

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
September 3, 2024**

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

Town officials present: Pam Cousino, Town Clerk

Visitors present: Bessie Sessions, Jeanne Kelly, Ariel Taylor Smith, Garry Clark, Red Muir, Kurt Haigis, Ashley LaFlam, Brian Goodyear, Rick Kerschner

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

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

2. Approve Minutes – Regular meeting August 20, 2024

Jim Benoit moved to approve the regular meeting minutes for August 20, 2024 as presented. Walter Reed II seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

Red Muir asked about the paving plans for the town and union meeting hall parking lots. Jim Benoit confirmed that the work is still planned.

4. Selectboard New Business

a. Request for Old Hollow Road Closure 10/31/24

Ariel Taylor Smith requested the closure of Old Hollow Road for the evening of 10/31/24, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., to allow for safe trick or treating. After discussion it was decided some extra steps were needed before approval could be voted on. Ariel will canvas neighbors for their interest and ask the church if their lot could be used for parking. Chris Campbell will speak to the Sheriff's Department and fire department about availability and Jim Benoit will check with John Bull.

5. Selectboard Old Business

a. Cross Road Culvert Update

Garry Clark reported the culvert has been cleared and the water is flowing freely. Garry expressed concern that the water flows so strongly that it could fill up again. Jim Benoit said he will check with John Bull and Reilly Laberge about putting in some stone or rip rap to maintain the flow.

b. Hazardous Materials Ordinance - Draft

Pam Cousino reported that they continue to work on the draft, and they have a deadline of September 20, 2024 to complete it.

6. Selectboard General Business

a) VARS update – Walter Reed

Walter Reed II provided an update from his meeting with the VARS board. He and Chris Bearor presented a proposal to the board to add a paragraph to the contract that allows for a representative from each town, with voting privileges, to the VARS board. Walter said they were open to the idea, and he is ready to approve the payment to VARS.

b) Union Meeting Hall update and signature Lintel Repair Agreement Amendment

Ashley LaFlam presented an amendment to the original contract from Engineering Ventures for additional work to determine how to repair the stone lintel on the west entry door. They have received approval from the NPS to move forward along with \$600. The total repair cost is \$1,200 and it will be covered by the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall. Rick Kerschner reported the Building Maintenance Committee met and recommends the board sign it.

Walter Reed II moved to approve and sign the amendment to the Engineering Ventures contract for \$1,200.00. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Rick Kerschner reported that they are working on a list of encumbrances on the Union Meeting Hall for the NPS.

c) Brown Church update

Clark Hinsdale reported that the public notice that was posted needed to be modified to include the buyer's name and purchase price. It was updated and reposted on August 29th and must be posted for 30 days.

d) Update on changing Fire Department to a Municipality

Bill Wager continues to work with his leadership and crew to help them understand what this entails. Chief LaRose from the Bristol Fire Department will be attending their meeting to share what their process was when they became a municipality. Chris Campbell and Walter Reed II will attend this meeting.

e) Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Pam Cousino reported that their next meeting is September 9th and she believes they are on track to meet the deadline of September 20th. They can submit the draft version to be eligible for FEMA funding.

7. Other Business

Walter Reed II provided some details on the research to hold a volunteer appreciation dinner.

8. Correspondence

a) Letter to School board re: Emergency Shelter at FCS????

Clark Hinsdale sent a letter to the ANWSD School Board, the Superintendent, and the Ferrisburgh Central School Principal requesting they attend an October Selectboard meeting to discuss using the school as an emergency shelter. Pam Cousino reported she has been receiving responses and needs to coordinate the date.

b) Christina Brace VARS

An email was received from Christina Brace regarding the minutes for the last VARS meeting that Walter Reed II attended.

c) FYI from Municipal Energy Resilience Program

Kurt Haigis provided a summary of the letter received from the ACRPC regarding the loss of funding from the energy resiliency program.

d) VARS July Monthly Report

Received the July monthly report from VARS with the latest statistics.

e) Building Maintenance Draft Minutes Aug. 13, meeting

The Building Maintenance Committee sent their draft minutes for the August 13th meeting.

9. Selectboard to Approve or Sign

a) Selectboard Warrant

Walter Reed II moved to approve the warrants in the amount of \$203,911.73. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Jim Benoit moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Allen