

**TOWN OF FERRISBURGH  
SELECTBOARD MINUTES  
June 4, 2013**

Members present: Loretta Lawrence-chair, Jim Warden, Jim Benoit and Sally Torrey

Others present: Carl Cole, Ricky Charlebois, Bob McNary, Andy Husk, Wadi Sawabini, John Bull, Pam Cousino, John Medenwald and Bessie Sessions.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

**Public Comment**

Wadi Sawabini tells the Board that a Memorial Day bike tour heading east near his house on Plank Road met with a vehicle coming west. The bike riders were traveling two and three abreast close to the middle of the road. The road is narrow and the meeting was very close and could be dangerous. He feels that vehicles travel too fast would like to know the speed limit and to have another speed limit sign and to have more enforcement. John Bull, road foreman, tells Wadi that that portion of Plank Road is Waltham's portion and he needs to speak with the Waltham Selectboard. Wadi replies that he has seen the Waltham Selectboard and hasn't gotten any results. Jim Warden will see a Waltham Board member and discuss the problem and let Wadi know the results. Bob McNary, TAC member on ACRPC, states that he asked for a meeting with AOT about these problems and they haven't been able to help either. The Board thanks Wadi.

Carl Cole reports that the Green Mountain Bike Club has weekly bike rides on Little Chicago Road onto Hawkins Road and Sand Road and they ride all over the road in groups are very careless.

Carl states the Union Meeting Hall RFP hasn't gone very far due to a shortage of money this year. Could this year's money be moved into next year? The Board will ask about the carryover of money. He assumed the Board has discussed the UMH questionnaire handed out at Town Meeting. The Board replies they want to rewrite the questionnaire and sent it out again. Carl asks if they will continue to rewrite the questionnaire until they get the answer they want. The tower does need attention.

Carl has given thought about how to market the Rt 7 and 22A land as one package. He feels that breaking 7&22A into some separate parcels would probably net the Town more money. The current pricing assumes the undevelopable/conserved portions really don't give added value. His research indicates those areas actually do have a potentially fairly high value. He suggests the Board meet with the realtor to discuss options.

Jim Warden says Clark Hinsdale has offered a trade of his land next to the school for a portion of the 7&22A land if the Board is interested.

Bob McNary reports that the windows haven't been installed in the train station.

Pam Cousino, asst. clerk and treasurer, has concerns about the new employee benefits and will send a letter to the Board.

Bob McNary asks why with only 7 employees the Board needs to have so many personnel executive sessions.

John Bull asks about the Mike Magoon survey of the town shed land. He wonders when Mike is going to set the pins. At John's last meeting with Mike he said he would have it done in 5 days. The Board will call Mike and tell him the pins have to be in place by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mary Hurley, who has a camp on Arnold Bay Road, has sent an email to the Board about the road by the camp. John and the Board have met with her to discuss the problem. John has done what was promised at the meeting. The Board and John feel she is asking for too much for a country dirt road.

Jim Warden noticed that Pam has replanted the flower beds at the municipal building. He appreciates what she does and wonders if a local group could do this for the Town.

Alice Bachman, the interested potential minute taker, might not be able to attend the meetings this month.

Sally Torrey moves to approve the catering permit for BEVO at Kingsland Bay for a wedding reception on June 8; second by Jim Benoit. So voted.

#### Ethics Policy

Sally Torrey has suggestions. Jim Warden will try to get a digital version of the policy to be able to make changes.

Sally Torrey moves to approve the minutes of May 21<sup>st</sup> with the following changes; in the Alice Bachman sentence change "look at the old minutes" to "attend Planning and Zoning meetings" and to the window washing paragraph change "get a price" to "get a phone number" second by Jim Warden. So voted.

#### Warrants

The Charlebois bill has been corrected. The Parker bill is discussed. John Bull emailed the Selectboard with the results of the construction project on Little Chicago Road. The project was completed in less time than anticipated due to the perfect weather. This resulted in a time credit for the rented excavator and bulldozer which John explained in the email. The excavator was rented for a month and the job was completed in less time which gave the town the 7 day credit. Jim Benoit was concerned that the credit was not documented and with all the fraud going on it should be. John explained that over the years he has worked with Parker and has built a level of trust that didn't require documentation due to his past experience. John knew that it was cheaper to rent for the month rather than daily and even if the town didn't get the use of the machine it was still cheaper. John received an email from Loretta that stated "The board believes that we should only pay Parker Excavating for the actual cost. The town should not be paying for advance credit." Based on this John had Parker change the cost of the excavator and bulldozer from the original monthly price of \$8,700 to the daily price of \$9,465. This eliminated any undocumented credit.

Jim Warden thinks that the communication between the Board and Road Foreman is very poor; that email is a poor way to communicate. Bob McNary feels this is across the board and perhaps the meetings should be videotaped to provide more clarity.

Jim Warden moves to approve the warrant with the Parker bill amended to go back to the original \$8,700 fee with the credit: second by Sally Torrey. So voted.

### Other Business

Andy Husk is present to let the Board know that he is interested in being on the Zoning Board. He is a lifetime resident of the Town and would like to serve in some way. John Medenwald from the Conservation Commission is present and asks if he would like to join the Conservation Commission. Andy is interested.

John Medenwald is concerned that when the Power Company removed the trees near the Collins Cemetery that a headstone was damaged and the chips from the stump removal were not removed. The Board is aware of the problem and is working on it.

Sally made the motion to enter executive session at 8:05 to discuss personnel. Jim W. seconded, all in favor.

Jim B. made the motion to leave executive session at 8:10. Jim W. seconded, all in favor.

Action taken: The Selectboard realizes communication improvement is needed between the Town Selectboard and the Town Road Foreman. Selectboard members Jim Benoit and Jim Warden will be a liaison between the Selectboard and the Road Foreman for improved communications and will schedule regular meetings between the Road Foreman, Jim B and Jim W.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chet Hawkins  
Clerk