

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
February 6, 2024**

Members present: Clark Hinsdale, Chris Campbell, Red Muir, Jim Benoit

Town officials present: Pam Cousino, Town Clerk, Laurie Curler, Assistant Town Clerk, Bill Wager, Fire Chief

Visitors present: Jeanne Kelly, Steve Fleming, Bessie Sessions, Ashley LaFlam, Shane Coyle, Carrie Barrows, Ron & Cindy Ulmer, Kristina MacKulin, Chris Kayhart, Erica Andrus, Drew Mills, Adam Powers

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

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

Clark Hinsdale requested the addition of an executive session at 7:30 p.m. for item 5. B stating he will try to cover all items of interest to those in attendance before this session.

Jim Benoit moved to accept the addition of the executive session at 7:30 p.m. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting January 23, 2024

After review of the minutes the motion for the Town Meeting Warning approval will be added.

Jim Benoit moved to accept the January 23, 2024 minutes as amended. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

None

4. Selectboard New Business

a) ANSWD-update on school budget by School Board members

Chris Kayhart, Erica Andrus, and Kristina MacKulin presented an update on the process they went through to develop the 2025 proposed budget and the anticipated cost.

b) Union Meeting Hall Quarterly Update – Ashley LaFlam

Ashley LaFlam presented the quarterly update on the projects, including projects completed in 2023, planned projects for 2024, and the need to start planning 2025 projects to get them submitted for grants that have an approval process of 9 to 11 months.

5. Selectboard Old Business

a) 1221 Monkton Road Animal Control/Fence Issue

Clark Hinsdale stated that Laurie Curler has researched ordinances from other communities to use for information when updating the town's ordinance. It was decided to work on this when the new board is in place.

b) VFD/Ferrisburgh Fire Contract update

7:35 p.m. – Jim Benoit moved to open an Executive Session due to premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body at a substantial disadvantage 1 V.S.A §313(a)(1)(A). Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Jim Benoit moved to invite Adam Powers, Bill Wager, and Pam Cousino into the executive session. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

8:45 p.m. – Jim Benoit moved to leave the executive session. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Jim Benoit moved to resume the regular session. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Clark Hinsdale suggested an action item for the next meeting to sign the contract with the VFD for the 2023-2024 year in the amount of \$104,676.29 and put the balance that is owed on the next warrant.

c) Brown Church Update

Red Muir stated he had nothing to report this week.

d) Union Meeting Hall update

Red Muir stated he had nothing to report this week.

6. Selectboard General Business

None

7. Other Business

None

8. Correspondence

a) Claims Cost Detail as of 12/31/2023

A report on the claims cost as of 12/31/2023 was available for review.

b) Letter from State of Vermont regarding US Route 7 issues

Received a response from Mario Dupigny-Giroux, Traffic Safety Engineer with the State of Vermont regarding the town's request for review of the residents' concerns.

c) VT Declaration of Inclusion follow-up email received

Received a follow-up email from Norman Cohen regarding his Declaration of Inclusion.

d) Thank You from Town of Ripton

Timothy Hanson, Ripton Road Commissioner, emailed a thank-you note for the assistance the Ferrisburgh Road Crew provided after the flooding, allowing them to reopen roads more quickly.

9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign

a) ACRPC Consulting agreement contract – Trails Committee Project

A consulting agreement was received from ACRPC to begin work on the development of a Travel and Trails Master Plan. The work is expected to be completed by January 31, 2025 with a cost of \$20,031.00.

Jim Benoit moved to sign the ACRPC consulting agreement contract for \$20,031.00. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

b) Selectboard Warrant

Chris Campbell moved to approve the warrants for \$100,179.84. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Allen