

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
September 1, 2020**

Members present: Chris Campbell, Jessica James, Michael "Red" Muir, Jim Benoit

Absent: Clark Hinsdale

Town officials present: Pam Cousino, Town Clerk, Deb Healey, Treasurer, Bonnie Barnes, Zoning Administrator. All town officials participated electronically using Zoom.

Visitors present: Janice Perry, Jean Richardson, Travis Marcotte, Ashely LaFlam

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

Jessica James called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

2. Approve Minutes – Special meeting/site visit July 21, 2020 and regular meeting, August 18, 2020

Jim Benoit made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2020 special meeting/site visit as submitted. Red Muir seconded the motion. Jessica had an amendment to the submitted draft. Visitors present included Sandra Pearson and Peter Ross. All voted in favor with Chris Campbell abstaining. MOTION PASSED. Red Muir moved to accept the minutes of the August 18, 2020 regular meeting. Chris Campbell seconded. All voted in favor with Jim Benoit abstaining. MOTION PASSED

3. Selectboard New Business

(a) **Treasurer – to waive interest charges on 1st installment of FY 20/21 – one month only.** Deb Healey presented request to delay interest charges on the first property tax installment due to the first installment date shifting from September 1st to September 15th. Normally tax interest would be assessed beginning on the 16th but would like to move it to October 2nd to prevent processing complications due to the change in first installment date. Jim Benoit made the motion to waive interest charges for 16 days on the FY 20/21 1st quarter installment with interest to begin on 10/2. Red Muir seconded. All in favor. MOTION PASSED

(b) **Noise complaint – Village Tavern**

Jessica received an email from Jessy Amblo regarding noise he has been hearing from the Village Tavern that he feels has become unreasonable. Jessica read the Noise Ordinance section 8.1. The Tavern owner, Travis Marcotte, indicated he had not received any complaints prior to this one. A DJ is outside, based on COVID requirements, usually once or twice a month on Saturdays ending at 11pm. Jean Richardson indicated she lives nearby and has not heard the music. Bonnie clarified that the 70 decibels would be at the property line of the Tavern and sustained at that level for a period of time. Travis had also spoken with some neighbors in the hollow area and they have not heard the music. No action needed at this time.

(c) **Allow office cleaning outside regular business hours**

Cleaning during business hours is very disruptive to the office staff and others who use the office. Discussion held around security of confidential information. A contract will be drafted to include the hours to be outside of office hours and that she has no one else working with her unless they are covered under her insurance.

4. Selectboard old business

(a) 3133 Hawkins Road – tentative hold harmless agreement

Jessica has not heard from the town attorney. Janice Perry indicated the attorneys were working together and that they should have something for the next meeting.

(b) Building maintenance updates

i. Union Meeting Hall update

Red is working to get a scope of work. He met with John Tenney from Silver Maple. He looked at the problem with the wood at the town offices. He suggested that they get an architect to look at the union meeting hall before getting a scope of work. John Bull repaired the front steps and will modify the ramp based on the current use of 49 people. Red continues to monitor the surge in electricity usage. Union meeting hall sign will be ordered. Trees have been trimmed and Bonnie is working on a permit for the sign. Steeple repair – Ashley will update the scope of work from Bob Griswold to use composite materials for the repair so it can go out for bid. The Building Committee is very grateful to John Bull and the road crew for the excellent work they have done to improve the appearance and safety of the union meeting hall. Ashely LaFlam is asking for volunteers to help the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall move forward with saving the building. Anyone interested can reach out via email to unionmeetinghall@gmail.com

ii. Town offices building update

In the basement of the town office, Nicom came back to check the spots where it had leaked and sealed them. Painting – Silas is checking with the old painter and Silver Maple will also provide a quote. Parking lot lights – Keith Wagner will do a lighting estimate for the lower parking lot and a double light on the existing pole on the top. Roof – reached out to Bread Loaf several times regarding the missing slate on the roof but they have not responded. Attorney had indicated that other items have passed the statute of limitations but the roof has been an ongoing problem. Red proposed sending a letter to Bread Loaf management to request a conversation regarding the roof issue. Jean will draft a letter for the board to review.

5. Selectboard General Business

a) COVID-19 updates

Over 1000 masks have been donated and updates were posted on Front Porch Forum and the Facebook page. Anne Audy has been the driving force behind this and others have donated money for fabric.

6. Public Comment

No public comment

7. Other Business

No other business

8. Correspondence

No correspondence

9. Selectboard to approve or Sign

a) VTrans Maintenance agreement re: intersection improvements and traffic signal at US 7/Old Hollow Road/Stage Road

Red asked if John Bull had reviewed this. Jessica has not heard from him regarding this agreement. Red moved that John Bull review the agreement and with his approval the board will sign it. Jim Benoit seconded. All in favor. MOTION PASSED

b) Selectboard warrant

Chris Campbell made a motion to approve the selectboard warrants in the amount of \$100, 141.03. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Allen