

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH
Special Select Board Meeting
8/23/2016

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

Visitors: John Bull, Carl Cole, Pam Cousino, Deb Healey, Bessie Sessions, and Gloria Warden

1. 6:30 p.m. Chairperson Loretta Lawrence called the meeting to order.

2. The Chair asked board members Jim Benoit and Steve Gutowski to report to the board their findings after meeting with the Treasurer on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 and why things have gotten behind. They said the treasurer felt he needed more time from Pam Cousino, Assistant Treasurer. Steve mentioned a letter received from Bill Clark. There was discussion of communication between the treasurer and assistant treasurer. Both board members agreed that more discussion of the meeting should be under probable executive session.

John Bull spoke of his dissatisfaction on not being able to reach the treasurer. He is extremely frustrated with the continued absence of the Treasurer. He stated that payments to some of his vendors are continually late. Now the town is incurring late fees. He continually emails the Treasurer and may not hear back for at least six weeks. There is extremely poor communication between his department and the Treasurer.

Pam Cousino stated that she wanted to reaffirm her concerns as stated at the August 16, select board meeting. She feels that she cannot do both the job of Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer and still be available to do her job as Assistant Clerk and work for the listers. Things are getting behind as far as the Treasurer's duties and responsibilities. Pam stated that it is difficult to do her job when there is no communication with the Treasurer. She just wants the board to resolve the issues and concerns.

Pam Cousino also stated that the job of Treasurer can be done each week in 35 hours or less by one person. The Clerks position requires more time.

Carl Cole commented that Garrit used to be in the office but not much lately. Carl stated that in the days of "Chet and Pam" the job got done with only two people.

Loretta Lawrence stated that if the board chooses to go into probable executive session, it will only take one motion, not two, to do the evaluation of a public official.

Steve Gutowski made the motion to go into executive session, at 6:55 pm, to discuss the evaluation of a public official. Michael Muir seconded motion. All in favor, motion passes.

Jim Benoit made the motion to come out of executive session at 8:50 pm. Seconded by Steve Gutowski. All in favor, motion passes.

No action taken.

Respectively submitted,

Jim Warden