

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
February 16, 2016**

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

Red Muir joined the meeting by phone at 6:00 p.m. and discontinued his participation after **9 (c)**. Loretta Lawrence arrived after **3 (a)** and remained for the duration of the meeting.

Town officials present: Gloria Warden, town clerk; Garrit Smits, town treasurer.

Visitors present: Mike Coyle, Chris Kayhart, Bob McNary, Ross Saxton, Bessie Sessions.

1. 6:00 p.m. Regular meeting — call to order.

Steve Gutowski, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approve minutes — February 2, 2016.

Jim Benoit made a motion to approve the minutes of February 2, 2016, as presented. Jim Warden seconded. Jim Benoit voted yes; Steve Gutowski voted yes; Red Muir voted yes; Jim Warden voted yes. MOTION PASSED.

3. Selectboard new business

(a) Mike Coyle – ordinance regulating open burning. Mike Coyle, Ferrisburgh Fire Warden, discussed suggested changes/additions to a model ordinance from the Vermont League of Cities & Towns to meet the town's needs. After incorporating the changes into the ordinance, Mike will email the document to the selectboard.

(b) Ron Smith – RHR Smith & Company's auditor's report. Due to the weather, Ron Smith was unable to attend. Steve Gutowski tabled this agenda item until the next selectboard meeting on March 15, 2016.

(c) Jeff Glassberg, Addison Northwest Supervisory Union. Chris Kayhart, chair of the Act 46 Study Committee and member of the Ferrisburgh School board, spoke on behalf of Jeff Glassberg who was unable to attend. Chris commented that many functions are currently centralized within the supervisory district. With unification, students will have access to broader educational experiences (foreign languages, library media services, the arts, etc.). Benefits for taxpayers include tax incentives, the ability to keep the current funding mechanism, modest immediate administrative savings, and the ability to manage staff resources more flexibly. Discussion ensued about state control over physical assets. Steve Gutowski will speak to Jim Carroll, the town's attorney from the firm of English, Carroll & Boe, to finalize the property issue.

(d) John Bull – highway report. John Bull was unable to attend. Steve Gutowski tabled this agenda item until the next selectboard meeting on March 1, 2016.

4. Selectboard old business.

(a) Personnel Policy review. After discussion, it was agreed that the board would meet on February 23, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. to work as a group on the personnel policy.

(b) Set hours for Addison County Sheriff's Department patrols. After discussion about the budget line item, Loretta Lawrence made a motion to increase the hours of the Addison County Sheriff's Department to 10 hours per week. Jim Warden seconded. Jim Benoit voted yes; Steve Gutowski voted yes; Loretta Lawrence voted yes; Red Muir voted yes; Jim Warden voted yes. MOTION PASSED.

5. Selectboard general business

(a) Reschedule next selectboard meeting to either February 29 or March 1, 2016. After discussion, it was agreed that the next regular board meeting will be March 1, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

(b) Ross Saxton – Oil by Rail Coalition. Ross Saxton, a contractor for the National Wildlife Federation, spoke about the threats of an oil spill from a train derailment along the shoreline of Lake Champlain. This could include an explosive fire, loss of life, pollution of the lake and thus the region's water supply, and loss of tourism revenue, among other consequences. Ross asked the board to join a coalition of support against oil by rail by signing a letter addressed to the Vermont and New York members of the US Congress.

After discussion, Loretta Lawrence made a motion that the Ferrisburgh selectboard not take a stand or sign any correspondence regarding this issue. Jim Warden seconded. Jim Benoit voted yes; Steve Gutowski voted no; Loretta Lawrence voted yes; Red Muir voted yes; Jim Warden voted yes. MOTION PASSED.

6. Public comment

Bob McNary asked that when creating the schedule for the Addison County Sheriff's Department patrols, the board take into consideration the upcoming Route 7 paving projects that will be in not only Addison County but also Chittenden County.

7. Other business

(a) Reminder – Town Plan hearing date: February 23, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. The selectboard will discuss the re-adoption of the Town Plan with updated information.

(b) Anbaric – abutters meeting: February 25, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. Anbaric has scheduled a meeting for landowners whose properties abut the proposed route (from Kingsland Bay to US Route 7) of the company's underground power line.

8. Correspondence

(a) SunCommon to Public Service Board (PSB) – re: application of Sun CSA 68. The board was copied on a letter informing the PSB of SunCommon's assent to the conditions set forth by the Division of Historic Preservation for the company's proposed 150 kW interconnected group net-metered photovoltaic electric power system.

(b) Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) – proposed payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) funds five-year decrease. In a letter from Deb Markowitz, ANR secretary, and Karen B. Horn, director of public policy and advocacy for the Vermont League of Cities & Towns, the town was notified of the ANR PILOT study committee recommendation that provides a set "base payment" for existing ANR parcels.

This proposed statute change will decrease the payments to the town at a significantly lower rate over the five-year period beginning in FY 2017.

(c) Prevent Child Abuse Vermont – Pinwheel Gardens. In a letter, Ed Bride, deputy director of Prevent Child Abuse Vermont, asked the town to show support during Child Abuse Prevention month (April) by either purchasing pinwheels and “planting” a garden with them or selling pinwheels and donating the funds to Prevent Child Abuse Vermont.

(d) Ferrisburgh GLC Solar – Public Service Board procedural order re: application and comment deadline. On November 13, 2015, the Public Service Board (PSB) suspended regulatory review of all certificate of public good (CPG) applications. Prior to this date, Green Mountain Power was notified by Ferrisburgh GLC Solar of its application for a CPG for a proposed 150 kW interconnected group net-metered photovoltaic electric power system. Accordingly, the PSB will now commence review of the Ferrisburgh GLC Solar CPG. Comments, motions to intervene, and requests for a hearing in this matter must be filed in writing with the PSB by no later than February 18, 2016.

(e) Beach Properties, Inc., d/b/a Basin Harbor Club – Public Service Board procedural order re: historic sites comments. After being granted a CPG for an interconnected 500 kW group net-metered photovoltaic electric power system, Basin Harbor Club sought to correct a deficiency in its original CPG application by filing the results of a phase I archaeological survey, a scope of work for a phase II archaeological survey, and a historic buildings evaluation report with the Public Service Board (PSB). Comments from interested persons (who must file a motion to intervene) and existing parties must be filed in writing with the PSB before March 9, 2016.

9. Selectboard to approve or sign

(a) Shelly Van De Weert – community hall rental on March 31, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. After discussion, Jim Warden made a motion to rent the upstairs community hall to Shelly Van De Weert for a baby shower for the rental fee of \$50.00, the required \$500 deposit, and proof of insurance. Jim Benoit seconded. Jim Benoit voted yes; Steve Gutowski voted yes; Loretta Lawrence voted yes; Red Muir voted yes; Jim Warden voted yes. MOTION PASSED.

(b) Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission – community hall rental on March 31, 2016, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. After discussion, Loretta Lawrence made a motion to rent the upstairs community hall to the Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission for public environmental education, waiving the rental fee and deposit. Red Muir seconded. Loretta Lawrence voted yes; Jim Benoit voted yes; Steve Gutowski voted yes; Red Muir voted yes. MOTION PASSED.

(c) Vermont Energy Company – refund request of 2016 tobacco and liquor license permit renewal fee. Since the Vermont Energy Company is closing on February 19, 2016, the board agreed to refund the \$70.00 license permit renewal fee, which would have been for the term of May 1, 2016, to April 30, 2017. Loretta Lawrence made a motion to refund the \$70.00 license renewal fee to Vermont Energy Company. Jim Warden seconded. Jim Benoit voted yes; Steve Gutowski voted yes; Loretta Lawrence voted yes; Red Muir voted yes; Jim Warden voted yes. MOTION PASSED.

(d) Selectboard warrant. Jim Warden made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$85,020.66. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED. Red Muir did not participate by phone in Selectboard Warrant.

10. Adjourn

Loretta Lawrence made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira