

**Town of Ferrisburgh  
Selectboard Minutes  
April 4, 2023**

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

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

**Visitors present:** Bessie Sessions, Arabella Holzapfel, Jean Richardson

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

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

Clark Hinsdale asked to amend the agenda to add a brief discussion of the Vergennes Bypass as item 7) b.

Jim Benoit moved to add agenda item 7) b. Brief discussion of the last meeting of the Vergennes Bypass. Red Muir seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting March 21, 2023**

Jim Benoit moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 7, 2023 as presented. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**3. Public Comment**

Arabella Holzapfel summarized the conversation regarding the Municipal Energy Resiliency from the last meeting and requested that she be appointed as the municipal representative with the authority to apply for the capacity grant.

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Arabella Holzapfel as a municipal representative with the authority to apply for the Municipal Energy Resiliency Program Community Capacity Grant, worth \$4,000, for the purpose of outreach and education to grow the Ferrisburgh Climate and Energy Committee. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**4. Selectboard New Business**

**a) Change Order with Jim Hunt, DBA The Rift Cut, for Union Meeting Hall Windows**

Jean Richardson stated the National Park Association does not allow for the installation of storm windows at the Union Meeting Hall. The change order reflects the savings for the cost of the storm windows and the possibility of reimbursement to Rift Cut for time spent measuring the windows if the storm windows are not installed at a future date.

Chris Campbell moved to execute Change Order #1 as related to the storm windows as presented in the contract. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**5. Selectboard Old Business**

**a) CLA Notice of Tentative Redetermination – Brian Goodyear**

The listers recommendation is to accept the redetermination received from the state.

Chris Campbell moved to execute the redetermination petition. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**b) Town Center Methodist Church update by Red Muir**

Jean Richardson stated that she and Rick Kerschner attended a meeting with the Let's Grow Kids staff at the church. The staff found the lower level to be an appropriate space for a child care center that could accommodate up to 24 children.

When asked about the survey results, Jean Richardson reported there has been a good response and the survey ended on March 31 so results should be available soon. Overall the child care and senior centers came in as the top ideas. They also have about 25 people that want to work with the Town Center Committee.

**c) Costs for moving out of office during floor maintenance**

Red Muir provided a quote from Paquette Moving & Storage to move and store the furniture while the floors are refinished. It includes 2 containers for one month and time for moving the furniture not to exceed \$4,100.

Chris Campbell moved to authorize the expenditure of up to \$4,100 per the memo from Paquette Moving and Storage in line with the standard town contract. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Pam Cousino stated that Top Floor would charge \$1,200 to set up a VPN tunnel and firewall for her to work from the Highway Department while the floors are being refinished. The firewall is needed and will be installed even if Pam doesn't work there temporarily.

**d) New National Opioid Settlements Participation**

Pam Cousino stated that five new companies are involved in the National Opioid Settlement. There is a new Participation Form for Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart. The town has received \$2,600 from the first settlement participation and the committee will be meeting to determine what to do with the funds.

Red Muir moved to authorize participation in the National Opioid Settlement with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**6. Selectboard General Business**

**a) Appointments**

**Maple Broadband Alternate – Arabella Holzapfel – 1 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Arabella Holzapfel as the Maple Broadband Alternate for a one year term. Red Muir seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**Maple Broadband Delegate – Steve Huffaker - 1 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Steve Huffaker as the Maple Broadband Delegate for a one year term. Red Muir seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**Addison County Regional Planning Delegate - Arabella Holzapfel – 1 year term**  
- **Steve Huffaker – 1 year term**  
- **Tim Davis - 1 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Arabella Holzapfel, Steve Huffaker, and Tim Davis as delegates to the Addison County Regional Planning Commission each for a one year term. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee) – Steve Huffaker – 1 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Steve Huffaker to the Transportation Advisory Committee for a one year term. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**Tree Warden – Joe Nelson – 1 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Joe Nelson as the Tree Warden for a term of one year. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**Climate and Energy Committee – Kurt Haigis – 1 year term**

**Arabella Holzapfel – 1 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appointment Kurt Haigis and Arabella Holzapfel to the Climate and Energy Committee each for a one year term. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**Planning Commission – Mike Quinn – 4 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appointment Mike Quinn to the Planning Commission for a term of four years. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**First Constable – Shawn D Emery – 1 year term**

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Shawn D. Emery as the First Constable for a one year term. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**7. Other Business**

**a) Brief discussion – Property Tax Dept. Control of Property Appraisals**

Pam Cousino shared an article on a proposed House bill that would give the tax department control of property appraisals. After discussion it was agreed that Clark Hinsdale will draft a letter stating the town's opinion on this bill and send to our representatives after review by the Selectboard.

**b) Brief discussion of the Vergennes Bypass**

Clark Hinsdale summarized the last meeting of the Vergennes Bypass group. He gave a high level overview of the five proposed routes that will be further studied. Some of the options do include land in Ferrisburgh. The five alternatives are planned to be narrowed down in about 3 months. Ferrisburgh and Panton representatives stated that the boundaries must be agreed upon before any agreement can be made.

Pam Cousino was asked for a status on the treasurer position and she stated it is still open.

**8. Correspondence**

None

**9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign**

**a) Tax Mapping Contract with Christine Chamberlain Mapping**

Pam Cousino presented the contract for tax mapping from Christine Chamberlain Mapping. It included a few options that the Selectboard would first like to discuss with Brian Goodyear.

Chris Campbell moved to table signing the contract until Brian Goodyear is available. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**b) Liquor and Tobacco License Approvals**

**Basin Harbor Club (3 Third Class, 4 First Class, Outside Consumption Permit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class)**

Jim Benoit moved to approve three Third Class, four First Class, Outside Consumption Permit, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Liquor and Tobacco License for the Basin Harbor Club. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**Village Café & Tavern, LLC (First Class, Third Class, Outside Consumption Permit)**

Jim Benoit moved to approve a First Class, Third Class, and Outside Consumption Permit Liquor and Tobacco License for the Village Café and Tavern. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**c) Selectboard Warrant**

Chris Campbell moved to approve and sign the warrant for \$40,196.55. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**10. Adjourn**

Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Allen