

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
September 15, 2020**

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

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

Visitors present: Janice Perry, Jean Richardson, Ashley LaFlam, Susan Murray

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

Jessica James called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Approve Minutes – Special meeting August 27, 2020 and regular meeting, September 1, 2020

Jim Benoit moved to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2020 special meeting as submitted.

Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor with Red Muir abstaining. MOTION PASSED. Jim Benoit moved to accept the minutes of the September 1, 2020 regular meeting. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

3. Selectboard New Business

(a) John Bull – highway operations report

John expressed appreciation for the picture Janice Perry provided of the fence location. Paul will tentatively return to work on October 1st with restrictions. Tree warden case on Plank Road – found that the property owner lives in Ferrisburgh, however, the section of the road is in the Waltham right of way. Arnold Bay Road has some erosion issues next to the Vorsteveld farm affecting home owners downstream. They will be putting in a settling pond near one of the culverts. They are finishing culverts on Button Bay road and should be done this week. Then will move to Sand Road. Four culverts are failed and will probably take a couple of weeks to complete. State salt price dropped \$27 per ton and they have plenty in stock. Highway crew is against the deferred taxes. John was at Long Point today and needs to work with the association on the water lines and valves that are buried shallow in the town right of way. Jessica emailed Chief Wager about the VTAlerts but has not heard back.

Clark mentioned to John he’s observed a lot of close calls on the Long Point corner by Helen LaFlam’s old house. He wondered about adding an extra lane. It’s a blind corner and at certain times the sun is in your face. John will put it on next year’s list of potential projects.

Jim asked if John had reviewed the VTrans agreement we tabled last week. He has not yet.

(b) Reappointment of Zoning Administrator

Clark Hinsdale made the motion to nominate Bonnie Barnes for another 3 year term. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

(c) Shellhouse Mountain Road - request for speed limit signs

Received a letter from Linda Stearns requesting speed limit signs on Shellhouse Mountain Road. John Bull is working on recommendations from the Sheriff on all town speed limits. There are

some definitions that need to be changed. Both Middlebrook and Shellhouse Mountain Road are part of this.

Jim Benoit requested that the Sheriff be asked to do some patrols there in the meantime. Deb Healey indicated that we must provide certified policies signed off by the town or the judge will throw out the case. John is working on the policies.

(d) Union Meeting Hall – external power and water hookups

Red requested permission to install external power and water hookups to help support any construction that may occur. These hookups would also be beneficial to Ashley when promoting use of the meeting hall. The money for water and electric hookups should come from the building maintenance fund, and if it's over the available amount, Red will send the details to the board in the warrant for review and approval at the next meeting.

4. Selectboard old business

(a) Jeffrey L. Sherwin – property damage at 417 Bay Road

No one present from the Long Point Association and Jessica had previously asked to have someone from the association attend. After some discussion it was determined no action was needed.

(b) 3133 Hawkins Road – tentative hold harmless agreement/1111 Permit

Jessica provided a synopsis of the previous actions and the steps forward. Discussion was held to clarify the options to move this forward. Red Muir made the motion that the appeal be approved. Clark Hinsdale seconded. Susan Murray provided her input on the steps forward. The discussion was tabled while Kevin Kite and Susan Murray work out conditions on 1111 permit and when it's ready the board will consider it at the next regular meeting.

(c) Discussion of Delinquent Tax Collector position

Jim Benoit believes that the method of payment for the Tax Collector would need to be warned at the annual meeting similar to when they changed from percentage to stipend. Until that time a tax collector is needed. Red Muir made the motion that we advertise for a delinquent tax collector with the \$3,000 stipend beginning immediately through June 2021. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. Chris will draft the advertisement. Jessica will research the required process. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

5. Selectboard General Business

a) COVID-19 updates

No update

b) IRS Notice 2020-65 – to defer SSA and Medicare Taxes

John Bull indicated the highway crew is not in favor of this deferment. Deb Healey provided additional details on how this would work if adopted. Red Muir moved that the deferment of SSA and Medicare Taxes not be offered. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

c) Reappoint Town Health Officer – 3 year term – Jaimeelyn Gaboriault

Clark Hinsdale moved that Jaimeelyn Gaboriault be reappointed for a three year term. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

d) Reappoint Deputy Town Health Officer – 3 year term – Kristin DeBellis

Jim Benoit moved to reappoint Kristin DeBellis for a 3 year term. Clark Hinsdale seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

6. Public Comment

No public comment

7. Other Business

No other business

8. Correspondence

No correspondence

9. Selectboard to approve or Sign

a) Listers Corrections (coming Monday, September 14)

Need more time for this. It will be moved to the next meeting agenda.

b) Approve and sign new Union Meeting Hall Rental Agreement form

A draft of the Union Meeting Hall Rental Agreement was provided for review. Red Muir made the motion to approve the agreement. Clark Hinsdale seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

c) Selectboard warrant

Clark Hinsdale made a motion to approve the selectboard warrants in the amount of \$51,341.25. Chris Campbell seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:11. Jim Benoit seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Allen