

Vienna Record



Volume 26 Issue 5

October/November 2023



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Selectmen's Minutes

August 1, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Ed Lawless, 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 #15 (\$73, 686.21).
4. The Selectboard met with Ed Lawless and Jim Anderberg of the Broadband Committee, to discuss the August 29, 2023 informational meeting.
5. Meeting adjourned.

August 8, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, David Castles, Brian Church

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.

2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. David inquired about the acreage on land he inherited.
4. The Selectboard discussed maintenance/exterior painting of the Town House.
5. Selectmen emailed property cards to an appraiser and a realtor.
6. Meeting adjourned.

August 15, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Devin Webster, Theo Marshal, Dan Goucher

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 (\$186,731.39).
4. Theo Marshal, Kennebec Management, gave an update on the progress of the FEMA funding for the reimbursement from the spring rains (\$220,000.00 - \$230,000.00).
5. Devin Webster, from Webster Plumbing and Heating, updated the selectmen on the heat pump installation for the town house building.
6. Meeting adjourned.

August 22, 2023

Present: Laura Church, Jeff Rackliff, Chris Smith,

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. A gentleman looked at tax cards; 10-113bp and 11-55bfv.
4. Rebekah Church has taken over cleaning the townhouse building. She will clean every two months or as needed.
5. The selectboard forwarded a code enforcement issue to Erin Quimby, the Code Enforcement Officer.
6. Meeting adjourned.

August 29, 2023

5th Tuesday of the month
BROADBAND INFORMATIONAL MEETING AT
THE COMMUNITY ROOM

September 5, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Mike Church

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #17 (\$88,955.40).
4. Mike Church picked up paychecks for the Fire Department.
5. Meeting adjourned.

September 12, 2023

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 emailed a copy of a tax card to a

financial institution.

4. The selectboard discussed the broadband project. The Public Utility Commission (PUC) had concerns over the name of the project.
5. The selectboard signed a contract with Dead River Fuel, located in Farmington, for the town's propane needs. The contract is at \$2.09 per gallon for 2 years.
6. Meeting adjourned.

September 19, 2023

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

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #18 (\$16,366.10).
4. Harald Bredesen, of Grow Smart Maine, discussed the Community Resilience Partnership. Harald went over the process to help the town receive more grants, the first being up to \$50,000.
5. The selectboard voted to appoint Elizabeth Threhu as the Vienna Representative on the 30 Mile Watershed.
6. Meeting adjourned.

September 26, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Martha Steele

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. An informational meeting will be held at the end of November to discuss the Community Resilience Partnership. (The benefits for the town if the town participates and to discuss what the town would need to do in order to use the benefits).
4. Martha Steele inquired about the Homestead Exemption and the Veteran discount.
5. The selectboard received a phone call from a resident about concerns for wake boats on Flying Pond in regards to the damage they could cause to the pond and the shore line. The resident was referred to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as they govern all bodies of water in the State of Maine.
6. Meeting adjourned.

Planning Board Minutes

July 26, 2023

The meeting convened at 7:00 PM at the Town House. Regular members present were Waine Whittier, Alan Williams, Creston Gaither, Ed Lawless, and Tim Bickford. Also present were Bill Zweigbaum and Darlene Virgin. Minutes of the June 28 meeting were read and accepted.

Bill and Darlene appeared regarding their property on Kimball Pond shown on tax map 3 as lot 45. They would like to expand the existing gravel pad soon and construct a camp and a garage on the lot. The septic system is to be built soon. A site visit was scheduled for just after tonight's meeting. Creston has seen the site several times, having surveyed it. It was agreed that he need not recuse himself from the Board's review of the matter. Based on its knowledge of the site and the applicants' verbal representations, and a subsequent review of the pertinent flood hazard map, the Board concluded that this 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 5 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue the usual permit by letter for this proposal, assuming that no obstacle is noted at the aforementioned site visit.

Chris Dornbach's inquiry regarding a cabin expansion on his land shown on tax map 11 as lot 4-H was discussed. Waine will contact him regarding a site visit.

An email from CEO Erin Quimby regarding the Harpine lot (see June minutes) was reviewed. It appears that no enforcement action will be required.

Alan presented a report on the tree removal on the Medina lot (see June minutes) dated July 2023 and prepared by forester Joe Stevenson indicating that the removal is both necessary and permissible. Alan said Mr. Stevenson will be involved during the remainder of the project and that some replanting will be done. The Board then voted 4-0 (with Alan recused) to accept the forester's plan and to issue a Permit for the project as outlined in the plan. Creston will notify DEP of the removal permit as required by the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

Planning Board Minutes (continued)

August 23, 2023

At 6:30 PM regular members Waine Whittier, Alan Williams, Creston Gaither, and Ed Lawless made site visits to the Greg Briggs parcel on Kimball Pond Road and to the Angela Bell parcel on Jesse Ladd Road.

They conducted the regular meeting at the Town House beginning at 7:15 PM. Also present were Ridgeley Fuller and Wally Seymour. Minutes of the July 26 meeting were read and accepted.

Ridgeley Fuller would like to expand the existing A-Frame on her island shown on tax map 10 as lot 101. It is 50 feet from high water mark. She was advised that no expansion can be any closer to the water. The Shoreland Zoning Ordinance rules for expansion of non-conforming structures were reviewed and outlined. A site visit and a permit would be required if she moves the existing structure.

Wally Seymour had a site visit and a permit in 2021 for a project at 44 Vienna Shores Road which was never begun, involving a garage and a shed. His existing camp is only 30' to 50' from the water; he would like to expand it. The SZO suggests that he could perhaps expand it by 30% as it predates January 1, 1989. The proposed garage may include some plumbing. He would like the Board to reissue his 2021 permit. Relying on the site visit and findings of fact made in 2021 it was voted 4 - 0 to reissue the permit. Wally will email a copy of the 2021 SSWD permit to Creston. He will contact Waine to arrange a site visit for the camp expansion.

Regarding Greg Briggs' proposal as outlined on the sketch he provided on site, based on its site visit and the sketch and on Greg's verbal representations, and a subsequent review of the pertinent flood hazard map, the Board concluded that this 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 the usual permit by letter for this proposal.

Regarding the shed observed during the Board's visit to the Angela Bell site, the Board made Findings of Fact as listed above and voted 4 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue a permit for the shed. He will advise her that she should seek a new permit for a house should she still wish to build one.

Jon Vigneault's email of today was reviewed. The Board will seek to coordinate his site visit with that for Wally Seymour mentioned above. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

“A book is a device to ignite the imagination.” Alan Bennett, *The Uncommon Reader*

Don't forget we can still offer tickets to the Botanical Gardens in Boothbay through the first half of October. Just call us (or stop in) during our regular hours, and let us know a date and time you hope to be there. We can offer 2 adult tickets, along with tickets for children who fit into one vehicle. We can email the tickets to you, so you can show the Gardens people on your phone, or we can print them and you can pick them up at the library. People have been enjoying their trips to the amazing gardens!

Our Story Walk will still be set up at the Ezra Smith Wildlife Conservation Area trails for a few more weeks. We'll dismantle it towards the end of October. Take another nice, gentle hike along the trails and read together!

We had great Summer Reading Program participation. Thirteen children so far have brought in their completed goals to claim their Gifford's ice cream certificate. They were given the choice of choosing a goal of how many books they hoped to read, or how many pages, or how many times they spent reading. So far, we have 10 young patrons who read a total of 179 books, 1 child who read 40 times throughout July and August, and 2 who read a total of 1360 minutes. Congratulations to our young readers. If you haven't handed in your reading log yet, there is still time! We loved the comments some of the kids wrote on their reading logs - one child mentioned that they had a goal of 5 books, but said that they actually read that many books in one day!

Reminders of our ongoing activities:

1. Wednesday morning Tech Help from 9AM - Noon, with Remi. Bring your device and learn some new skills or ask about problems you might have with understanding how to navigate various programs or websites. If you can't make it on a Wednesday morning, you can give us your name, email address, and phone number, and we can ask Remi to schedule an appointment for you at the library during our regular hours.
2. Yarn & Crafts group continues to meet every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, at 1PM, here at the library. Bring a crafting, knitting, or crocheting project you are working on and join this friendly group. They can also help you learn about knitting and crocheting.

Upcoming Programs:

Chair Yoga! We hosted a chair yoga course taught by the wonderful instructor Ann Parker (she also teaches yoga at Maine General Hospital) a few years ago, and it was well received. Now we, in cooperation with the local Aging In Place Committee, are offering a 6 week course on **Chair Yoga for Strength and Balance** with Ann, on Fridays starting on October 13 and continuing through November 17. The course will take place at 10AM till 11AM at the Mt. Vernon Community Center, and it is free of charge. We request that you preregister for the class, to help us with set-up and awareness of any special needs. To preregister, email the Dr. Shaw Memorial Library, or stop by the library during our regular hours. We hope you can join us to learn some new skills to support your health and safety!

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

November 7 is the date for election this year. Absentee ballots will be available as of **October 9**.

Library News (continued)

Identifying Frauds and Scams: We are partnering with the National Digital Equity Center (NDEC) to offer a video class that will help people identify frauds & scams online. It will help you avoid all different kinds of fraudulent online activity. The class will be on Tuesday, October 10th, from 4:30-5:30PM here at the Dr. Shaw Memorial Library. You do not need to bring any materials with you. In order to attend, you must register at NDEC at this email address: dsml@digitalequitycenter.org. If you need help with registering, please visit us during our tech help hours on Wednesday mornings (9AM-Noon) for assistance, or come early to the class (we will be there starting at 4:00) and we will help you fill out the form. This will be a great opportunity to learn how to spot potentially harmful online activity before you get caught up in it.

I have just started Mark Bittman's nonfiction book, *Animal, Vegetable, Junk*. What are you reading or listening to or watching as the foliage finally changes and you can up some applesauce and maybe bake an apple pie or a nice squash casserole?

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library
 293-2565
librarian@drshawlibrary.org

Community News

NDN BOARD MEMBER POSITION

Neighbors Driving Neighbors (NDN), a local organization that provides free rides, by volunteers, to folks who cannot drive, is seeking to fill a Board position by a Vienna resident. NDN serves Vienna, Mt Vernon, Belgrade, Rome, Fayette and Readfield with representation from each town. The NDN Board is an active, working Board and seeks a member who is committed for a 3 year term. The Board meets 10 -11 times/year for 1.5 hrs plus committee work. If interested, please contact Harald Bredesen at haralbbr@hotmail.com



North Vienna UMC Trunk or Treat!

Sunday, October 29
 4:30-6pm

Open to all community members!
 Dress up and decorate your trunk, or bring the family to trick or treat!

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*

Editor's Notes

Deadline

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

Format

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

Viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net

Mill Stream Grange

Mill Stream Grange proudly took second place for their booth at the 2023 Franklin County Fair. The booth showcased a variety of items handcrafted by Grange members.



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

Men's Breakfast - Tuesdays at 7:00 AM at the Mount Vernon Community Center.

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

Community News

Vienna Historical Society



The Vienna Historical Society's booth at September's Franklin County Fair

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY CENTER HAPPENINGS

Greetings from the Mount Vernon Community Center Board of Trustees! We have been gathering up ideas and planning events to provide opportunities for you all to get out and enjoy a good time with friends and neighbors both from Mount Vernon and neighboring communities. All are welcome!

Our next community breakfast, hosted by the board of trustees, is Saturday, October 7th from 9-11 am. Donations are very much appreciated and are used both to help with the upkeep of the building as well as allowing us to have funds for other events. These breakfasts are held the first Saturday of the month, however, if you are a local group that would like to host another Saturday breakfast as a fundraiser for your group, we welcome that! Please contact Daphne Sanders at 293-2619 to schedule this.



The building is also available to rent. The rental fees have increased to help with the higher cost of utilities and building maintenance. Full day rental is \$80, Half day/4 hour rental is \$40 and hourly rental is \$10. Also please note that there is an additional \$20 fee for use of CC supplies. You will need to provide your own coffee as that is not included in the supplies. Contact Daphne (number above) if you are interested in renting the building.

We are currently in the midst of planning our annual Halloween party for Friday, Oct. 27th starting at 6 pm. We're looking for people to take part in Trunk or Treat. Please contact Amy Jajliardo at 685-0012 if you are interested in setting up a spot. More details about the event will be posted on the town website as well as on Facebook.

Looking forward, we are planning our annual tree lighting for December 8th. Have any of you noticed the cute little fir tree that was recently planted near the front steps of building? That has been planted in honor of Pat Rawson and all of her work with the yearly giving tree. We are planning to have a plaque installed and although it is a bit small right now, we look forward to many years of seeing it beautifully lit up each year.

Some other ideas we're considering: a community dinner in January, Cabin Fever Reliever and possibly February Frolics in February, and Pi(e) day in March.

Looking forward to meeting you at the Community Center



Come enjoy breakfast with us at
the

Community Café

Mount Vernon

Community Center

Saturday, October 7th, 9-11am

Donations welcome





Boo! You are invited to a

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Friday, October 27th at 6pm

Mount Vernon Community Center

And the town beach

Lots of spook-tacular fun is being planned



Come enjoy breakfast with us at
the

Community Café

Mount Vernon

Community Center

Saturday, November 4th, 9-11am

Donations welcome





MOUNT VERNON HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

→ NEW LOCATION !!

M.V. ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL (1507 North Rd.)

Sat., November 25th

9AM-2PM

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

\$25⁰⁰ per table

Please make checks out to:

Mt. Vernon PTC

For more information contact

Melanie Hall

melanie_hall@maranacook.org

or call 207-446-1813



*THIS IS NOT AN RSU #38 EVENT *



Community Resilience Workshop

Tuesday, November 28 at 7pm at the Community Room at the fire station

The [Community Resilience Partnership](#) funds projects that reduce energy use and costs and/or make communities more resilient to severe weather and changing environments. The grants are given directly to communities enrolled in the partnership with no match required. To enroll, a community must meet three criteria: adopting a resolution of commitment, completing a pair of self-assessments, and holding a community workshop to prioritize initial climate resilience and clean energy actions.

Grant awards are up to \$50,000 for each municipality or up to \$125,000 when two or more communities' partner on a project. These funds can be used as a match for other grants. Grants applications are usually due in March and September. Categories of project types that require no match are:

- Transportation
- Plan for Community Resilience
- Building Design
- Reduce Flood Risk
- Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Protect Natural/Working Areas
- Strengthen Public Health
- Support Natural Resource Economy
- Public Engagement

For more detailed information, see the [List of Community Actions](#) eligible.

The Town of Vienna is working with GrowSmart Maine to help with the enrollment of the town in the program and to develop a grant proposal in line with community priorities. The goal is to enroll the town in the partnership by the end of the year and submit a grant application by March-April 2024. To this end, *a Community Workshop will be held Tuesday, November 28 at 7pm at the Community Room at the fire station and is open to all interested residents.* The purpose is to arrive at a list of priority community actions for the town.

If you are interested in being kept informed and/or involved in the process, please contact Harald Bredesen at GrowSmart Maine, 207-248-8166 or hbredesen@growsmartmaine.org.



News from the Aging in Place (AIP) Committee

The Aging in Place Committee held a series of 3 Monday Muffin Morning sessions in September where senior citizens in the tri-town area of Mt. Vernon, Vienna, and Fayette brainstormed ideas to help people live comfortably in the community. Kelly O'Neil, the Outreach Coordinator for AIP, led the discussion. It was decided at the last Muffin Morning to extend the sessions for three more weeks, Oct 2,9 and 16. Some of the ideas discussed included:

- *opportunities for social gathering

- *informational sessions on topics of interest, such as making homes safer, living wills, funeral planning

- *exercise sessions

- *creating a contact list of people who could help with small home repairs and do light housekeeping

Amy Perez-Blaisdell, Resource Specialist for AIP and a social worker, can help with making referrals or filling out applications for such things as Medicare, Meals on Wheels, helping to apply for Maximus assessments to determine eligibility for in home services, and other needs seniors may have. She can be reached by texting her at 207-485-4778.

Ann Parker, yoga teacher at Maine General Medical Center, will be offering a 6 week free chair yoga class at the Mt Vernon Community Center starting Friday Oct 13 from 10-11am. This will be jointly sponsored by the Dr. Shaw Memorial Library and AIP.

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library sends out weekly emails listing events happening in the local area. To receive these emails contact: librarian@drshawlibrary.org.

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

