

Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes . APPROVED
November 6, 2018

Members present: Jim Benoit, Rick Ebel, Steve Gutowski, Jessica James.
Michael Red+Muir participated electronically.

Town officials present: No town officials were present.

Visitors present: Cristy Goyette, Craig Heindel, Steve Huffaker, Brent Jerger, Bessie Sessions.

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

Rick Ebel, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approve minutes — October 16, 2018, regular meeting, October 23, budget work session, and October 30, 2018, budget work session.

Jim Benoit made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2018, regular meeting, as submitted. Steve Gutowski seconded. Jim Benoit, Rick Ebel, Steve Gutowski, and Jessica James voted in favor. Red Muir abstained. MOTION PASSED.

Steve Gutowski made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2018, budget work session, as submitted. Jim Benoit seconded. Jim Benoit, Rick Ebel, Steve Gutowski, and Jessica James voted in favor. Red Muir abstained. MOTION PASSED.

Jim Benoit made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2018, budget work session, as submitted. Steve Gutowski seconded. Jim Benoit, Rick Ebel, Steve Gutowski, and Jessica James voted in favor. Red Muir abstained. MOTION PASSED.

3. Selectboard new business

(a) Greg Cromer — Ferrisburgh aerial photo. Greg Cromer of America from the Sky showed the board a framed and matted color photograph he took of the town and surrounding area. The aerial image is a wide-angle shot, which included a full view of Otter Creek emptying into Lake Champlain. Greg said the photo is for sale and available in various sizes.

(b) Brent Jerger — public hearing for location of a salvage yard. Jessica James made a motion at 6:40 p.m. to open the public hearing by reading the warning: Pursuant to 24 VSA §§ 2251. 2257 the Selectboard will hold a public hearing on the application of Brent Jerger for a Certificate of Approval for Location of a salvage yard. The property is located at 2861 Shellhouse Mountain Road. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Rick Ebel explained that this issue was before the board again because the application had not been warned in the newspaper the first time. Craig Heindel, chair of the Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission, said the commission has no changes from its past commission report. After discussion, Red Muir made a motion to issue to Brent Jerger a certificate of approval for location of a salvage yard at 2861 Shellhouse Mountain Road for a term of five years. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED. Jim Benoit made a motion to close the hearing at 6:42 p.m. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

4. Selectboard old business

(a) Solid waste and recycling drop-off location. Discussion began when Rick Ebel asked Steve Huffaker, the town's representative to the Addison County Solid Waste Management District, why the town is looking for a location for a recycling and solid waste drop-off. Steve replied that R & L Haulers from Middlebury was interested in providing a recycling and solid waste drop-off service at the town garage in Ferrisburgh instead of continuing the service in the current location in Vergennes after the recycling contract with Casella ends on December 31, 2018. Rick said he had a conversation with John Bull, road foreman, who has concerns about using the garage location. Two other locations he suggested- the area next to the skating rink and the town offices property- also have drawbacks. Rick Ebel said it is his opinion that the current location in Vergennes does work and people are already familiar with it.

Discussion ensued regarding the possible use of the town-owned property at the intersection of US Route 7 and 22A as an interim or long-range location. There are several unknowns about that site, which include who owns the access road.

Steve Gutowski asked why there are separate haulers for trash and recycling in Vergennes when by law all haulers must take both. Rick Ebel asked Cristy Goyette, president of C & J Haulers, to explain. She said an exception was made for Vergennes because the recycling costs are paid by taxes from the five towns. She also said the city of Vergennes no longer wants to facilitate a contract with Casella, so it will go to a new payment method where customers will pay directly to get rid of their trash and recycling instead of paying for their trash in one manner and their recycling through their taxes.

Saying he is not opposed to a location in Ferrisburgh, Steve Gutowski said he wanted more time to think about this issue. He suggested possible locations in Vergennes, such as the former Denecker Chevrolet dealership on Route 7 and the DR Power Equipment location on Meigs Road.

When asked by Rick Ebel if she could take on recycling along with her solid waste service, Cristy Goyette said she has known since May about the end of the year cancellation of Casella's recycling contract and has been preparing to expand her operation to include recycling. She had expressed her interest and willingness to do this at a meeting several weeks ago with Mat Chabot, the new city manager in Vergennes, and representatives from Casella.

Rick Ebel asked that the minutes reflect that the board is interested in a fee-based drop-off location for recycling and solid waste. Steve Huffaker expressed concern that the end of year is coming and there is an obligation to have something in place. Rick said he and Steve would be discussing this issue at an upcoming meeting with the other towns. Jessica James asked to attend the meeting.

(b) 2512 Sand Road update. Rick Ebel said the town is waiting for the Vermont Department of Health's final sign off on the appeal.

(c) Vorsteveld tree cutting update. Rick Ebel said there is no update at this time.

(d) North Ferrisburgh intersection – US Route 7/Old Hollow Road/Stage Road. Discussion ensued when Rick Ebel said another car accident recently happened at this intersection. Craig Heindel said not all accidents are recorded and asked those present to report any accident they see. Rick announced that the Department of Transportation has appointed Erin Pariso as the new point person for this project.

5. Selectboard general business

(a) Building maintenance committee.

I. Union Meeting Hall shed report — Carl Cole. Discussion ensued regarding various points made in Carl Cole's written report. Steve Gutowski said he still wants to know if the building is historic. He continued by saying he agrees with Carl that the building is in reasonably good shape and that tearing it down loses the footprint. The board will ask Gloria Warden, town clerk, to invite Carl to the next regular selectboard meeting on November 20, 2018, to further discuss this matter.

II. Town hall building information — Efficiency Vermont. As part of finding ways to reduce electricity costs in the town offices building, Deb Healey invited Efficiency Vermont for a site visit. It was concluded that the town offices building uses less than the average amount of electricity for a building of its size. There are two opportunities for improvement: add an outdoor air reset to the boiler and replace the hot water distribution pump with a smart pump. Red Muir will contact Mountain Air Systems for a quote for this work. Deb will follow up with Efficiency Vermont to see how much of the cost will be covered by incentives from Efficiency Vermont.

Red Muir said he would contact Murphy's Metals to confirm that the company is still scheduled to replace the roof on the Ferrisburgh Historical Society building this year.

6. Public comment

There was no public comment.

7. Other business

Rick Ebel read an informational poster created by Bonnie Barnes, zoning administrator, relating to what is allowed under zoning regulations for campers and RVs in town:

Campers and RVs **may** be parked behind your home.

Campers and RVs **may** be parked in an approved campground.

Campers and RVs **may not** be used as permanent living quarters.

Campers and RVs **may not** be hooked up to water or septic facilities.

If someone gives you permission to park your camper or RV on his/her property you may stay for up to 14 days, no longer.

8. Correspondence

(a) Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT) — Municipal Employment Law Update — November 14, 2018. VLCT is presenting this update regarding changes to state and federal employment laws affecting municipalities. The event will be held at the Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, Vermont.

(b) Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL)— thank you to town for donation. The town received a letter from Sarah Launderville, executive director, expressing appreciation for the town's \$250.00 donation for 2018.

(c) Age Well — thank you to town for donation. The town received a letter from Sarah C. Wool, director of development and communications, expressing appreciation for the town's \$1,100.00 donation for 2018.

(d) Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) — Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) FY18. By letter, the town was notified it would receive \$34,020.61 for the 2018 PILOT program as part of ANR's

overall land conservation program. Steve Gutowski asked what the taxes would be on the 2,805.14 acres. Rick Ebel asked for clarification of the fiscal year. The board will ask Deb Healey, town treasurer, to follow up on this matter.

(e) Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) — comments re: Town and Country Homes, Inc. and Paulette McNary — application #9A0278-1. By email, the town was sent ACRPC's comments, which included stating the redevelopment of the property would have limited impact on the traffic on US Route 7 and, based on the zoning permit issued by the town of Ferrisburgh, the project would pass the Ferrisburgh Plan.

(f) Open Door Clinic — thank you to town for donation. The town received a letter from Heidi R. Sulis, executive director, thanking the town for its \$400.00 donation for 2018.

(g) Vermont Environmental Commission — Act 250 Land Use Permit Application #9A0278-1 — Town and Country Homes, Inc. and Paulette McNary. By letter, the town was notified that the commission issued a Hearing Recess Order (HRO) in the matter of Act 250 Land Use Permit Application #9A0278-1. Included in the HRO is a list of supplementary evidential documents that the commission requested be submitted by November 2, 2018.

9. Selectboard to approve or sign

(a) Selectboard warrant. After review, Jessica James made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$86,113.63. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

10. Adjourn

Jim Benoit made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Jessica James seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira