

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
October 20, 2015**

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

Town officials present: John Bull, road foreman; Charlene Stavenow, chairperson of the zoning board of adjustment; Gloria Warden, town clerk.

Visitors present: Sam Carlson, Harry Curth, Candy Davidson, Suzanne Fay, Clark Hinsdale III
Suzanne Hinsdale, Mary Kerr, Andy Kirkaldy, Michelle Livingstone, Bob McNary, Dave Mentzer, Robert Peisch, Bessie Sessions, Wayne Sterns Jr, 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. Loretta Lawrence made a motion to amend the agenda to add **5 (b) Selection of Green Up Day town coordinator** and **7 (c) Vermont League of Cities & Towns annual fair report**. Jim Warden seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

2. Approve minutes — October 6, 2015.

Red Muir made a motion to approve the minutes of October 6, 2015, as submitted. Loretta Lawrence seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

3. Selectboard new business

(a) John Bull – road foreman’s report. John Bull reported that the crew is finishing up outdoor projects including rebuilding Walker Road (which is 85% complete). Mowing of the cemeteries will be terminated at the end of October. The garage yard and skating rink were paved by D & F Paving. The weather will determine whether or not any more paving is done this fall.

Bull reported that the results of the lead and asbestos testing on the contents of the old highway garage building revealed lead in the putty of six windows and asbestos on the bottom of one sink. Three estimates for proper removal are forthcoming. The remainder of the building is fine.

Bull is following up with the owners of a new solar farm on Greenbush Road that created a curb cut without a permit.

Bull explained that the white crosses on certain town roads are markers for aerial surveying by Anbaric for the Vermont Green Line project.

Loretta Lawrence asked Bull about bids for the cost to remove the old highway garage building. There are three partial estimates; tipping fees need to be calculated.

(b) Michelle Livingstone – Creepy Karnival event discussion. Michelle Livingstone, organizer of the event, addressed the board’s concern about traffic safety. Livingstone stated that parking will be in farm fields owned by Daniel Merrigan and Ben Dykema on Greenbush Road to conform to the town parking ordinance. She further explained that parking/traffic control will be handled by trained volunteers.

Livingstone will email proof of insurance to Gloria Warden, town clerk. The proceeds of the event will go to Ferrisburgh Central School.

(c) Green Lantern Group – Sam Carlson – solar array site at Button Bay & Basin Harbor Roads.

Sam Carlson, of Green Lantern Group in Waterbury, appeared before the board to discuss the initial phase of this project. He explained that his company has an option to lease four acres from the Vorsteveld Farm to install a 500 kW solar array.

Wayne Sterns, whose land abuts the Vorsteveld Farm, said he is cutting down the hedgerow on the north side of the proposed site.

There was discussion about adequate vegetative screening, creative ways to maintain the natural beauty, end-of-life recycling issues, results of bankruptcy, and possible changes to property values.

Green Lantern's goal is to have all permitting in place to begin building in summer 2016.

(d) Anbaric-Vermont Green Line – informational public meeting Nov 12 with maps showing routes. The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall with Anbaric to discuss the Vermont Green Line.

(e) Clark Hinsdale III – discussion on taxes for property being purchased by the town. Clark Hinsdale III will pay appropriately pro-rated taxes at the closing.

4. Selectboard old business

(a) Cross Roads Chapel – notice not to renew lease at Union Meeting Hall. In a letter, the board was notified that the Cross Roads Chapel will not renew its lease in September 2016. Red Muir made a motion to accept Cross Roads Chapel's termination of the rental agreement as of September 2016. Jim Warden seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Update on the project: Steve Gutowski reported that SEC will be starting the repairs on the Union Meeting Hall determined by an energy audit.

5. Selectboard general business

(a) Appoint David Mentzer to zoning board beginning November 2015 – term ending 2017. Charlene Stavenow, chairperson of the zoning board of adjustment, recommended to the board that David Mentzer be appointed. Loretta Lawrence made a motion to appoint David Mentzer to the zoning board. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

(b) Selection of Green Up Day town coordinator. Deb Healey volunteered to be the Green Up Day town coordinator on May 7, 2016. Jim Warden made a motion to accept Deb Healey as the coordinator. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

6. Public comment.

Bob McNary asked for clarification of the passed motion regarding Cross Roads Chapel's rental agreement. See agenda item **4 (a)**.

Andy Kirkaldy commented that Front Porch Forum now accepts advertising yet they were started with some sort of government grant. Now they are continuing to seek support from towns. Some people in

the media, including people at the *Addison Independent*, are concerned that this is government subsidy of something that is competing with free enterprise.

7. Other business

(a) Front Porch Forum – annual Supporting Member Campaign contribution request. Loretta Lawrence stated that by continuing to fund Front Porch Forum the town would be setting a precedent. Jim Benoit commented that not all town residents use Front Porch Forum and that town meeting agendas and minutes are available on the town's website. Red Muir made a motion to accept Front Porch Forum's request for a donation. Jim Warden seconded. All voted against. MOTION FAILED.

(b) Phelps Engineering – business closing. Lance of Phelps Engineering contacted Steve Gutowski to say that the business is closing. Since many town projects have used Phelps Engineering, Steve Gutowski will pick up the files and the board will determine where to store them. The board did not decide which engineering firm would be used in the future.

(c) Vermont League of Cities & Towns annual fair report. Jim Warden, the town's voting delegate, submitted the annual report to the board.

8. Correspondence

(a) Invite by Asst. Judges of Addison County for proposed budget meeting November 4 at 9:00 a.m. The board received a notice to participate in a discussion about the proposed county budget for 2016-2017.

(b) Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation-Shoreland App #212 – Camp Petowbowk – Sunset Lane. In a letter, the board received a copy of Camp Petowbowk's application to replace an existing dwelling, install new septic, and add to an existing driveway.

(c) Addison County Economic Development Corporation – thanking the town for its support. The board received a letter from the Addison County Economic Development Corporation thanking the town for renewing its ACEDC membership at the \$500 contribution level.

(d) Re: Ferrisburgh Community Solar-list of meters included in group net metering system. Pursuant to Condition 7 of the Certificate of Public Good issued by the Public Service Board, the Ferrisburgh Community Solar NM filed a list of the meters included in the group net metering system.

9. Selectboard to approve or sign

(a) Grange Hall/Community Center policy and rental agreement. Board members reviewed the final draft. Loretta Lawrence made a motion to accept the revised version. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

(b) Selectboard warrant. Red Muir made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$57,066.35. Loretta Lawrence seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

12. Adjourn

Jim Warden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9 p.m. Loretta Lawrence seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira