

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
June 21, 2016**

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

Town officials present: John Bull, road foreman; Gloria Warden, town clerk.

Visitors present: Cary Davis, Sean Davis, Craig Heindel, Bob McNary, Jim Ouimette, Bessie Sessions.

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

Loretta Lawrence, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approve minutes — June 7, 2016, special meeting; June 7, 2016, regular meeting; and June 13, 2016, special meeting.

Jim Warden made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2016, special meeting as presented. Jim Benoit seconded. 4 - voted in favor, Steve Gutowski abstained. MOTION PASSED.

Jim Benoit made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2016, regular meeting as presented. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Red Muir made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2016, special meeting as presented. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

3. Selectboard new business

(a) John Bull — highway department report. John Bull described current paving and roadwork projects being done on several streets including Walker Road, Ledge Lane, and Shellhouse Mountain Road. Roadside mowing has begun. John will get quotes for a new pickup truck with a plow.

Bob McNary commented that in quite a few places the membrane is bubbling up on the seams on the west slope of the garage roof. John said he will check it tomorrow. The roof was inspected in the spring and the warranty is still in effect.

(b) Jim Ouimette – quit claim deed for glebe land. At the request of his clients, William and Linda Thompson of Vergennes, attorney Jim Ouimette sent supporting documentation to Jim Carroll, the town’s attorney from the firm of Carroll, Boe & Pell, requesting quit claim conveyance of .2 acres of land located at 57 Green Street in Vergennes, Vermont. After discussion, Steve Gutowski made a motion to authorize Loretta Lawrence to sign the quit claim deed provided the following conditions are met: 1) that the Thompsons, as the requesting party, pay all fees associated with Jim Carroll’s review of the documentation, 2) Jim Ouimette provides the town with his opinion that the Thompsons are the owners and holders of the leasehold rights in the subject lands and that there are no other owners or holders of such rights as referenced in 24VSA s2406, 3) that Ferrisburgh is reasonably assured, based on the available information, that the subject .2 acres does not contain a significant interest other than possessory interests such as mineral rights, timber, gas, or water reservoirs, etc., and 4) Signing of the quick claim deed is conditioned on payment of the town’s fees and council’s approval of the quit claim deed and property transfer tax return as to form. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

(c) Cary Davis — delinquent tax notice. Cary Davis addressed the board asking for the interest and tax penalty for delinquent payment of her tax bill to be waived. After discussion, Jim Warden made a motion to waive the delinquent tax penalty of \$137.67 and interest of \$17.21. Jim Benoit seconded. Steve Gutowski voted in favor. Jim Benoit, Loretta Lawrence, Red Muir, and Jim Warden voted against. MOTION FAILED.

(d) Mary McGuire — delinquent tax notice. By letter, Mary McGuire asked for the interest and tax penalty for delinquent payment of her tax bill to be waived. After discussion, Steve Gutowski made a motion to waive the delinquent tax penalty of \$164.60 and interest of \$20.57. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted against. MOTION FAILED.

(e) Richard Alther — delinquent tax notice. By letter, Richard Alther asked for the interest and tax penalty for delinquent payment of his tax bill to be waived. After discussion, Steve Gutowski made a motion to waive the delinquent tax penalty of \$877.07 and interest of \$109.63. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted against. MOTION FAILED.

4. Selectboard old business

(a) Personnel Policy — review proposed edits and updates. Loretta Lawrence reviewed changes made to the sections about overtime pay, medical insurance, and on-call time. She introduced new language regarding elected officials that she will have reviewed by Jim Carroll.

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. Jim Carroll sent the draft of the host town agreement to Vermont Green Line's attorney. On June 3, 2016, Vermont Green Line submitted a 45-day pre-filing notice to the Vermont Public Service Board. Tax analysis is still being worked on by Silver & Associates. As directed by the board, Craig Heindel sent a copy of the draft of the host town agreement to Ron Smith, the town auditor, for review. John Bull has not yet received the required seven-day notice for drilling of geotechnical borings. Bob McNary stated that he received a postcard from Anbaric at the beginning of June because his property abuts the project. Kingsland Bay State Park has issued a permit for borings and archaeological studies this summer.

Craig submitted an invoice approved by the VGL Committee to the selectboard. After discussion, Red Muir made a motion to approve payment of the May invoice from Carroll, Boe & Pell, in the amount of \$562.21, 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.

(b) Vermont Veterans of Foreign Wars — request support for official name change of Route 22A as The Desert Storm Veterans Memorial Highway. After discussion, Red Muir made a motion to send a letter from the town of Ferrisburgh to support the name change of 22A for the section in Ferrisburgh to The Desert Storm Veterans Memorial Highway. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

(c) Addison County Regional Planning Commission — FY 2017 transportation planning study request form. After discussion, Loretta Lawrence tabled this agenda item until the next regular selectboard meeting on July 5, 2016.

6. Public comment

Bob McNary stated that at a recent Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, Transportation Planner Josh Donabedain discussed the third denial by the Vermont Department of Transportation of a turning lane in front of the town offices. Josh will suggest a different route to a different engineer to have the project re-evaluated.

Gloria Warden commented that yesterday the air conditioning in the town offices was not working and the temperature reached 80 degree F. She called Temp Control, who determined the system had frozen. Mountain Air Systems Inc. reset the system and replaced the filters.

Bob McNary said the windows of the town offices building are getting very dirty.

Gloria Warden said the walls around the entrance need repainting.

7. Other business

Loretta Lawrence stated that she attended a preconstruction meeting earlier in the day for the traffic signal system at the intersection of US Route 7 and Little Chicago Road. The construction project will begin on July 15, 2016, and end in August 2016. However, the signal portion will not be completed until the end of October. The southwest corner of the intersection has contaminated soil; this will be dealt with as the project progresses.

Jim Benoit recounted his discussion with John Bull regarding reconciling statements. John will now bring daily slips to Town Treasurer Garrit Smits, who will do the reconciliations of invoices with statements.

8. Correspondence

(a) Vermont Department of Taxes — current use estimated payment FY 2017. The town was notified that the hold harmless payment for land enrolled in current use is estimated to be \$91,075.

(b) Vermont Green Line project — Vermont Department of Transportation (VTrans) — advance notice and items to be addressed. The town was copied on a letter to Vermont Green Line notifying the company that VTrans is invoking its right to 45-day advance notice of construction plans.

(c) Vermont Green Line project — pre-filing notice. As part of Vermont Green Line's 45-day pre-filing notice submitted to the Vermont Public Service Board, the town received a list of other notice recipients, a project location map and route maps, a Vermont converter station layout, an overview of construction plans, a converter station photo simulation, and an alternatives analysis.

(d) BDE North Ferrisburgh Lazar Solar, LLC — Individual Vermont Wetland Permit application. The town was notified that the company has filed a permit application/determination petition with the State of Vermont.

(e) Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation — Aquatic Nuisance Control Individual Permit. Solitude Lake Management was granted a permit to mechanically harvest water chestnuts from Lake Champlain (South Lake) between June 15 and October 15, 2016.

9. Selectboard to approve or sign

(a) Selectboard warrant. After review, Red Muir made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$36,174.29. Two bills were held for further clarification: Paris Farmers Union (\$78.01) and the City of Vergennes (\$72.00). Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

10. Adjourn

Jim Benoit made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira