

Town of Ferrisburgh

Selectboard Minutes

July 7, 2015

Members present: Steve Gutowski, Loretta Lawrence, Michael Muir, Jim Warden

Absent: Jim Benoit

Town officials present: Gloria Warden, Town Clerk

Visitors present: Bessie Sessions, Monica Tupper, Bill Sullivan, Charles Piasecki, Wayne Stearns, Robert Peisch, Phillip Fay, Mary Kerr, Pam Kampner, Ron Kampner and Rayne Herzog, and Bob McNary.

1. 6:30 pm, Regular meeting – call to order

Steve Gutowski, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The chair asked that the agenda be amended under “9)Selectboard to approve or sign”. Jim Warden made the motion to change 9.a to Memorial Bike Ride and to add 9.b selectboard warrant. Motion was seconded by Michael Muir. Motion passes 4-0.

2. Approve minutes – June 16, 2015

Michael Muir made the motion to approve the June 16, 2015 regular board minutes, as presented. Loretta Lawrence seconded. Motion passes 4-0.

3. New Business -

(a) Mary Kerr – delinquent property tax payment appeal. Mary Kerr came before the board and stated that she was late in paying her taxes and was asking that her delinquent tax penalty be waived. She also had submitted a letter. Discussion ensued. Steve Gutowski stated that after researching the matter, this issue should not come before the select board since it was between the Delinquent Tax Collector and Mrs. Kerr. He stated that this is not a selectboard matter. Loretta Lawrence stated that this issue was not within the jurisdiction of the select board and that the delinquent tax collector, an elected official, has state statues to go by and that the select board cannot interfere. Loretta Lawrence stated that yes, she is new, but is also following all the guidelines presented to her.

(b) Scott Jacobs – delinquent property tax policies – Mr. Jacobs was not present. He did submit a letter stating that he was late in paying his taxes and was asking that the Board establish a 10 or 14 day grace period for property tax payments. The board reaffirmed its position as stated in **3(a)**. This is not a selectboard matter.

4. Selectboard Old Business –

(a) Bob Beach – corn cannon – Bob Beach was unable to attend and asked the Board Chair to remove him from the agenda.

(b) Personnel Policy – tabled until July 21, 2015 board meeting.

5. Selectboard General Business –

(a) 2016 Municipal Park-and-Ride Grant Program information – The Board Chair asked board members take the time to read through packet for more details.

(b) FY 16 Municipal Planning Grant application information – The Board Chair asked board members to take the time to read through the entire packet.

6. Public Comment –

Bessie Sessions asked the board if the new Highway Facility is occupied yet. Jim Warden stated the move has not happened yet. He stated that he had been down to visit the new facility the day before and they were still operating out of the old building.

Gloria Warden had been asked by Dick Laberge to approach the select board about the possibility of putting up “no fishing on the bridge” signs in West Ferrisburgh, near the bridge near River’s Edge. The consensus of the board was not to put up “no fishing on the bridge” signs. There could be other ways of making the bridge a safer area for everyone. Steve Gutowski was going to look into possible types of signage and also contact the Fish and Wildlife Dept.

Bob McNary presented the board with a traffic count study, that was taken at the Town Offices in June and on the budget re-vote day of June 9, 2015. The select board did not request this study. Mr. McNary initiated this free traffic count study, on his own, through the Addison County Regional Planning Commission. The board thanks Bob for sharing the information.

Phillip Fay, representative of Encore Redevelopment, came to the meeting to introduce himself. He was speaking on behalf of HVT Solar – located at 855 US Route 7, in Ferrisburgh. Mr. Fay asked the board if they wanted him to continue to keep the board informed on a regular basis. The board stated yes. They would welcome his willingness to keep the Town, including both the selectboard and planning commission, informed about the solar project on Route 7 and thanked him for coming to the meeting.

7. Other Business –

Steve Gutowski stated that the Town has received a check for approximately \$12,000 from Efficiency Vermont. This comes from efficiency lighting incentives used in the new Highway Facility. He requested that the board earmark this money to go towards the demolition costs of the old town garage. The board agrees with Steve’s request.

Michael (Red) Muir stated that he and Loretta Lawrence will be meeting with the Ferrisburgh School board in mid-August to continue discussions in regarding the transferring of school land, to the Town, before possible unification comes down the road.

The board discussed reducing the speed limit at Long Point. This was a follow up to the June 16th board meeting. Jim Warden and Michael (Red) Muir did a site visit to the area. Both of them felt that signage would be a better alternative, at this point in time, instead of doing a traffic study. The board agreed that to hold off on the traffic study.

Michael (Red) Muir made a motion to install 2 (two) 15 mph signs ahead of and through the curvy, hilly section of the Long Point area. Jim Warden will meet with John Bull, Road Foreman, and work together on the placement of signs. Motion seconded by Loretta Lawrence. Motion passes 4-0

8. Correspondence -

The board received information in regard to State Government Municipal Day on September 9, 2015.

The board received a letter from Clark Hinsdale, III stating his concerns on the impact of proposed changes of Zoning Map.

The board received a copy of letter from SunCommon to the PSB – response regarding CPG – Harris array, Greenbush Road.

The board received a letter from Marcia Mazeine in regard to the propane cannon noise.

The board received a letter from Christine Turner in regard to the propane cannon noise.

The board received a copy of Encore Petition for CPG to PSB for HV2005, 855 US Route 7.

The board received a copy of HVT Solar permit application to construct 18' access drive for solar farm on US 7.

9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign –

(a) Memorial Bike Ride on Greenbush Road – Rayne Herzog spoke on behalf of a memorial bike ride which was being organized for a Charlotte resident. The event will take place on Friday, July 10th, at 5:30 pm. Mr. Herzog provided a map and details of the organized bike ride. Riders will be coming down Greenbush Road, from Charlotte, then proceed another two miles into Ferrisburgh, then head back to Charlotte. Mr. Herzog stated that he has arranged for traffic control. Jim Warden made the motion to approve the bike ride. Loretta Lawrence seconded. Motion passes 4-0.

(b) Selectboard warrant –

Michael (Red) Muir made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenses, for a total of \$183,477.02 with the condition that Apex Software be correctly coded to the Listers Budget, not to office equipment. Motion seconded by Loretta Lawrence. Motion passes 4-0.

10. Adjourn –

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Lawrence, Board Clerk