

**TOWN OF FERRISBURGH  
SELECTBOARD MINUTES  
April 16, 2013**

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

Others present: Bill Sullivan, Bob McNary, Bessie Sessions, Betsey Etchells, Chad Farrell, Don Loreman, Roger Gebo, Ken Gebo, Pam Cousino, Bob Peisch, James Conway, Garrit Smits, Mike Redmond and Carleen Atkins

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

Don 'Spike' Loreman from Canon Solutions is present to discuss and explain the copier bid. There was a question from the Board about the PCL(Printer Command Language) driver on the quote. Don has looked at our NEMRC computer programs and found that we don't need the driver. Canon Solutions has a state contract which allows them to have a better price. The toner is part of the contract; their service response time is guaranteed within 8 hours and typically within 4 hours; the service reps are in Williston and Middlebury; there are no overage fees. Don feels the color option is the best value. The Board thanks Don for his explanation.

Bob Peisch, Health Officer, is present to talk about the Town Beach. During the swimming season he tests the water at the beach; it takes about four days for the results to be sent to him. During that time the water can change from clean to having blue-green algae. He used to post the beach is safe for swimming on the website; this year he can't responsibly say it is safe so he is not going to post to the website. Bob will meet with the State Park water safety person to see if they will take the Towns' water sample to Burlington for testing to improve response time. He is going to have a work session with volunteers to clean up the beach area. He says the area is well maintained and well mowed. He also notes that the signs need to be replaced. Bob would like to talk with the Town Attorney. The Board thanks Bob. Jim Warden moves to have the Road Forman meet with Bob and get new signs; second by Sally Torrey. So voted.

Chad Farrell from Encore is present to discuss the solar project. The Town doesn't have enough electrical demand even including the High School for the project to meet the lease payments. There needs to be 500 KW to make it meet the lease requirements. There is a hold from the State on these smaller projects. Chad states project is not feasible at this time. It would be difficult to find financing for a combined High School and Grade School project. Jim Warden wants to have Chad keep working on the project. The Board thanks Chad.

**Public Comment**

Bob McNary had Andrea Murray check the smell in the lobby. She found that it is coming from the kitchen sink. Water and Drano were put in the drain and the smell was reduced. Water and Drano will continue to be placed in the drain.

Sally Torrey moves to approve the lease for the Canon Solutions color copier at \$129.25 per month; second by Jim Benoit. So voted

Prior to the Board opening the lawn mowing bids, Loretta Lawrence clarifies the language - "trimming to the fence" that is stated in the bid specs. Loretta also states that this "trimming to the fence" will mean a lot of additional time and labor since many of the cemeteries are in bad shape and are overgrown, and need a lot of work. She asks all bidders present if they understood that language and all bidders present, stated that they did understand that language.

Ken Gebo notes that some of the cemeteries do not have a fence, there is no boundary and it is difficult to tell what to mow.

The Board opens the mowing bids.

The first bid was Garrit Smits	he has insurance	for \$14,440.00
The second was Brian Barrows	he has insurance	for \$7,800.00
The third was Mike Redmond	will provide insurance	for \$21,185.00
The fourth was Ken Gebo	he has insurance	for \$16,000.00
The fifth was Jack Poirier	he has insurance	for \$8,900.00 for just mowing
The sixth was Scenic Valley Landscaping	he has insurance	for \$23,380.00
The seventh was Lowell Landscaping	will provide insurance	for \$8,400.00

Jim Warden moves to hire Brian Barrows; second by Sally Torrey. Roger Gebo, Brian's representative, states that they understand the work involved. There is a discussion of the bid. Ken Gebo feels it was poorly worded and did not clearly explain what was being bid on. The cemeteries have become very overgrown and need to be cleared of downed trees and brush before they can be mowed. The vote is 4 yes with Loretta Lawrence voting no. Loretta asks to have Sally Torrey inspect the cemeteries during the summer.

Sally Torrey moves to appoint Tom Drumheller as Auditor for one year; second by John DeVos. So voted.

The Ethics Policy is tabled to next meeting

Sally Torrey moves to approve the minutes of April 2 with the following addition to the Steve Lowther paragraph 'The Board requests that Steve contact the Road Foreman about the right of way on Town Beach Road'; second by Jim Benoit. So voted with John DeVos abstaining.

Sally Torrey moves to approve the warrant with the removal of the Vergennes Panton Water District bill for the Union Meeting Hall, Town clerk will call Vergennes Panton water to make sure they are aware it has been turned off and ask about a refund of or credit for the previous bill; second by John DeVos. So voted.

Carleen Atkins is present to inquire about the cleaning position. She grew up and lives in the area and would like the position. Sally Torrey moves to hire Carleen Atkins as cleaning person for the municipal center for a 90 day probationary period at \$18.00 per hour; second by Jim Warden. So voted.

#### Public Comment

Bob McNary states that after the confusion in the mowing bid that there should be a detailed standardized bid form for mowing.

Andrea Murray, at the last LEEDs meeting, thought that having radiant floor heating in the floor of the new garage would have problems because of the heavy equipment. She would be will to help and advise during the design process for the new building for an hourly fee. Jim Benoit disagrees with her opinion on the floor heating; all the new buildings have radiant floor heating and haven't had a problem.

Jim W. made motion to enter executive session at 8:23 to discuss personnel, John D seconded, all in favor.

Jim W. made motion to leave executive session at 8:40, Jim B seconded, all in favor. No action taken.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chet Hawkins  
Clerk