

# Vienna Record



Volume 26 Issue 6

December 2023/January 2024

## Selectmen's Minutes

October 3, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Danny Goucher, Beth Tre' hu

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #19 (\$92,028.16).
4. Danny Goucher brought the selectmen FEMA paperwork to sign in order for the town to receive money to assist in covering the damage from the spring rain.
5. Beth Tre' hu is the new Town Representative for The Thirty Mile Watershed Association.
6. Meeting adjourned.

October 10, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Mike Rogers

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectboard discussed the need to replace the Klir Beck Road. A sign has been ordered.
4. The stop sign at the end of the Cumner Road will need to be replaced and will be ordered.
5. The Town has received the PUC license to operate Vienna broadband.
6. Mike Rogers, from the State Valuation Office, worked on property assessments with the selectmen.
7. Meeting adjourned.

October 17, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Bob Weingarten, Theodor Marshall (KCEMA), Mark Ouellette (AXIOM), Jim Anderberg, Ed Lawless

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #20 (\$16,968.99).
4. Theodor Marshall updated the selectboard on the reimbursement and mitigation from the spring flooding. Theodor is working on getting the town funding to ditch the Mountain Road, Varney Road, along with culvert replacement on the Trask and Jesse Ladd Roads.
5. There was discussion with members of the Broadband Committee, Mark from Axiom, and the Selectboard about where we stand with regard to executing the contracts with both MCA and Axiom. Mark will provide us with additional information before we can sign either contract. Mark committed to providing us with the information within two weeks. Once that information is in hand, the Broadband Committee and Selectboard will prepare a printed update for residents. In addition, the Selectboard voted to give Laura Church permission to sign the contract on behalf of the Selectboard with Axiom and Maine Connectivity.
6. Meeting adjourned.

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## Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

### October 24, 2023

Present: Laura Church, Jeff Rackliff, Chris Smith, Mike Rogers

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Mike Rogers, from the State Valuation Office, worked on property assessments with the selectmen.
4. The selectmen discussed the town reevaluation and concerns.
5. Meeting adjourned.

### October 31, 2023

5th Tuesday of the month  
No Selectmen's Meeting

### November 7, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Jim Anderberg, Ed Lawless, Tim Davis, Maggie Davis

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #21 (\$114,871.04).
4. Winter Sand Bids are as follows: Day's Pit is \$6.50 per yard; Castonguay Pit is \$7.00 per yard; Steven's Pit is \$5.50 per yard. The Winter Sand Bids were awarded to Steven's Pit at the bid of \$5.50 per yard.
5. The Selectmen and the Broadband Committee discussed the offer from Axiom to cover the cost of the CMP and Consolidated Communication Ride Out Make Ready, as well as any fees associated. To be reimbursed as soon as Axiom receives the Performance Bond and the town has signed the Grant Contract with Maine Connectivity. The selectboard and Tyler, from the Maine Connectivity, will participate in a zoom meeting to review questions/concerns.
6. Meeting adjourned.

### November 14, 2023

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Tyler Collins, Tom Jewett, Jim Anderberg

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen met via Zoom Meeting with Tyler Collins from Maine Connectivity to review questions and concerns about the proposal from Axiom to cover the initial cost of Roll Out Make Ready.
4. The selectboard and the Broadband Committee discussed the zoom meeting held with Maine Connectivity.
5. The selectmen are waiting from the Town's attorney to provide a revised contract covering the proposal by Axiom.
6. Meeting adjourned.

### November 21, 2023

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

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #22 (\$93,438.93).
4. The Selectboard and Road commissioner went over the 2023 Road budget and the FEMA road reimbursement from the June storm damage.
5. Meeting adjourned.

### November 28, 2023

The selectboard meeting scheduled was canceled. The selectboard attended an informational grant meeting held at the Vienna Community Room at 7:00p.m.

## 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

## Planning Board Minutes

### September 27, 2023

On September 2 a quorum of the Board made site visits to the Vigneault and Seymour sites on Flying Pond, the Vigneault site being depicted on tax map 10 as lot 7-W; the Seymour site being depicted on map 11 as lot W- 16. At the Vigneault site the Board made Findings of fact and voted to approve a permit; Wally Seymour asked the Board to wait until he decides on specifics before it considers a permit.

On September 5 Waine advised an inquirer that a Notification of Construction permit is required for free-standing solar panels but not for rooftop installations.

The regular meeting convened at 7:00 PM at the Town House. Regular members present were Waine Whittier, Alan Williams, Creston Gaither, and Ed Lawless. Jonathan Spaulding was present and the Board informally discussed permitting requirements with him.

Chris Dornbach's email of September 20 concerning screening in a deck near Flying Pond was briefly discussed. It was agreed that no Board action is required unless an application is received.

Russ Mattson's email of today's date was briefly reviewed. It was agreed that no Board action is required unless an application is received.

Leah Tuite's email of September 6 was briefly reviewed; the Board will try to arrange a site visit to her Flying Pond parcel.

Wally Seymour's email of September 13 was reviewed; he'd like to proceed with same project he proposed in 2021, for which the permit has expired. He also would like to put an addition with a closet and half-bathroom on the northerly side of the existing house as per the sketch he presented during the above-mentioned site visit. Findings of Fact as required by the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance were made and it was voted 4 - 0 to issue permits for both proposals, conditional on stone being placed under the porch drip-edge.

Mark Rains appeared at 7:25; his proposal as per his sketch and email of Sept. 25 were discussed. He has a site evaluation and was told he will need a SSWD permit and that a Notification of Construction (NoC) permit will then suffice as the proposal is not within the Shoreland Zone.

Angela Bell's application for permits for a house and a dock on her Davis Pond parcel shown on tax map 6 as lot 82 was reviewed. The Board had visited the site on August 23; she holds SSWD permit #2022 - 14. Findings of Fact as required by the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance were made and it was voted 4 - 0 to issue a permit for the proposal.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50



Creston Gaither, secretary

## Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

“I stepped up to the big librarian and asked for a book on stars...It was in that library, reading that book, that the scale of the universe opened up to me.” Carl Sagan

Our usual reminder, at the start of winter. If there is difficult weather, we may very well not open, will or need to close early, to keep staff and volunteers and patrons safe. On bad weather days, please call the library during our usual hours before you venture out, to see if we are there. We do post on Facebook if we are closing, but not everyone has access to social media. Our hours are Monday 3-6, Wednesday 9-12 and 3-7, and Saturday 10-3.

We will hold an **Open House** here at the library on **Saturday, December 16, from 1-3PM**. Join us for snacks, conversation, browsing the book sale room, and touring the upstairs, where the new part of the building and the old building are now connected! It feels great to be able to access the booksale room now, from either end of the building. We even have some heat pumps upstairs so the entire floor feels comfortable!

Thanks to Ann Parker for leading our 6 week Chair Yoga class this fall. It was well-attended & much appreciated. Thanks also to the Eleanor Philbrick fund for making this possible. We hope to offer the classes again next year.

We also want to thank the Farmington Cooperative Extension office for offering a wonderful STEM program for kids, centered around renewable energy. Their creative intern Jordan was so interactive with our young learners, and she offered new activities each week, as well as a bit of outdoor playtime – a great combination! As always, parents and adults who accompanied the kids also made themselves available to help in many ways. **The last program will be on Wednesday, December 6 at 4pm.**

**Drop-In Tech Help is ongoing, 9-12 on Wednesday mornings.** This has proven to be so helpful for many people, and helps build the confidence of the people who are learning to negotiate a world dependent on online resources. If you need help, come in, bring your device, and ask Remi for some assistance!

Now that we are in the midst of winter weather and long evenings, remember that we loan various board games and jigsaw puzzles for some fun together-time in your household. Books, movies, games & puzzles – they are all great, cozy ways to help get us through the cold!

I am currently reading Amanda Peters’ novel, *The Berry Pickers*, about a Mi’kmaq family from Nova Scotia that arrives in Maine to pick berries. Their youngest child vanishes one day, and the ongoing story is told by her and her brother Joe, now long separated, and how they keep trying to put together what might have happened as they negotiate their adult lives. What are you reading as you simmer soup, knead bread, and maybe gather together with family or friends?

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

## 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 February/March issue of the *Vienna Record* by **January 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



Happy Holidays  
 from the  
 Vienna Fire  
 Department!

**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](mailto:viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net)

# SANTA



IS COMING TO

# VIENNA



MILLSTREAM GRANGE  
IS SPONSORING A  
CHILDREN'S PARTY  
AT THE GRANGE HALL

**Saturday, Dec. 16**

**1-3pm**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**



Come enjoy breakfast with us at

\* **The Community Café** \*

Mt. Vernon Community Center

2 Main St., Mount Vernon, ME

Saturday, January 6th, 9-11am

*Donations welcome*



## 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



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### Office of the Selectmen

Vienna Town House

P.O. Box 38

212 Townhouse Road

Vienna, ME 04360

