Town of Mount Vernon
Select Board Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2017
The next meeting will be held on August 7, 2017

Present: Paul Crockett, Clyde Dyar, Patricia Jackson, Marti Gross, Mark Gilbert, Ron Lockwood, Amanda Couture

6:30pm Signed Warrant
7:00pm Open Regular Selectmen’s Meeting- Crockett called meeting to order.
7:00pm Open TV Broadcast.
7:01pm Approve minutes. Dyar motioned to approve minutes of the 07/10/17 meeting as amended. Jackson seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.

7:02pm Food Sovereignty Law. -Barbara Skapa, Echo Ridge Cheese- Skapa brought information regarding the new law to the Select Board. Skapa stated that this is a movement to bring food back to the people and allow them to sell food and food products to their neighbors. The law states it is an act to recognize local control regarding food and water systems. The law puts the Town, instead of the State, in charge of regulating their local food production. Skapa suggested the Town enact an ordinance. Dyar suggested the chairman contact the Ordinance Review Committee to start reviewing this law to decide if Mount Vernon is in need of an ordinance.

7:01pm New photos for website, etc. Crockett took photos for the new website.

7:10pm Road Committee Update. Dunn stated grading around the entire town has been completed and gravel was added to almost every road. They also did a lift on Rat Mill Hill Road and cut a lot of brush in the process of doing that.

Crockett asked Dunn for his suggestions on what should be done to improve the Fogg Rd. Dunn stated the road has not had anything significant done for a long time and there is no longer a base under it; it needs to be regraded. Dunn received a $6,500 quote for the grinding if the town takes care of the regrading and rolling.

Dunn has a 6’ culvert to install on the Bean Road and 90’ of culvert is needed on the other end of the Bean Road near Locks Corner. There are two side by side 4’ culverts there.

Dunn stated Ithiel Gordon Rd. is only passable on the left end side going in from Vienna end because the trees have leaned out so far over the road. That needs attention. Dunn looked into a citizen’s inquiry regarding the width of the Town right of way on Ithiel Gordon Rd. Dunn found out the town has a three rod right of way on all roads.

Dunn gave the Board the specs needed to send out bid requests to shim and overlay the Church Rd.

There is about 600’-800’ of Desert Pond Rd. that needs to be finished.

Dyar asked about the bridge on Cottle Hill Rd. Dunn checked into it and found out the state is responsible for the bridge.
7:25pm **Rescue Director Update.** Pat Rawson and Amanda Mills are present to give the Board an update on the Rescue program. Since the beginning of June, Rescue has received 24 calls, which is above average. Currently their membership is at 12, which Rawson stated is a decent number, but they are still always looking for new people. They would especially like to recruit individuals who are available during the day. They also began a Junior program. They have two people working with the ambulance services, which is a great benefit for Mount Vernon. Rawson stated every two years they will alternate offering an EMT class or First Responder class. Rawson added that Rescue is always looking for new members and if you would like to join and are not trained Rescue will assist with training. The training costs are reimbursed 50% if the individual stays with Rescue for six months.

Rescue has been invited to Travis Mill’s retreat twice to get a lay of the land. Fire and Rescue have set up a mutual aid agreement with Rome because part of the estate is in Rome and part of it is in Mount Vernon. Jackson asked if they have their own medical staff. Rawson stated they have a physical therapist, but no emergency medical staff.

7:35pm **Boat Launch Update.** Dyar is working on this topic

7:37pm **Other business.**

-Crockett asked Fred Webber where they are with the Dr. Shaw Library renovation. Dyar spoke with Webber today and the next step is the library going to the Fire Marshal’s office and the ADA to make sure they are within specs before going out to bid.

-Water Extraction Ordinance. Jackson suggested it may be a good idea to protect the Town. Dyar suggested having Herman come into the next meeting to discuss it with the Board. There was also a discussion about a Fireworks Ordinance and who would enforce it if one was passed.

Website. Dyar would like Bearnstow to remain on the website in a prominent place because they put on many events for the community. Bearnstow will be moved back to the front page and the Kennebec journal will be removed from the front page. The tax assessor info needs to be changed to RJD Appraisals. The Board will look into how they want to format the minutes on the website. There was discussion about posting instructions on how to register dogs online. Adding election info and results on the town website was also an idea discussed by the Board.

Crockett will find out if the Playground Committee is defunct or not and if they still have funding. If there is money it could possibly be spent on playground updates.

Need to get a nameplate for Trish Jackson.

Bids for Community Center roof repair.

Crockett motioned to authorize Dyar to pursue the DEP permit by rule for the boat launch. Jackson seconded. Vote 2 in favor, Dyar abstained.

7:57pm **Adjourn.** Crockett motioned to adjourn. Jackson seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor.