

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes / DRAFT
December 15, 2015**

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

Town officials present: Gloria Warden, town clerk.

Visitors present: Richard Bernstein, Allan Brisson, Mel Hawley, Steve Huffaker, Andy Kirkaldy, Bob McNary, George Merkel, Kurt Plank, Bessie Sessions, Charlene Stavanow, Bill Sullivan, Monica Tupper.

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

Steve Gutowski, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approve minutes —December 1, 2015; December 8, 2015; and November 24, 2015.

Loretta Lawrence made a motion to approve the minutes of December 1, 2015, as presented. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Jim Warden made a motion to approve the minutes of December 8, 2015, with the following clarification: Loretta Lawrence did not record the minutes for the entire meeting. Pam Cousino, assistant town clerk and assistant town treasurer, recorded the minutes prior to the executive session. Loretta Lawrence seconded. Red Muir abstained. MOTION PASSED.

The following information clarifies the approved November 24, 2015, budget meeting minutes: The BlueCross BlueShield of Vermont insurance premium for one person is \$6,075.84; the premium for two persons is \$12,151.68.

3. Selectboard new business

(a) None

4. Selectboard old business

(a) Vote decision for law enforcement – Addison County Sheriff’s Department or Vergennes Police Department. Don Keeler was not present. His absence may have resulted from a miscommunication between Steve Gutowski and the sheriff’s office regarding Don Keeler’s availability. After discussion that included questions for George Merkel, Chief of Police for the city of Vergennes, Steve Gutowski tabled this agenda item for the next regular selectboard meeting on January 5, 2016.

(b) Vote on hours for law enforcement. This item was also tabled.

(c) Personnel Policy Review. After discussion, no action was taken on this agenda item. Steve Gutowski asked board members to revisit the town’s original personnel policy, last amended in 2011, and the template provided by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.

(d) Traffic light at Route 7 and Little Chicago Road [NHG SGNL (42)]. By email, the town was notified by Representative Diane Lanpher that the project is on track to advertise in late March 2016. It is anticipated that the actual signal will not be operational until after the school year begins.

5. Selectboard general business

(a) Discuss dates for budget meetings. After discussion, it was decided that the next budget meeting will be on Tuesday, December 29, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

6. Public comment

Richard Bernstein asked the board to consider making the intersection of Long Point Road and Stage Road a three-way stop to improve visibility for motorists trying to turn onto Long Point Road.

Allan Brisson recounted two incidents that occurred on his farm last year. In both cases, the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad transported people, who originally declined treatment, from the scene to the hospital and charged \$900 for this service. Loretta Lawrence asked Allan Brisson if he could get a subscription to the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad to cover his employees. He explained that he would need a separate subscription for each of his 20 employees, if they are not related, because the fee structure is for individual families.

Bob McNary reported the results of the second blower test at the Union Meeting Hall. The result was a 25% to 30% reduction in air exchange. Efficiency Vermont will issue a rebate to the town based on this result.

7. Other business

Bob Jenkins will remove the conference table from the Grange, make the necessary size reduction so the table better fits the allotted space, and return the table. In the interim, folding tables currently stored upstairs will be used.

Steve Gutowski received an amended regional plan from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission that lists Ferrisburgh's Industrial District.

A brief article by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns stated that in March 2015 the Vermont Senate government operational committee passed S.94, the bill that would allow voters to authorize legislative bodies to appoint municipal clerks and treasurers. The board is still discussing whether or not to follow this statute for the position of town treasurer.

Jim Warden discussed the need for a traffic sign stating "reduced speed ahead" on Hollow Road after turning off Route 7.

Jean Silveira stated that the next American Red Cross blood drive will be held upstairs at the Grange Hall/Community Center on Friday, January 22, 2016, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The later hours were requested to encourage commuters passing by to stop in. She continued by asking all of those present who can give blood to please do so and to spread the word about the drive.

[Note: This agenda item was discussed prior to 6. Public comment.]

8. Correspondence

(a) Public Service Board (PSB) – requesting proceeding be stayed for Steady on Monkton Road.

The board received a procedural order from the State of Vermont PSB stating that the proceeding will be stayed until Green Mountain Power completes a system impact study and files it with the PSB.

(b) Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police – invitation to January 12, 2016, luncheon at noon at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Montpelier. In a letter from Paul Doucette, the Chief of Police of the town of Bennington, the board was invited to attend this event. The purpose of the luncheon is to bring together legislators, law enforcement professionals, and municipal officials to discuss significant issues facing law enforcement.

(c) PRIMMER-BDE North Ferrisburgh Lazar Solar, LLC – northwest of Pierce Lane. In accordance with Public Service Board Rule 5110(C), the board received a copy of a letter from Joslyn Wilschek of Primmer Piper Egges & Cramer (PRIMMER) giving the required 45-day notice prior to formal filing of a 500 kW group net-metered solar array project.

(d) Vermont Watershed Management Division – Permit 223 issued to Wisnowski. The board received notification from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation stating that the project proposed by Thomas G. and Marcy Wisnowski qualifies for individual shoreline permit coverage.

(e) LandWorks-Weeks School Master Plan. On December 11, 2015, the board received a fax of the master plan for the Weeks School Campus in Vergennes and Ferrisburgh from David Raphael, landscape architect and planner, of Land Works.

9. Selectboard to approve or sign

(a) Long Point Corporation – hall rental – August 6, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to noon. Jim Warden made a motion to rent the upstairs community hall to the Long Point Corporation for a fee of \$100.00, a \$500 deposit, and proof of insurance. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

(b) 2015 Grand List Listers' corrections. Loretta Lawrence made a motion to accept the 2015 corrected value for parcel ID #10/01/46.15 with a dwelling and 10.75± acres of land located at 19 Mountain Meadow of \$133,100, reduced from \$185,200. Jim Warden seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Loretta Lawrence made a motion to accept the 2015 corrected value for parcel ID #08/01/20.3 with 1± acres of land located on Kimball Dock Road of \$0.00, reduced from \$5,300. The value was reduced to zero because the acreage was transferred and the remaining assessment was not removed from the Grand List as of April 5, 2015. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Loretta Lawrence made a motion to table the acceptance of the 2015 corrected value for parcel ID #11/01/02.4 with a dwelling, garage, and 7.19± acres of land located at 262 Pond Lane due to the significantly decreased value. Jim Warden seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED. Loretta Lawrence will call Justus J. DeVries, Jr., the appraiser for the town, for more details.

Loretta Lawrence made a motion to accept the 2015 corrected value for parcel ID #18/20/80.21 & 22 with 99.96± acres of land located on Route 7 of \$143,400, increased from \$143,300. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

(c) Selectboard warrant. Red Muir made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$1,579,703.78. Red Muir seconded. An additional bill from Pete's Tire Barn will be reviewed further prior to payment. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

10. Adjourn

Jim Warden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Loretta Lawrence seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira