

Vienna Record



Volume 27 Issue 4

August/September 2024



The cast of "A Romance in Vienny," presented by the Vienna Historical Society at the Union Hall in July

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Selectmen's Minutes

June 4, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Adam Bliss, Sterlin Paul, Josh Markham, Beth Trehu, John Rodrigue.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #11 (\$18,683.40).
4. The selectboard set the 2024 Mill Rate at 0.0084 this is a drastic decrease from the 0.02005 Mill Rate of 2023 (the increase in the Town wide evaluation decreased the Mill Rate). The selectboard, treasurer, and tax collector had a lengthy and difficult conversation discussing different Mill Rate options. A few points of the conversation are the Kennebec County Tax was increased by

approximately 40% more than had been anticipated during the budgeting process. The projected budget for SAD 9 has increased more than projected (larger increase than in previous years). Two budget items were increased off the floor during the March Town Meeting. The 2024 budget had a projected 0% increase and the above three items have increased the 2024 budget. A lot of thought and hard work went into this conversation trying to keep taxes flat from last year as the new Town wide evaluations will go into effect this fiscal year. Unfortunately, the townspeople will see a small increase in taxes. Had the Town not done a reevaluation, the residents would still have seen an increase based on the above mentioned increases.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

5. The selectboard had a teams.microsoft meeting with an engineering firm and a grant writer to go over damages to the road and culverts during the two large storms that occurred over the last 12 months. The town is working on grants to help replace culverts and improve water crossing with hopes to prevent future storm issues.
6. The Animal Control Officer (ACO) let the selectboard know of an issue between two residents on Kimball Pond Road. One Resident keeps making complaints about the other residents' animals. The ACO informed the residents that there was not an animal issue.
7. Meeting adjourned.

June 11, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Mr. Manly, Stan Webster, Robert Weingarten.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Mr. Manly and Stan Webster both inquired about property tax.
4. Robert Weingarten reviewed his property taxes with the selectboard.
5. Meeting adjourned.

June 18, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Kerry Casey, 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 #12 (\$25,409.47).
4. The selectboard met with the Broadband Committee to discuss hiring a manager for the broadband project.
5. Meeting adjourned.

June 25, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Harold Grams, Laura Grams, Wayne Russell, Debbie Byrnes, Robert Weingarten.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.

3. The selectboard met with several residents and discussed concerns over their recent property assessments.
4. Meeting adjourned.

July 2, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Mike and Kelly Mason, Robert Thompson, Jeff Reerdon

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #13 (\$101,699.58).
4. The selectboard met with several residents and discussed concerns over their recent property assessments.
5. The selectboard talked with Jeff Reerdon about Tax maps and Dry Hydrants.
6. Meeting adjourned.

July 9, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Robert Weingarten, Robert Thompson, Mark and Laura Grams

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectboard met with several residents and discussed concerns over their recent property assessments.
4. The selectboard returned a phone call to Tim Kennedy to discuss his property on Kimball Pond.
5. Meeting adjourned.

July 16, 2024

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Kerry Casey, Ned and Kay Vaunwart, Ed Lawless, Tim Kennedy, Betty Kennedy.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #14 (\$17,891.24).
4. The selectboard discussed a culvert issue on Tower Road. The culvert is plugged by beaver and the water is over the culvert on the Whittier Pond side.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Reviewed and signed Broadband Warrant #2 (\$50,670.70). 6. The selectboard discussed the snow turn around on the Varney Road. 7. The selectboard discussed the Broadband Control building and what is needed. 8. Meeting adjourned. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting. 3. A request was made for information on the location of the nearest animal shelter. 4. The selectboard met with the Ridleys and discussed their concerns about their property evaluation. 5. Meeting adjourned. |
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May 28, 2024

Present: Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Edward Seamon, Jim Anderberg, Darren and Tanya Ridley

- 1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.

July 30, 2024

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

NEWS FROM THE 30 MILE RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



Annual Photo Contest

Do you enjoy taking photos on the lakes, ponds, and streams that make up the 30 Mile River Watershed?

Each year, 30 Mile hosts a photo contest, welcoming photos from across the Watershed. Entrants can submit photos fitting three categories: Lovable Loons, Spectacular Scenes, and Watershed Wildlife (includes fish too, but not loons). The 2024 photo contest is now open! Share your favorite photos with us by September 2, 2024! [Enter our photo contest today!](#)

To sign up for our monthly email newsletter to get all the latest updates, visit: 30mileriver.org.

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

Planning Board Minutes

May 22, 2024

At 6:10 PM Regular members Waine Whittier, Creston Gaither, Ed Lawless, and Tim Bickford met with Josh Chase on his Flying Pond Road site depicted on Tax Map 11 as Lot V-24 to discuss his proposal to construct a stairway to the pond.

At 7:00 PM said members met with Jon Fitch on his Town House Road property shown on tax map 2 as lot 13E to discuss his proposal to construct a bridge or culvert where a stream crosses the parcel.

These members arrived at the Town House for the Board's regular meeting at 7:30 PM, and were joined by Jon Fitch and regular member Alan Williams, and also by Steve Trehu. Minutes of the April 24 meeting were read and accepted.

The Jon Fitch site was discussed. He does not have a formal drawing of what he'd like to do; he was advised that the proposed crossing spot lies within the Stream Protection zone. He was advised that he will need a formal, engineered plan, and that he should discuss the project with D.E.P. The Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, Section 15C was briefly reviewed. It was agreed that Jon should present a design that shows that the proposed construction will be adequate to handle the stream's flow during a severe storm. It should be prepared by a qualified professional. Creston will send Jon an email outlining all this.

Josh Chase arrived at 7:35 PM. He submitted an informal sketch of the stairway he would like to build. He would also like to put a 4' x 8' gravel-filled platform adjacent to the stairs going toward his fire pit. It was generally agreed that the proposal would minimize erosion. No trees are to be removed.

Based on its observations on site and on Mr. Chase's site sketch and verbal representations, the Board made Findings of Fact Pursuant to Section 16.D. of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, and voted 5 - 0 to authorize Creston to issue a permit for the project.

Waine received an email inquiry about a spite fence; it was agreed that the Board has never issued a permit for a fence and that such a permit does not appear to be required.

Alan presented a copy of a letter Creston wrote on September 9, 2022 regarding the division of a lot on an old subdivision. The Board agreed to put a dated note on the letter stating that the current Board agrees that the letter is still valid.

Steve Trehu may become an alternate member. The Board's responsibilities were briefly outlined for him. Waine will ask the selectmen to appoint him.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Planning Board Minutes (continued)

June 26, 2024

The meeting convened at 7:00 PM. Regular members present were Waine Whittier, Creston Gaither, Alan Williams, and Ed Lawless. Also present initially were Town Clerk Annie Tibbetts, Selectman Laura Church, and Jennifer and Kacey Looney.

The Looneys would like to divide their Davis Road property, shown on tax map 6 as lot 43, into 3 lots; subdivision requirements were informally outlined.

Laura presented Certificates of Appointment to Waine, Creston, Alan, and Ed, appointing them to new 3-year terms on the Board. She will get certificates to Tim Bickford and Steve Trehu. Annie swore Waine, Creston, Alan, and Ed in to their new terms.

Minutes of the May 22 meeting were read and accepted.

Colin Clark of DEP's Shoreland Zoning division has emailed Waine about Section 12.E.3 of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, saying it should refer to March 7, 1992, but it appears that it does. He also says the Timber Harvesting requirements could be deleted as the State can administer these. Waine will ask him to clarify these matters and the Board can consider revisions.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Creston Gaither, secretary

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

“The truth is libraries are the raucous clubhouses for free speech, controversy, and community.”

Paula Poundstone

Our summer hours through August:

Mondays 2-6PM, Wednesday 9AM-1PM and 3-7PM, Saturdays 9AM-3PM

We will return to winter hours the first week of September

Our ongoing activities:

*Book Bingo continues till the end of December. You can come in and grab a bingo grid sheet and start reading books that will count towards each square. You can aim for a completed line or two, or for the entire grid – and then submit your name for a raffle at the end of the year, to win a gift card to a local business! We have stacks of sample books that can fit some of the categories, to help you get a good start!

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News

*Drop-In Tech Help with Remi. From 9AM till Noon each Wednesday morning, we offer drop-in Tech Help with our local tech guru, Remi. Bring your device and whatever questions you might have about the device, software, apps, social media, email or whatever else is puzzling you. Remi can help!

*Yarn Group Crafternoons. The local yarn group hosts bi-monthly crafternoons on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, from 1 - 3PM at the library. They can help you figure out a pattern, learn a new skill, and there is always some good conversation! Check our Facebook page to see when they will be meeting, once in a while, they can't make it happen due to other responsibilities. A good group to hang out with!

*We have Games and puzzles galore. You can check out board games (Cribbage, Yahtzee, and many more) and jigsaw puzzles, both for adults and for children. And besides these, we do have some kitchen/baking items which can be helpful when you have a special cake or other treats to make for your household!

Upcoming Programs:

*Author Talk by Emily Leonard, who wrote *Happy Hiking*, the story of her trek along the Appalachian Trail and her love for, and knowledge of, that trail. Emily will be here at the library at **4PM on Sunday, August 4 (coming right up!)**. Join us! The author talks we've hosted this summer have been made possible due to the support of the Eleanor Philbrick Trust for the Arts, we are grateful to have this resource.

*Tech Terminology class. Come to Remi's latest class on **Tuesday, August 6th from 4-5:30PM here at the library**. She will talk about what various tech words mean (like iMessage vs text message, resolution, web browser, etc). You will learn tech-based terms which will help expand your understanding of all things tech. You do not need to bring any devices or other materials with you. Registration is not required, but it is helpful if you call (293-2565) or email (librarian@drshawlibrary.org) the library so we can have an estimate of participants. People with all levels of tech knowledge are welcome, and there will be time for questions.

*Author Book Signing: Beverly Smith's new book of local history stories, *Strolling Down Memory Lane: stories of the Mt. Vernon-Vienna area* is hot off the press! Beverly **will be at the library on Saturday, August 10th from 10AM till Noon**, with copies of her book for folks to buy, and she will sign them for us all. Come in and chat with this wonderful town historian and get her new book! Lots of good stories to read!

*Summer Reading Program. The weekly summer reading programs end on Wednesday, July 31st. We encourage our young readers to meet their summer reading goals & then claim their prize during the last week of August! We've had great fun with our young patrons & their parents throughout this past month! Adventure does often begin at the library!

I have been reading Matt Cost's historical fiction, *At Every Hazard: Joshua Chamberlain and the Civil War*. What are you reading in between pulling garlic, picking berries, and stacking firewood?

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

Community News

Fire Department News

Vienna Fire Department, Inc. meets every Thursday at 6:30PM.

Thank you for all your support at our annual chicken bbq!

We love this community.

Keep your eyes out for information about a fall

50th anniversary celebration!



The Vienna Woods Players invites community folks to join us for an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 11th, at 2 PM in the Community Center in Vienna.

We invite you to come out and learn more about our theatre group - and possibly join us in our annual summer performances.

For more information, contact Tim Davis vienna.woods.players@gmail.com.

Editor's Notes

Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the October/November issue of the *Vienna Record* by **September 25, 2024**.

Submit all items via email as a word document (.doc) or as a .jpg. viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net

North Vienna United Methodist Church is hosting a fundraising

BREAKFAST & BAKE/CRAFT SALE



Saturday, August 10th
9:00 to 11:00 AM
Mt. Vernon
Community Center
2 Main St, Mt. Vernon

The North Vienna United Methodist Church will be hosting the Saturday morning breakfast at the Mount Vernon Community Center, but with a twist. In addition to delicious homemade breakfast foods all available for a donation, we will have craft items made by the church members as well as baked goods available for purchase to take home. All proceeds will go to support church activities. Don't miss this event!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: DEBBIE ROE AT 293-4229

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



Coming soon to Vienna!

Reliable Internet at the speed of light

Sign up now to take advantage of FREE* installation! Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to elevate your online experience.

* \$99 deposit applicable to your first 3 months bills

Construction for Fiber to the Home will begin this fall! This upgrade will bring reliable, high-speed internet directly to your doorstep, enhancing connectivity for our community.

Call Axiom at 207-255-0679 to sign up for service.

Secure your free install today!

Visit viennamaine.org/Broadband_committee for more details

Monthly Rates**

100Mbps/100Mbps \$59.99 per month

250Mbps/250Mbps \$64.99 per month

500Mbps/500Mbps \$109.99 per month

Seasonal Rates*

100Mbps/100Mbps \$611.99 per year

250Mbps/250Mbps \$662.99 per year

500Mbps/500Mbps \$1,121.99 per year

*Seasonal rates are paid in full annually and reflect a 15% discount off the regular rate. Seasonal rates may be applied to accounts that are active for six months of the year or less.

** A typical DSL(phone line) speed in Vienna is 10Mbps/1Mbps

MT VERNON COMMUNITY
CENTER

SUMMER CELEBRATION
COMMUNITY DINNER

Mount Vernon Community Center

SATURDAY, AUG. 3RD



5:30 - 7:00 PM



\$10/person

\$25/family
(3 or more)



Please come join us for
a delicious dinner celebrating
Summer in Maine. All proceeds
benefit the Mount Vernon Community
Center Building and Operations fund.

Vienna/Mount Vernon Community
Antique Fair and Flea Market



Saturday, August 24, 8 am to 2 pm

At the Vienna Historical Society Grounds

Hwy 41 in Vienna

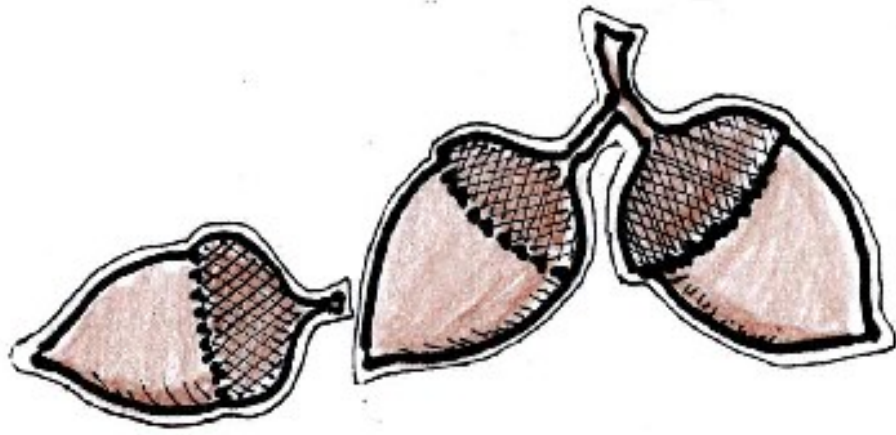
Antiques, Collectibles and Junque
Lots of Treasures – Lots of Parking

**Book signing for new book,
“Strolling Down Memory Lane”**

FOOD

FREE SPACE FOR SELLERS!!!

CFMI 293-4815



Come enjoy breakfast with us at
The Community Café

Mt. Vernon Community Center

2 Main St., Mount Vernon, ME

Saturday, September 7th, 9-11am

*Donations to help maintain and operate the
Community Center are 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



Office of the Selectmen

Vienna Town House

P.O. Box 38

212 Townhouse Road

Vienna, ME 04360

