

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
November 1, 2016**

Members present: Jim Benoit, Steve Gutowski, Loretta Lawrence, Michael “Red” Muir.

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

Absent: Jim Warden

Visitors present: Craig Heindel, Bessie Sessions.

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

Loretta Lawrence, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approve minutes — October 18, 2016 (special meeting); October 18, 2016 (regular meeting), October 25, 2016 (budget work session).

Since there was not a quorum of board members present who had attended the special meeting, approval of those minutes will be at the next regular selectboard meeting on November 15, 2016.

Steve Gutowski made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016, regular meeting, as presented. Red Muir seconded. Steve Gutowski, Loretta Lawrence, and Red Muir voted in favor. Jim Benoit abstained. MOTION PASSED.

Steve Gutowski made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2016, budget work session, as presented. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

3. Selectboard new business

(a) Discussion — employee personnel policy — language regarding holiday pay for employees who work on holidays. After discussion, the board stated that the new personnel policy should be amended to address holiday pay. If an employee is called in to work on a holiday, he/she should be paid time and a half. Loretta Lawrence will draft additional language. This will be an agenda item at the next regular selectboard meeting on November 15, 2016.

(b) Set date for next budget work session. The session will be on November 22, 2016, at 5:30 p.m.

4. Selectboard old business

There were no items under old business for this meeting.

5. Selectboard general business

(a) Vermont Green Line (VGL) Committee update. Craig Heindel, chair of the town’s VGL Committee, stated that on October 21, 2016, a request was filed with the Public Service Board for approval of the Vermont segment of the Vermont Green Line Project. He also stated that on October 25, 2016, VGL’s bid to supply lower New England with electricity from the project was not accepted. Discussion ensued regarding whether or not the project would still be built if there is now no known buyer for the power. Craig informed the board that the balance of the escrow account for the remainder of 2016 is currently \$15,000. He said that amount will need to increase to fund continuing expenses, such as legal bills. The escrow account is fully funded by the Vermont Green Line Project, not by the town.

(b) Red Muir — building maintenance discussion and updates. Red Muir asked Jim Benoit about his discussion with John Bull, road foreman, regarding the availability of John’s crew to implement the recommended solution to keep water from entering the basement from outside the building.

Discussion ensued regarding a possible solution to control the moisture level in the basement. Red Muir made a motion to authorize the town clerk to order enough plastic pallets to secure the cardboard boxes containing paper records, the voting booths, and the projection screen, paid for from the building maintenance fund. Steve Gutowski seconded. Steve Gutowski, Loretta Lawrence, and Red Muir voted in favor. Jim Benoit voted against. MOTION PASSED.

(c) Vermont Department of Transportation (VTrans) District 5 — Plank Road assessment. The town received a report from Josh Donabedian, transportation planner for the Addison County Planning Commission (ACRPC), detailing the findings of the VTrans District 5 review. Craig Heindel described the process of changing the road speed limit: After regional planning does a traffic study, the statistics are evaluated along with such considerations as population density, sight lines, and the natural speed of the road before a decision is reached. After reviewing the assessment, the board would like to have a traffic study done on that road. Loretta Lawrence will contact Josh Donabedian and request that a traffic study be conducted by ACRPC, if possible.

6. Public comment - There was no public comment.

7. Other business

Loretta Lawrence informed the board that she received an email from Mike Quinn, the town's BlueCross BlueShield of Vermont agent, regarding discussion of increased rates for next year. Loretta stated that it is important that all employees have the opportunity to ask questions of Mike. Loretta will contact town employees inviting them to an informational meeting with Mike on November 22, 2016, at 5:30 p.m.

8. Correspondence

(a) Agency of Natural Resources — notice of Indirect Discharge Permit for Beach Properties, Inc. The town received a public notice from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation for a permit renewal. The public comment period is from October 17 to November 15, 2016.

(b) Hospice Volunteer Services — appreciation for town funds. On behalf of the board of directors, Administrative Director Shirley Ryan sent a letter to the town expressing appreciation for its donation.

(c) Age Well (formerly known as Champlain Valley Agency on Aging) — thank you to town for contribution. Sara C. Wool, director of development and communications, sent a letter to express appreciation for the town's donation on behalf of the board and staff.

9. Selectboard to approve or sign

(a) Selectboard warrant. After review, Steve Gutowski made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$278,392.84, requesting the town treasurer to send a bill to the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum for \$80 to reimburse the town for a false alarm charge. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

10. Adjourn

Jim Benoit made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira