the snowplow turn-arounds to let the public know that parking is prohibited and towing will occur during snow storms.
5. Meeting adjourned

Planning Board Minutes

December 27, 2023

On November 22 Regular members Waine Whittier and Creston Gaither met at the Town House; no quorum being present, no formal meeting was held.

Waine noted that the State now requires before and after photos of projects in the Shoreland Zone.

No additional participants appeared, so Waine and Creston left at 7:15 PM.

On December 27, the regular meeting convened at 7:00 PM at the Town House. Regular members present were Waine Whittier, Creston Gaither, Alan Williams, and Ed Lawless.

It was noted that on October 15 Creston, Alan, Ed, and regular member Tim Burton conducted a site visit at 6 South Herrin Woods Road on land of Joseph and Leah Tuite shown on tax map 11 as lot H 12 to consider their proposal to construct a stairway to a landing to be placed at the pond, as per a sketch they submitted. Findings of Fact were made as per the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, and it was voted 4 – 0 that the project is permissible, However, the Tuites asked that permitting be delayed until Spring to allow them additional time for completion. They will contact the Board when ready to proceed.

Minutes of the October 25 meeting were read and accepted.

Waine noted that Jerry Lynch has advised him that the project he outlined at the October 25 meeting has been cancelled.

Regarding Thomas Greaton's permit as referenced in the October 25 minutes, The Board concluded that the work had probably begun prior to the expiration date of the permit. The Board will therefore not pursue enforcement action.

On December 3 a quorum of the Board met with Scott Holcomb on Michelle McKeon's parcel shown on tax map 10 as lot 5- W to consider his proposal to add a deck on the westerly side of the existing camp and to extend the existing deck across the rest of the front of the cabin. The Board made Findings of Fact and voted 3 – 0 to authorize Creston to issue a permit for the project. Findings of Fact and Conditions are outlined on the permit thus issued.

Waine may prepare a revision to the Town Shoreland Zoning Ordinance regarding the new requirement for photos outlined above.

Waine was contacted by Dan DoRay of All Weather roofing & Siding about a possible subdivision of land shown on tax map 6 as lot 81 on Davis Pond, but no formal application has been received.

Angela Bell's application of December 3 was reviewed. As the Board has visited the site in recent months, a site visit was waived. Findings of Fact were made and it was voted 4 – 0 to authorize Creston to issue a permit. The Findings are outlined in the permit. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Planning Board Minutes (continued)

February 28, 2024

The Board's January meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

The February meeting convened at 7:00 PM at the Town House. Regular members present were Waine Whittier, Creston Gaither, Ed Lawless, and Tim Bickford. Renee Rhoads was also present. Minutes of the December 27, 2023 meeting were read and accepted.

Renee Rhoads owns land depicted on tax Map 10 as Lot 77. She asked whether she needs a permit for an existing shed already located on the site, and was told that none is needed unless she expands its footprint. She has a site evaluation and design for a septic system for a 3-bedroom house. She would like to connect the shed to this system for the benefit of an existing cabin. She was advised to ask her site evaluator whether her design is sufficient for this; if so, she was advised to get a SSWD permit from the Plumbing Inspector. Rules for the expansion of non-conforming structures were reviewed. She said a company in Houlton makes "tiny houses" which come on wheels, and asked whether they are treated as structures or recreational vehicles (RVs). The Shoreland Zoning Ordinance rules for storing RVs were briefly reviewed.

An approved permit by rule was received today from DEP regarding John Woodworth's land shown on tax Map 10 as Lot 65-1.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 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

“Wonder rather than doubt is the root of all knowledge.”

Abraham Joshua Heschel

Every first and third Wednesday of each month, from 1PM-3PM, the local Yarn group holds a Crafternoon at the library. We have folks of all ages who attend, to learn new skills, to help each other figure out a difficult stitch, and to sit together and visit as they work. You can join them, and it is okay if you don't knit or crochet - you can bring an embroidery project or other needlework to do, or other crafts. Join this friendly group and work on your next craft project!

During April and May, a group of adults will be coming together for board games at the library, from 3PM-5PM on Wednesdays, April 10th & 24th, and May 8th & 22nd. They met for the first time last week and enjoyed their time together, played games as teams, and laughed and visited as they played. We have board games ready, and the group provides cookies and tea. Join them for a bit of social time, and feel free to bring your own games for people to try!

Our **Drop-In Tech Help** with Remi will continue on Wednesday mornings from 9AM-Noon. People are telling us they learn so many helpful tips and skills when they come for some guidance. If you are trying to learn new skills, bring your device and talk with Remi about your needs.

As always, we are so thankful to David Fuller, local Tax Guru, for organizing our Tax Help days during the past couple of months. Our local elder residents are so grateful for this service through AARP!

We do send out a weekly **Events email** to people in the Vienna/Mt. Vernon/Fayette/Readfield area, which lists various community activities that are coming up. If you would like to see that email, please email our library address, librarian@drshawlibrary.org, and ask us to sign you up to receive it each week!

The Solar Eclipse is coming soon! On April 3rd at 4PM Alice is planning a children's pre-eclipse event. She'll have some information and projects to do to help our young patrons prepare for the eclipse. Then, on the day of the eclipse - April 8, we will open the library early at 2:30 for anyone who would like to come up on the hill and gather to watch the eclipse. Please bring your own eclipse glasses if you have them, or you can use the glasses we have purchased (we will have about 25 pairs). Please do NOT look at the sun without eclipse glasses, as it can cause damage to your eyes. We'll have some refreshments, too! You might want to try parking down in the village in case our parking is crowded. Let's hope for clear skies on April 8th! The time of the eclipse for our area is between 3:28 and 3:35PM.

Upcoming Programs and Events:

*We are hosting a **Palliative Care** talk by Jackie Fournier, local resident & nurse practitioner at Androscoggin Home Health and Hospice, on April 14 at 3PM at the library. Jackie will explain the difference between palliative care and hospice care and what each can provide regarding health care for families in need of services.

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

*There will be a wonderful **STEM program** with Jordan from the Franklin County Cooperative Extension, who worked with our young patrons last fall on various STEM activities related to energy last fall. This will be on April 17, Wednesday morning during school break, from 9-11AM. Jordan will introduce the kids to the ideas of symmetry and tessellations! She'll have some crafts for participants to work on, and will make time for plenty of quick breaks to get up and move a bit. This program is geared towards school-age children but can be adapted for younger ones with the help of parents.

***Maine Bicycle Coalition** will come again this year on Monday, May 13 from 2:30-4:30PM here at the library, and then will go to Readfield Community Library from 5-7PM. Eric will provide helpful instruction and some equipment for this Bike Maintenance Workshop. Bring your bike, and maybe a few tools, and ask for some help! We are limited to 5 slots (individuals or couples can take a slot, also) for participants, so please call us ahead of time to register (293-2565).

*Parents, put this on your family calendar - on Sunday, June 23, at 3PM, at the Mt. Vernon Community Center, **Rob Duquette from KindKids Music** will be doing an interactive musical performance, to kick off our Summer Reading Program. He is well-known all over Maine, and his organization uses music to help young folks understand self-care and kindness on many levels. They make great music! We will have information on the schedule for the rest of our summer reading program activities in the next issue of the town newsletter.

*We'll have an author talk with Maine mystery writer **Matt Cost on July 21 at 3PM**. His books are popular with our readers!

This summer, **starting May 1 till October, we will once again provide passes to the Coastal Botanical Gardens in Boothbay**. Library passes allow for 2 adults and a group of children (under 18 years of age) for a visit to the Gardens during the day. We can start signing people up for visits in April, and can print the passes for you or email them to you as an attachment so you can show the Garden entrance folks the pass on your phone. Just come into the library or give us a call, and have a date and time of day you would like (and an alternative date is helpful, since we are only allowed one group/day), and we'll put you on their calendar. Our patrons loved this service last summer!

I am reading James McBride's novel, The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store. What are you reading as we clear away the snow from this most recent storm?

Community News

Neighbors Driving Neighbors

Annual **Online Auction**

coming the month of **JULY**

~more details next newsletter~

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 Mount Vernon Community Center Board of Trustees would like to express our huge appreciation for all who turned out to celebrate Pi(e) Day with us, enjoying breakfast pies and participating in our pie auction. It was a huge success and the money we earned will be put towards much needed repairs to our building so that it will remain a gathering spot for friends and family for many more years to come. Thank you!!



Saturday, April 27
 9am to noon
 Flying Pond Variety

This is your last chance to get cookies for the season!
 Please come help our troop sell our remaining inventory.
 Thank you!

Girl Scout Troop 2096
 Mount Vernon and Vienna

Editor's Notes

Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the June/July issue of the *Vienna Record* by **May 25, 2024**.

Format

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

Community Breakfast - First Saturday of the month, 9-11am at the Mount Vernon Community Center

Men's Breakfast - Wednesdays at 6:45am at Scapes Cafe.

Women's "Juliet" Breakfast - Second Tuesday of each month at the Mill Stream Grange 8:30-9:30 AM.

Potluck 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



Come enjoy breakfast with us at

The Community Café

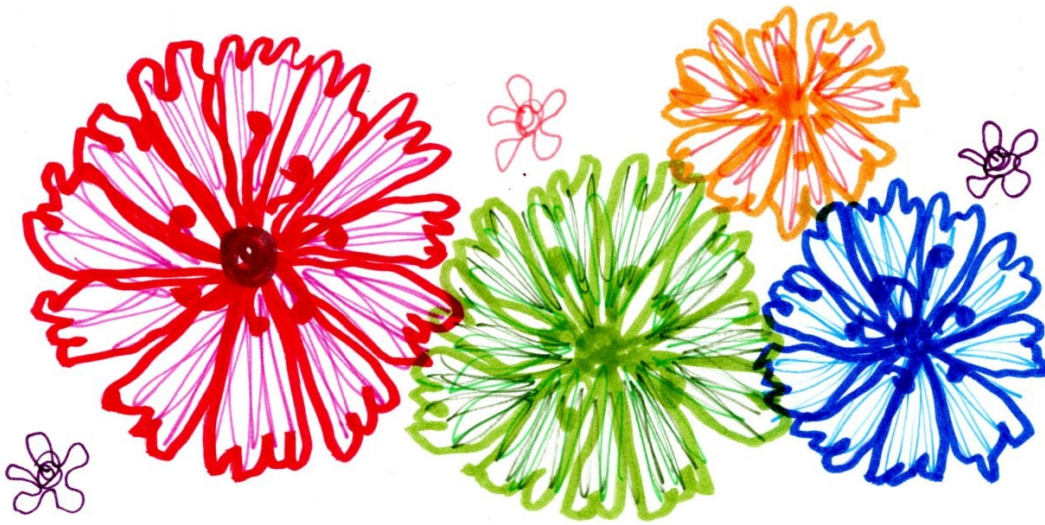
Mt. Vernon Community Center

2 Main St., Mount Vernon, ME

Saturday, April 6th, 9-11am

*Donations to help maintain and operate the
Community Center are welcome.*





Come enjoy breakfast with us at

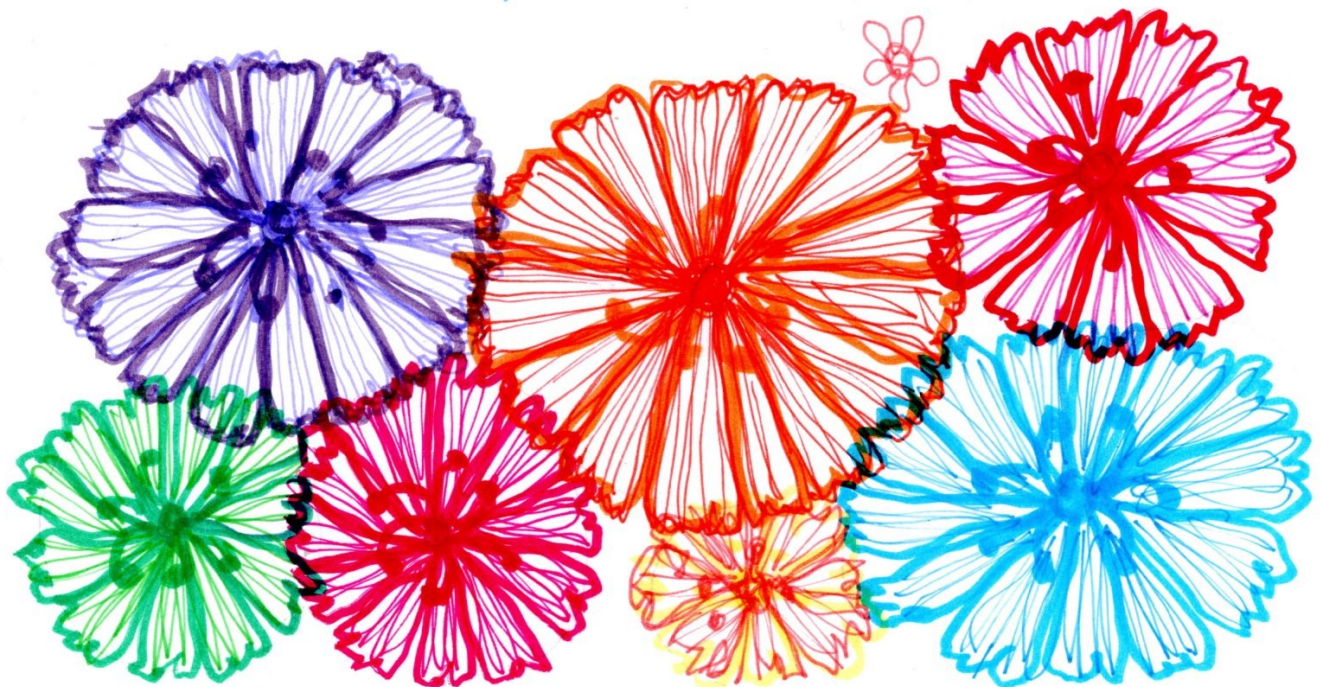
The Community Café

Mt. Vernon Community Center

2 Main St., Mount Vernon, ME

Saturday, May 4th, 9-11am

*Donations to help maintain and operate the
Community Center are welcome.*





VIENNA FIRE DEPARTMENT'S
ANNUAL CHICKEN
BBQ

Sunday, July 28, 2023

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 - vacant

Animal Control Officer - Donald Tibbetts

Code Enforcement Officer - vacant

Plumbing Inspector - Erin Quimby

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

