

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
January 2, 2024**

Members present: Clark Hinsdale, Chris Campbell, Red Muir, Walter Reed II

Town officials present: Pam Cousino, Town Clerk, Laurie Curler, Assistant Town Clerk

Visitors present: Bessie Sessions, Jeanne Kelly, JT Vincent, Teri Sheehan, Shane Coyle, Debbi Smith, Mike Daniels, Aaron Collette, Scott Gaines, John Eisenhardt

1. 6:30 p.m. Call regular meeting to order

Clark Hinsdale called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting December 19, 2023, Budget Meeting Minutes November 28, 2023, Budget Meeting Minutes December 12, 2023

Chris Campbell moved to accept the December 19, 2023 minutes as presented. Red Muir seconded the motion. Chris Campbell, Red Muir, and Clark Hinsdale voted in favor. Walter Reed II abstained. MOTION PASSED

Budget Meeting Minutes for November 28, 2023 – tabled for a future meeting

Walter Reed II moved to accept the Budget Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2023. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

None

4. Selectboard New Business

a) Gaines Insurance Agency – Sewer Extension Request to City of Vergennes

Scott Gaines stated his sewer is failing and he asked the City of Vergennes for a sewer extension. The City of Vergennes responded the request needs to come from the Town of Ferrisburgh.

Chris Campbell moved to authorize the Chair to draft a letter for February 1, to the City of Vergennes in support of the Just Do It, LLC request for a sewer extension. Red Muir seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

5. Selectboard Old Business

a) Approve Town wide reappraisal Request for Quote (RFP)

The draft proposal has been reviewed and some questions remain. After discussion it was decided to invite the listers to join the next meeting to answer questions.

b) Monkton Road Fence issue update

Red Muir reported the ducks are in the road again. JT Vincent and Teri Sheehan recounted their recent experiences with animals on their properties. Discussion was held regarding enforcement of steps that have been taken. Chris Campbell stated he will invite the Sherriff, State Police, and the Game Warden to the January 16, 2024 meeting so everyone is present to understand the ongoing situation. Clark will follow up with the town attorney to discuss what options are available for enforcement.

c) Review/Finalize Town Budget

The budget meeting earlier was very productive and one item remains to be followed up on.

d) Brown Church Update

Red Muir reported they are still waiting for the Opinion of Value.

e) Union Meeting Hall update – Red Muir

Red Muir reported the contracts are in place and Pam Cousino stated the money has been received.

6. Selectboard General Business

Clark Hinsdale mentioned that Red Muir has decided not to run for re-election. Pam Cousino will be posting the open town positions this week.

7. Other Business

None

8. Correspondence

a) Invitation to Participate- Assistant Judges of Addison County mtg for final county budget

A notice was received to participate in the final annual county budget.

b) Maple Broadband 2023 Annual Report

The 2023 Annual Report was received from Maple Broadband.

c) Request that the board pay the VFD fire contract – Bambi Lombard

Bambi Lombard sent an email stating she is appalled that there is even discussion on paying the Vergennes Fire Department. Chris Campbell explained that this is not about paying a bill. It's about a fair and appropriate negotiation of a contract. They are happy to pay the bill once a contract is in place. The amount in the budget is a placeholder until negotiations occur. Vergennes and Ferrisburgh will be working with a professional mediator on January 19, 2024.

d) Thank You note Addison County River Watch Collaborative

Received a thank you letter from the Addison County River Watch for town funds.

e) Thank You from John Graham Housing & Services

Received a thank you letter from John Graham Housing & Services for town funds.

9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign

a) Addison Northwest School District – MOU- Relocation

Kevin Kite has reviewed the document and made edits. He now needs to discuss with Kurt Haigis.

b) VT Agency of Transportation Request for Reimbursement Form

John Bull submitted a reimbursement form from a state paving grant in the amount of \$200,000.00.

Chris Campbell moved to approve and sign the VT Agency of Transportation Request Form. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED

c) Selectboard Warrant

Chris Campbell moved to approve the warrants for \$33,692.81. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Allen