**Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes**

**May 9, 2022**

**6:30 PM** Meeting called to order by Selectboard Chairman, John Quinlan, Jr. Also in attendance were Selectmen Howard Brown and John Esposito and minute taker, Laurie Brown.

Quinlan led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

Allan Treadwell and Chris Emerson of Twin Bridge Services came in to explain their proposal that the Town change email platforms to Microsoft. This move would be to correct the problem of our .us addresses being unsecurable, “black listed” and emails being sent to spam, or never reaching the intended recipient. What is proposed is to migrate all emails to the .us addresses, and move them to the Microsoft platform. This will cost $3,500 to set up a message that directs all senders to use the new address, migrate all currently stored emails to the new platform, and get the Microsoft platform installed on everyone’s devices. Each person will have an email address of: first initial and last name @montvernonnh.us. Those users that need the office suite will be upgraded to Office 365. The cost will be $6/user/month for email only, and $12.50/user/month for email and Office 365.

H. Brown asked if the old email account will be able to go to the new address.

Treadwell said that they will install an auto responder that says that the new email for Howard Brown is: [hbrown@montvernonnh.us](mailto:hbrown@montvernonnh.us) and that old address will be closed in 30 days.

Emerson said that everyone’s work emails will be .us addresses.

H. Brown asked if they knew how many emails will have to be changed.

Emerson said that there are already 30 emails on .us, and then there are some still on Comcast, Gmail, etc. All the office staff will get the Office 365; everyone else will get just email.

Treadwell said that everyone should be on the same bus. Office 365 is updated continuously; anyone having an old Microsoft Office Suite will have that uninstalled. Anything older than 5 years is obsolete – that includes hardware and software.

Esposito said that his email is on Comcast, and asked what he will have to do.

Emerson said that he will get a new .us address, and he will work with Esposito to make sure he can access it from his phone and home computer.

Quinlan said that we have to do this to secure our email and make sure all of our emails are getting through. He asked how long it would take to get us going and was told 45 – 60 days.

Treadwell said that they need a list of everyone that needs an email with contact information.

H. Brown motioned, seconded by Esposito to contract with Twin Bridge Services to upgrade the Town of Mont Vernon’s email platform to Microsoft. All in favor.

**7:05 PM** Chief Mark Slavin introduced new part-time officer Michael Wolinski. Town Clerk, Belinda Yeaton swore him in. The Board welcomed him aboard.

Lou Springer, Chairman of the Cemetery Trustees, came before the Board to ask that the Board divide up the money received from the timber cut on Map 4, Lot 45 (Cemetery and Library lot) by using the percentages of the actual acreage of the cut. Board agreed. Of the $22,917.76, $4982.12 will go to the Trustees of Trust Funds - Library Trust Fund, and $17,935.64 to the Trustees of Trust Funds for - Cemetery Trust Fund.

Quinlan asked if the loggers would be coming back to clean up the cut.

Springer said that they would not be cleaning anything up: that is the way forestry manages things now.

Sean Mamone explained that it is done that way now to allow for small growth and animal habitat.

**7:15 PM Department Head Meeting**

**Fire Chief Jay Wilson – Fire Department**

* Hose testing will be conducted in May and June

**Fire Chief Jay Wilson – MACC**

* The 2018 IMA has wording to allow MACC to borrow money. Milford has stated that they are for that as long as everything is split evenly 3 ways. They said that they would stay for the next 20 years if that was the case.
* Wilson feels that the Towns need to stay until the end of the IMA, with a 10-year minimum.
* I also feel that the weighted votes need to be removed. If Milford has 2 votes, they need to have 2 reps.
* We are not using Milford’s EMS, nor do we have a 24-hour police force.

Quinlan said that we seem to be at the same point that we were at years ago. Nothing has changed in Milford. We would be better off going with another communication center.

Esposito agreed. He said that this has been going on since the ice storm. We don’t cost as much as the percentage that we are paying. Let Milford pay 100% - let’s cut our ties and get out of this.

Wilson said that it will take 2 years to do that; our IMA expires this December – we should sign another 3-year extension and then move on.

Slavin asked if it was going to cost a lot to move.

Wilson said that the larges cost will be to reprogram all of the PD’s radios.

Esposito asked if we could put a transmitter on the tower on Cross Road.

Wilson said yes, for $30 - $40K.

Quinlan said that the Board’s consensus is to sign another 3-year agreement, then move on.

Slavin said that he would prefer going with Amherst since Goffstown doesn’t hear us now.

Esposito said that Amherst has said that they would have to hire another dispatcher.

Wilson said that we may not have to pay for the full cost since they are talking about needing more staff anyway

Slavin asked why we are including Wilton in our plans. He said that Wilton is trying to triple our prosecutor agreement as we speak. He feels that we don’t have the best relationship with them at this time.

**Bonnie Angulas – Library Director**

* Annie Kuster, serving as the [U.S. representative](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_House_of_Representatives) for [New Hampshire's 2nd congressional district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Hampshire%27s_2nd_congressional_district) since 2013, visited the library with the NH State Librarian to review the plans for a new library for Mont Vernon on April 20.
* Kuster was asked about Mont Vernon possibly getting some of the Infrastructure Bill money coming to NH to build the access road to the proposed library, and she said that it was very possible. The formal request must be sent in in February, 2023 and the money would come sometime in 2023.
* 62 kids attended the Wizarding Camp over school vacation with JoAnn Kitchel. I want to thank the janitors and the SAU food service for their work that week.
* We have put the tent back up in the rear of the library property
* The Capitol Campaign is kicking off this week with an event unveiling a thermometer of progress donated by Jill Weber.
* The plant sale and junque jewels sale will again be held on Spring Gala Day – May 21st.
* The 2022 Summer Reading programs begins on June 4th. This year’s theme is “An Ocean of Possibilities”

**Heather Kennedy – Recreation Director**

* Announced that Laurie Brown has been selected as this year’s Spring Gala Parade Grand Marshall.
* Gala is coming together nicely

There will be a Fun Run and the 5K race, but no 10K race this year. Any profit will be donated to N2N.

**Chief Mark Slavin – Police Department**

* The Parade Permit is all set
* Have applied for, and probably will get a $3400 grant for distracted driving patrols in 2023.
* The Records Room is almost finished
* Drug Take Back Day went well. The box is always available, but the DEA runs two Take Back Days annually.
* Corporal O’Keefe and Sgt. Daigneault participated in Read Across America at MVVS

**Ben Crosby – DPW Director**

* New employee, Mark Chase, started May 2nd and is working out well
* The backhoe will be down for 2 weeks. There is a crack in the axel housing, and we are waiting for parts. The cost of the repair will be around $6,000 and will overrun that budget line. It is only 6 years old, but was purchased with a short warrantee. He suggested buying a longer warrantee on equipment from now on.
* The Trustees of Trust Funds have agreed to pay $1,950 to re-do the two signs at the McCollom Building and the Town Hall that are severely deteriorated.
* Going to ride the roads with J. Quinlan on Wednesday in order to get a priority for the summer’s paving
* NH Fish and Game has ok’d June 5th for the Fishing Derby

Quinlan told Crosby that the Purgatory Falls Fish and Game Club would be donating $500 to the Derby.

Angulas wanted to give a shout out to Jessica Pomeroy and the Garden and Beautification Committee. They did all the mulching around Town this weekend. It looks beautiful, and they moved a ton of plants and mulch.

Crosby said that Pomeroy asked about having a lawn service come around and do an application at the beginning of the season.

**7:55 PM End of Department Head Meeting**

Quinlan asked H. Brown if he had the cost of streaming the meetings for the grant application.

H. Brown asked if the Board had agreed to the Owl Lab set up and 1 computer. Board agreed. H. Brown said that he would get the cost ASAP.

Esposito said that the Board may have to re-evaluate the road projects proposed for this year. We have $228K in Block Grant money available, plus $100K in the Tarring and Sealing budget line. The culvert on Brook Rd will cost approximately $405K, and we are only getting $276K in ARPA money. We will need to use $140K of the Block Grant money for the culvert.

H. Brown said that the Brook Rd culvert has been hanging over our head for a long time; we need to get that done.

Quinlan agreed that the culvert should be our 1st priority this year.

Esposito attended the SRLD meeting on Thursday night. The compactor is still coming to Mont Vernon. Our compactor goes out 3/4th full on Monday. Having a new compactor will save us a load every couple of months.

H. Brown said that he was at the Transfer Station on Saturday and there was some frustration over recycling. He suggested hiring some High School kids for the summer to help out.

Esposito believes that the only confusion is around recycling plastic. The only thing we can take right now is opaque milk jugs. There are signs at each container, and people ignore them and put all kinds of things in there. That causes a “contaminated load” and it must all go into the trash to be incinerated.

H. Brown said that the staff is complaining that certain people always show up 2 or 3 minutes before closing. It is the same people every week; can we speak with these people?

Esposito said that our guys do a great job, and if they need to stay a bit longer – we pay for their time. It shouldn’t be a problem.

Quinlan spoke about setting up a meeting with our Town Attorney before the next public meeting to discuss moving forward on Zoning and Junkyard violations. Board agreed.

Esposito said that he drove by the Salisbury Road address that there was a complaint about last week. It is an eyesore – we need to institute a Junkyard Ordinance. We should have a Warrant Article ready for next Town Meeting.

Board reviewed minutes: Esposito motioned, seconded by H. Brown to accept the minutes of April 25,2022 as amended. All in favor. Esposito motioned, seconded by H. Brown to accept the minutes of May 2, 2022 as written. All in favor.

Esposito told the Board that he has had a request for the placement of a memorial bench on the Town Green.

Quinlan said that he has no problem with that, and that they should submit the what and where to the Board.

H. Brown agreed.

L. Brown asked Quinlan to sign the application presented by Becci Schwarcz for Mont Vernon to become a “Certified Local Government”. It was signed.

L. Brown presented the proposals for the Town Hall windows. The company needs a down payment of $8,100 in order to secure our project on their calendar for the spring of 2023. H. Brown motioned, seconded by Esposito to draw a check for $8,100 to Olde Window Restorers for the down payment on storm windows for the Town Hall. Project scheduled for the spring of 2023.

**8:30 PM** As there was no further business before the Board, H, Brown motioned, seconded by Esposito to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Brown