

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
June 7, 2016**

Members present: Jim Benoit, Steve Gutowski, Loretta Lawrence, Michael “Red” Muir, Jim Warden.

Town officials present: Gloria Warden, town clerk.

Visitors present: Karen Brooks, Glenn Deruchie, Craig Heindel, Bob Jenkins, Bob McNary, Joe Rossignoli, Bessie Sessions.

1. 6:30 p.m. Regular meeting — call to order.

Loretta Lawrence, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

2. Approve minutes — May 17, 2016.

Red Muir made a motion to approve the minutes of May 17, 2016, as presented. Jim Warden seconded. Steve Gutowski, Loretta Lawrence, Red Muir, and Jim Warden voted in favor. Jim Benoit abstained. MOTION PASSED.

3. Selectboard new business

(a) Glenn Deruchie — Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) fundraising bike ride — July 9, 2016. Glenn attended the meeting to request permission to use town roads for this year’s ride on July 9. The 100-mile route that takes riders from Middlebury to Burlington and back passes through Ferrisburgh in both directions, and a rest stop will be set up at the Ferrisburgh Central School. Discussion ensued regarding the logistics of the ride. Concerned about rider safety, Jim Warden asked how is it determined that all riders have finished. Glenn replied that he is responsible for sweeping the course to be certain that no riders are left out on the course without support. Slow riders are turned back at Vergennes, if it is determined that they will not be able to finish the ride within the allotted time. Jim Benoit made a motion to allow JDRF to use town roads for the ride on July 9, 2016. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

4. Selectboard old business

(a) Request from John Bull for a meeting regarding the Personnel Policy. The meeting will be on June 13, 2016, at the town garage at 4:00 p.m.

(b) Open Burning and Incineration Civil Ordinance. The adoption history of the ordinance was reviewed. The vote on the ordinance on May 3, 2016 was a unanimous vote of the board. Loretta Lawrence noted that the signatures of Steve Gutowski and Jim Benoit do not align on the signature lines due to an oversight.

5. Selectboard general business

(a) Vermont Green Line (VGL) Committee update. Craig Heindel, a member of the town’s VGL Committee, reported on the progress since the last selectboard meeting. Confidential negotiations on the host town agreement are continuing. John Bull issued right-of-way permits for the geotechnical borings, which require at least a seven-day notice to the town. The project will start no earlier than June 16, 2016.

Craig submitted an invoice approved by the VGL Committee to the selectboard. After discussion, Red Muir made a motion to approve payment of the invoice from Civil Engineering Associates, in the amount of \$4,112.52 from the VGL escrow account. Jim Benoit seconded. Jim Benoit, Loretta Lawrence, Red Muir, and Jim Warden voted in favor. Steve Gutowski abstained. MOTION PASSED.

In addition to taxes, the town's VGL Committee will be asking for a supplemental payment; these two payments will be additive with a cap. The dollar value is still being negotiated. In addition, there will be a one-time capital payment for a project or projects. Representing the fire department, Bob Jenkins suggested funds be used for a new roof, when needed, on the 22-year-old firehouse and/or a possible addition at a future date.

(b) Appoint minute taker for the planning commission. Karen Brooks of Ferrisburgh wrote to the town about her interest in the planning commission minute taker position, and attended the meeting to discuss the job with the selectboard. She said she has experience in all areas of office work and feels she can do the job. When questioned by Jim Warden, Karen replied that she is available evenings and can transcribe the minutes within the allotted time.

Pam Cousino, assistant town clerk and treasurer, wrote to the town about her interest in the planning commission minute taker position. Pam has many years of experience taking minutes and feels something can be worked out so she will not need to be paid overtime if appointed to the position.

After discussion, Red Muir made a motion to appoint Karen Brooks as minute taker for the planning commission, at the hourly rate of \$20 per hour. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

6. Public comment

Bob McNary brought up the topic of the proposed hiring of the prison work crew mentioned in the minutes of the May 17, 2016, selectboard meeting. He asked if this implied an exchange of money for labor. Loretta Lawrence replied that it was going to cost \$100. The board emphasized that the work crew was hired without selectboard approval, and cancelled by Loretta Lawrence.

Loretta Lawrence asked Jean Silveira about the success of the May 24, 2016, blood drive held at the town offices. Jean said it was very successful despite that the American Red Cross team was understaffed. Of all the blood drives in the state, this one came the closest to meeting its goal. Jean said the blood supply is so low that the Red Cross is buying blood from its competitors to meet demand.

Gloria Warden informed the board that several townspeople who received overdue tax notices have requested coming to the board to have the 8% penalty abated. Since the delinquent tax collector is compensated by salary, not commission, she has no authority to lower the amount owed; all funds go to the town.

Loretta Lawrence stated that she will be the town's representative at the preconstruction conference for the Ferrisburgh NHG SGNL (42) project on June 16, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. at the Vermont Agency of Transportation's regional construction office in Colchester. The project is a traffic signal system, signing, and other highway related items at the intersection of US Route 7 and Little Chicago Road.

7. Other business

Jim Benoit questioned if the current system of approving purchases of large ticket items requested by John Bull could be faster than waiting for the next selectboard meeting. If a good deal comes up and the buying decision needs to be made quickly, the slowness of the current system may result in paying more for the item. After discussion, Steve Gutowski commented that expenditures of funds require approval at selectboard meetings.

8. Correspondence

(a) Arlene Ingraham — a “thank you” re: Collins Cemetery. By note, Arlene thanked both the board and the road crew for the new fence installed around the perimeter the cemetery.

(b) Application for a Certificate of Public Good — Top G, LLC, 377 Satterly Road. On May 17, 2016, Vermont Green Energy Systems submitted a net-metering application for a 15kW wind turbine on behalf of Top G, LLC. The application has been revised to answer two questions concerning renewable attribute information and interconnection configuration. Additionally, a site plan showing the proposed location of the wind turbine was also included.

(c) Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) regarding a proposed turning lane at the town offices. By email, Jonathan Harrington, project manager for VTrans highway and safety design, again rejected the town’s request to include a northbound left turn lane off US Route 7 into the town offices parking lot, as an extension of the US Route 7 signal project. He stated that traffic data from recent two-day and three-day periods and reported crash information do not justify the inclusion.

9. Selectboard to approve or sign

(a) Addison County Sheriff’s Department service contract #16-369. After discussion, Jim Warden made a motion to sign the contract for police patrol services from the Addison County Sheriff’s Department. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED. The agreement shall remain in effect until either one of the parties gives a 30-day written notice to the other that it is terminating the agreement.

(b) Selectboard warrant. After review, Jim Benoit made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$70,687.69. Quarterly payments to Vergennes Union High School and the Ferrisburgh town district will be approved at the next regular selectboard meeting on June 21, 2016. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

10. Adjourn

Jim Warden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira