

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
June 15, 2021**

Members present: Chris Campbell, Jessica James, Michael “Red” Muir, Jim Benoit, Clark Hinsdale

Town officials present: Laurie Curler, Assistant Town Clerk, John Bull, Highway Department Foreman. Deb Healey, Treasurer participated electronically using Zoom.

Visitors present: Jean Richardson

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

Jessica James called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting, June 1, 2021

Jessica James asked for approval of the minutes for the regular meeting on June 1, 2021. Jim Benoit moved to approve the June 1, 2021 regular meeting minutes as submitted. Red Muir seconded the motion. Jessica James, Red Muir, Jim Benoit, and Chris Campbell voted in favor. Clark Hinsdale abstained. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

None

4. Selectboard New Business

a) John Bull – highway operations report

John Bull presented the highway operations report. He has submitted a letter of interest for this year’s Storm Water Grants. There are multiple locations the funds could be used at. He will start looking at the Monkton Road Bridge as a possible Bridge Grant project and Basin Harbor Road could be a possible Class 2 Road grant project.

For follow up to the Long Point meeting, John indicated Ward Preston, Long Point’s maintenance contractor is aware that the water line may become damaged and does not hold the town responsible. During the meeting John noticed a hose clamp was sticking up right at the edge of the pavement. John will meet with Bill Wager to locate No Parking signs for fire access. They discussed the culvert replacement but have not yet scheduled it. John was informed that Long Point has leased an area of the beach to a neighboring camp that requires Selectboard permission. Long Point will reach out regarding speed limit signs and possible speed bumps.

Old Hollow work is progressing. The plan is to move the pedestrian walkway behind the pole to line up with the existing walkway on Pleasant Valley’s property. The Hollow was overrun with trucks during the haying season. They have expressed interest in solar speed signs, speed humps or other mitigations. Vergennes got their solar speed signs from Highway Safety Grants. Chris Campbell mentioned he might be able to help with this.

Paving on Hawkins and Sand Roads should be finished this week. Shoulders and driveways will be filled in as they finish the project.

Work on Four Winds Road is complete and they are now working on Fuller Mountain Road. A significant portion of this work will be paid for by a storm water grant.

John attended his first PEL meeting regarding the Vergennes bypass.

Red Muir asked about speed on Middlebrook Road. John indicated a policy needs to be updated and he is working on Middlebrook and Shellhouse Mountain Roads.

Jim Benoit asked about Mr. Davis' property where the catch basin runs through his property to the neighbors. They have looked at the catch basin and found it in like new condition and can remain. John indicated an engineer is working on the septic plan.

The water district is grinding the surface on Monkton Road and will be repaving it.

Jim Benoit mentioned that the ditching looks good where it has been done.

b) Building Committee – proposed town policy related to contracts

Jean Richardson presented her findings on using a liquidated damages clause in future town contracts. She proposed a new policy with 3 line items to be added. After much discussion it was decided to research using a performance bond. Jim Benoit said this is very common and stays in place until the end of the warranty period. Jean Richardson will research the performance bond and report back to the Selectboard.

5. Selectboard Old Business

None

6. Selectboard General Business

a. COVID-19 update

The Governor has lifted the COVID-19 emergency order.

7. Other Business

Deb Healey said she will be presenting 2 quotes from Community Bank at the July meeting for loans to purchase the new tandem dump truck.

Deb Healey also mentioned that it might be time to create a RFP for an auditing firm. The current firm has been used for several years. Deb and Pam Cousino would like to have this done for next year. Several mentioned it is a good practice.

8. Correspondence

a) Steve Huffaker – Maple Broadband Town funding

Jessica James received an email from Steve Huffaker regarding an ARPA funding change. The amount is less than originally estimated and Steve has given a new estimate to keep in mind when planning the ARPA fund spending.

b) Vergennes Parks & Recreation Committee/Vergennes/Partnership request for matching grant from Hoehl Foundation

Jessica James received a letter from the Vergennes Parks & Recreation Committee/Vergennes Partnership requesting a contribution to reach their goal to complete Phase 1 of the Push to the Pavilion Campaign. The Hoehl Family Foundation has given a 2 to 1 grant for the project. Jean Richardson mentioned that the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall are also talking with the Hoehl Family Foundation about grant opportunities. Contributing to this project would require a town vote.

9. Selectboard to approve or Sign

a) Appoint Deb Healey as authorized contact for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds with Pam Cousino as secondary contact

Jim Benoit moved to appoint Deb Healey as the authorized contact for the ARPA funds with Pam Cousino as a secondary contact. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
MOTION PASSED

b) Selectboard Warrant

Red Muir moved to approve the warrant in the amount of \$1,589,027.43. Clark Hinsdale seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Jessica James asked for a motion to adjourn. Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Allen