

**Town of Ferrisburgh  
Selectboard Minutes  
May 21, 2024**

**Members present:** Clark Hinsdale, Jim Benoit, Chris Campbell, Walter Reed II, Steve Fleming

**Town officials present:** Pam Cousino, Town Clerk, Laurie Curler, Assistant Town Clerk, John Bull, Highway Department Foreman

**Visitors present:** Bessie Sessions, Rick Hedding, Craig Heindel, Glen Deruchie

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

Clark Hinsdale called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Clark Hinsdale asked to add two agenda items, 8.b) Human Rights Commission request to schedule interviews and item 8.c) Jim Ouimette request that there will be no appeal on permit.

**2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting May 7, 2024**

Jim Benoit moved to approve the regular meeting minutes for May 7, 2024 as presented. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. Selectboard New Business**

**a) John Bull – Highway Operations Report**

John Bull gave an update on the PEL Study for the Vergennes bypass. They hope to wrap the study up this fall. He stated that every town must agree on the final selection and asked the board for their thoughts on whether the bypass should be limited access or include businesses and affordable housing. The board all agreed that it should be a true by-pass with limited access.

John has put the paving list out to bid. They are finishing the ditching work on Fuller Mountain and Hawkins Roads. They are preparing for the culvert replacements on Shellhouse Mountain and Monkton Roads.

Walter Reed II inquired about the sink hole at Button Bay State Park.

Corey has signed up for logging classes. Reilly, Aaron, and Corey have signed up for welding classes.

John Bull stated he had a phone call from Evelyn Boardman, Storm Water Program Coordinator, who had received a complaint from Chris Thompson that the town was flooding his property. John told her the storm water management there was boilerplate. Evelyn reviewed the pictures she received from Mr. Thompson and responded to him that everything there met conditions and was working appropriately.

Walter Reed II asked John if he had an opportunity to check the sink hole at Button Bay State Park. He had Dig Safe at the property and will follow up.

**b) JDRF Juvenile Diabetes Fund Raiser Bike Ride – Glen Deruchie**

Glen Deruchie presented the application and documentation for the annual Juvenile Diabetes Fund Raiser Bike Ride to be held on July 13, 2024. The route is the same as the previous years. He provided all required documentation and answered all questions regarding the impact on the Ferrisburgh Roads. Signs will be posted the night before the race.

Chris Campbell moved to approve the JDRF Bike Rides use of Ferrisburgh Roads on July 13, 2024. Steve Fleming seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**c) Rick Hedding - Vermont State Park Regional Manager – talk about plans for Kingsland Bay State Park renovation and any plans for Button Bay State Park**

Rick Hedding VT State Park Regional Manager attended to provide an update and answer questions on any plans for the state parks. Rick stated that they have no plans for Button Bay State Park at this time. Walter Reed II stated that the sink hole has not been addressed at Button Bay. Rick said he attended a meeting there with Logan Blaise and he is happy to meet with John Bull to resolve the issue.

Rick stated the changes at Kingsland Bay are related to storm water management and the 3 acre rule. There are three phases to the project. Phase I is planned to move power underground late this summer. Phase II contains plans to widen the in road from the Y where it becomes one way, it will be widened by about 6 feet, and sweep around to rejoin the existing parking lot. The out road from the west side of the contact station would be decommissioned and returned to natural vegetation. This phase is planned for late fall 2024/early spring 2025. Phase III has plans to construct a new contact station and add an off-season parking lot near where the road currently splits to one way. This would accommodate 20 to 25 vehicles. This phase is still in the funding stage but could happen in late fall 2025.

Rick offered to send a rough draft of the plan.

Walter Reed II expressed his concerns regarding trash and parties at Button Bay.

**5. Selectboard Old Business**

**a) Set meeting to pick Company for Town-Wide Reappraisal**

Tabled for a future meeting when Brian Goodyear can attend.

**6. Selectboard General Business**

**a) Union Meeting Hall updates**

None

**7. Other Business**

Jim Benoit requested some changes to the Bike Ride Checklist of Requirements Form.

**8. Correspondence**

**a) Get ready for new FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps**

Pam Cousino stated that FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps are being updated. The town by-laws must have the current standards in them, and she has given this information to the Zoning and Planning boards.

**b) Human Rights Commission request to schedule interviews**

Clark Hinsdale stated the Human Rights Commission has requested to schedule interviews with the board members. After discussion it was decided to discuss with Kevin Kite before scheduling the interviews.

**c) Jim Ouimette request to state no appeal on permit given**

Jim Ouimette informed Clark Hinsdale of a one-day overlap between a conditional use permit appeal period and the financing expiration date and requested the Selectboard state they have no plans to appeal the permit.

Chris Campbell moved to sign a statement confirming the Selectboard does not plan to appeal permit 24-022 approved by the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign**

**a) ACRPC and West Ferrisburgh Water Users Assoc. Planning Grant to sign (for \$10,000)**

The ACRPC awarded a \$10,000 planning grant to the West Ferrisburgh Water Users Association. Adam Lougee sent a grant agreement to be completed by the town.

Jim Benoit moved to approve and sign the ACRPC grant agreement for the West Ferrisburgh Water Users Association. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. Chris Campbell, Jim Benoit, and Clark Hinsdale voted in favor. Walter Reed II and Steve Fleming abstained. MOTION PASSED

**b) UMH Window contract extension with Rift Cut**

The window installation will be delayed due to the roof work that is in progress. An addendum to the contract was presented with a completion date of October 31, 2024.

Jim Benoit moved to grant an extension to Rift Cut with a completion date of October 31, 2024. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**c) Liquor and Tobacco License Approvals**

**1. Basin Harbor – 2 outside consumption licenses**

Jim Benoit moved to approve the 2 Basin Harbor outside consumption licenses. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**d) Selectboard Warrant**

Chris Campbell moved to approve the warrants for \$123,329.85. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

**10. Adjourn**

Jim Benoit moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04p.m. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Allen