

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
July 18, 2023**

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

Town officials present: Pam Cousino, Town Clerk, Laurie Curler, Assistant Town Clerk, Steven True, Zoning Administrator, Reilly Laberge, Highway Foreman

Visitors present: Bessie Sessions, Jean Richardson, Susan Oliveira, Jeanne Kelly

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

Clark Hinsdale called the meeting to order at 6:35p.m.

2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting July 5, 2023

Jim Benoit moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 5, 2023 as presented. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

Susan Oliveira requested assistance with safety concerns in her neighborhood. Chris Campbell advised that she needed to call the Vermont State Police or the Game Warden and they would help her.

4. Selectboard New Business

a) John Bull - Highway Operations Report

Reilly Laberge stated that they were working on Arnold Bay Road but they had to shift focus to repairing storm damage on Dakin Road, Robinson Road, and in the hollow. They will return to Arnold Bay Road as soon as they can. Jim Benoit asked about the culvert on Dakin Road that is settling and the mowing at the Quaker Street cemetery. Reilly said they are aware of the culvert and they work on brush at the cemeteries as time allows. Clark Hinsdale asked about frequency of road side mowing to keep the poison parsnip down. Reilly answered that they try to do two passes when possible.

b) Rift Cut Extension of Time – Addendum to Contract

Jim Hunt has been making progress on the Union Meeting Hall windows but has been slowed down as he is unable to hire labor. He requested that the contract be extended from August 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023 with an option to further extend if necessary.

Red Muir moved to extend Rift Cut’s contract to November 30, 2023 with the option to further extend if necessary. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

5. Selectboard Old Business

a) Set Amended Tax Rate (down .0038 on Municipal Rate)

Pam Cousino reported that the original worksheet included the grader payment that is actually not due until FY2025. Removing this item would reduce the municipal rate by .0038.

Red Muir moved to reduce the municipal tax rate by .0038. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

b) Personnel Policy Update – Review and Approval

The policy is still being revised. This was tabled for a future meeting.

c) Purchasing Policy Approval by Pam Cousino

The purchasing policy is still under review. This was table for a future meeting.

d) Treasurer’s Position – Job Opening

Ads were posted in the Addison Independent and Front Porch Forum and there have been no responses. Discussion was held around other online sources to post on as well streamlining the job description.

e) Town Center Church update by Red Muir

Red Muir stated there was no new information to report.

f) Building Committee update and storage Containers by Red Muir

Red Muir reported he has spoken with Nate Paquette and there was a miscommunication on the quote. The quote is not to exceed \$7,100 for moving furniture in and out of the town hall. Pam Cousino has discussed the firewall setup at the town shed with Top Floor and will confirm the dates.

6. Selectboard General Business

None

7. Other Business

None

8. Correspondence

a) Button Bay Blue-Green Algae Blooms – Douglas Fletcher

Walter Reed II had conversations with Douglas Fletcher regarding the blue-green algae near his lake shore and the inability to use the lake. Walter has included the state representatives in his response.

9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign

a) Selectboard Warrant

Jim Benoit moved to approve and sign the warrant for \$823,295.75. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Allen