

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

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

Town officials present: Pam Cousino, Town Clerk, Reilly Laberge, Highway Department Foreman, Laurie Curler, Assistant Town Clerk

Visitors present: Bessie Sessions, Brett Danyow, Missy Danyow, Lindsey Brown, Ashley LaFlam, Jeanne Kelly, Erik Carruth, Sally Torrey, Bonnie Barnes, Jean Richardson, Rick Kerschner, Craig Heindel

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

Clark Hinsdale called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Clark Hinsdale added agenda item 7) b. Volunteer recognition

2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting July 16, 2024

Steve Fleming moved to approve the regular meeting minutes for July 16, 2024 as presented. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

None

4. Selectboard New Business

a. Meeting with Ferrisburgh Public Water Users/Shareholders

Board members from the Sand Road, Walker Road- Little Chicago Road, and West Ferrisburgh water associations were present. Discussion was held on how the water associations are doing, differences between Vergennes-Panton Water District and the associations such as cost and age of pipes, as well as what they would like to see moving forward. Craig Heindel met with Jon Deming to discuss location and details of water lines for the town plan update. Carol Allen stated that money is not the main concern but the lack of involvement between the organizations, technology, and they are one-way systems.

It was decided to invite the Vergennes-Panton Water board to attend a future Selectboard meeting to continue the discussion. Jean Richardson suggested that we provide a list of questions for the meeting.

b. Vendor Permit for Ferrisburgh Day – Erik Carruth

Erik Carruth requested a vendor permit to display his antiques for three days, including Ferrisburgh Day. He would like route 7 visibility. Possible locations and liability were discussed. Ashley LaFlam will work with Erik to determine the best option.

c. Form a Flood Resilience Committee ??? – Part of Hazard Mitigation Planning???

Pam Cousino asked if a flood resilience committee should be formed or if it should be incorporated into the Hazard Mitigation Planning that has just begun. After discussion it was decided to make it part of the Hazard Mitigation Planning. A working meeting is scheduled for August 22 from 4 to 8 p.m.

5. Selectboard Old Business

a) Cross Road Culvert Update

Postponed to a future meeting.

b) Update of Old Hollow Road assessment with State River Engineer Jaron Borg

Craig Heindel reported on his meeting with the State River Engineer Jaron Borg. The assessment included suggestions for repairs and improvements to prevent further damage from flooding.

c) How to spend the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds – Requestees: Union Meeting Hall, Ferrisburgh Fire Dept., Highway Dept, Town Center Septic Study – Carl Cole

Pam Cousino reported that there is a balance of \$35,912.83 remaining in the ARPA funds. She has received requests from the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall for unexpected repairs, Ferrisburgh Fire Department for some equipment, the Highway Department for some equipment, and the Town Center Committee for septic research. These funds must be spent by December 31, 2024. After discussion it was decided to allocate some funds for each request.

Walter Reed II moved to approve \$17,187.00 for the Ferrisburgh Fire Department, \$5,000.00 for the Town Center Committee, \$7,000.00 for the Highway Department, and \$6,725.83 for the Union Meeting Hall. Steve Fleming seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

d) Insuring Union Meeting Hall at Historical Value

Rick Kerschner reported on his research regarding insuring the Union Meeting Hall at historical value and the status of obtaining a rebuild estimate.

6. Selectboard General Business

a) Union Meeting Hall updates

Ashley LaFlam provided an update on the progress of the ongoing repairs to the Union Meeting Hall and some recent change orders.

b) Brown Church update

The lawyers for the town and the buyer are in discussions.

c) Update on changing Fire Department to a Municipality

No update

7. Other Business

a) Ferrisburgh Day update – Ashley LaFlam

Ashley LaFlam and Lindsey Brown reported on the events for Ferrisburgh Day which is August 15th. They are finalizing what events will be at each site. Ashley stated this is the last year she will heading this committee as the Union Meeting Hall is requiring more of her time. The artist who will be creating the sculpture will have his ideas on display. These will also be presented at the September 17th Selectboard meeting.

b) Volunteer recognition

Walter Reed II suggested that a volunteer recognition event be held to thank the numerous volunteers that are doing great work on all the committees. A catered meal was proposed using interest money from land sales to fund it. Everyone agreed to move forward with the idea. Pam Cousino and Laurie Curler will gather information for it.

8. Correspondence

a) VARS June Monthly update

Received a written update for the month of June from VARS. Walter Reed II provided an update stating that they are still waiting for the financial data they requested and asked to withhold payment until the information is received.

9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign

a) Selectboard Warrant

Walter Reed II moved to approve the warrants in the amount of \$74,672.34 and hold the VARS payment of \$39,690.00. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Chris Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Allen