

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
October 19, 2021**

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

Town officials present: Laurie Curler, Assistant Town Clerk, Deb Healey, Treasurer, John Bull, Highway Department Foreman

Visitors present: Bessie Sessions, Jean Richardson, Steve Gutowski

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

Jessica James called the meeting to order at 6:33p.m.

Clark Hinsdale moved to amend the agenda to add item 8.g) Proposed Trails Committee, under Correspondence. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

2. Approve Minutes – Ferrisburgh Selectboard Meeting with Vergennes Fire Department, September 30, 2021; Regular meeting, October 5, 2021

Red Muir moved to approve the minutes for the Ferrisburgh Selectboard Meeting with Vergennes Fire Department on September 30, 2021 as presented. Clark Hinsdale seconded the motion. Red Muir, Clark Hinsdale, Chris Campbell, and Jessica James voted in favor. Jim Benoit abstained. MOTION PASSED

Chris Campbell moved to approve the regular Selectboard Meeting minutes on October 5, 2021 as presented. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

Steve Gutowski attended to request that a dead end or no outlet sign be installed at the intersection of Old Ledge Lane and Fuller Mountain Road. He also mentioned that the new roller on the grader is doing a great job and the road base lasts longer.

Jean Richardson, Chair of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA), reported that she had just received information from the Legislature that there is a proposal to change our Addison-3 voting district based on the 2020 census. The proposal is to divide Ferrisburgh into two districts (ADD-3 and ADD-4), each with one representative. Ferrisburgh would be divided roughly down Route 7, with Vergennes in the east side district, and West Ferrisburgh being grouped with Panton, Addison and Weybridge. There will be a meeting of the BCA on November 8 at 6:30 pm to discuss this proposed redistricting for Ferrisburgh.

4. Selectboard New Business

a) John Bull – highway operations report

John Bull reported that the culvert work on Walker Road has been completed. He shared pictures of what they found which was a metal structure from an old milk plant. He has received a fully executed grant for up to \$20,200 for storm water mitigation that needs to be completed by fall of 2022. He has not yet selected the project.

They will do some pavement cut paving on Shellhouse Mountain Road, shoulder repair paving on Sand Road and various places. Shoulder work on Monkton Road, Old Hollow Road and Basin

Harbor Road is ongoing. They had to do some repair on Arnold Bay Road after a power and water install requiring significant materials and manpower. This prompted several questions regarding appropriate charging of costs and oversight. John will check with other towns to learn their process.

The new truck delivery date has been moved to November 3rd. He received the salt price and it has increased 50 cents per ton.

b) National Opioids Settlement

A letter was received regarding the National Opioids Settlement. The letter provided an overview of the settlement, who should participate, and how to apply. Clark Hinsdale asked Chris Campbell if this could be used to help with programs that are in place. Chris replied it could be used. The deadline to participate is January 2, 2022.

Clark Hinsdale moved to apply for the National Opioids Settlement. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

5. Selectboard Old Business

a) Vergennes Fire Department 2021 – 2022 contract

Discussion was held regarding the amount in the contract that was presented and the percentage of Ferrisburgh calls. Jim Benoit moved to table this item until the board can speak with Chief Wager. Clark Hinsdale seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

b) Violation Notice to Bastille

There has been no response to the notice sent. Chris Campbell reported it was sent to the correct legal address. Next steps will be pursued.

c) Building Maintenance Committee Report

Red Muir presented the building maintenance report. They have started planning a capital budget. The steeple on the Union Meeting Hall needs a little more work. Locks and doors are all functional. Red will winterize the building next week. There is one more section of the town hall to be painted. Discussed the septic system relating to the school, the town office, and Atkins Farm. The school will support the inspections and pumping and the town will perform the mowing.

6. Selectboard General Business

None

7. Other Business

Red Muir reported that the neighbor has been parking at the Union Meeting Hall again. This will be an issue when plowing begins and for fire safety. This item will be added to the next meeting agenda.

8. Correspondence

a) VTrans – 2021 Class 2 town highway pavement markings

An email was received indicating there is a nationwide shortage of pavement marking materials. Due to the shortage not all Class 2 road centerline pavement markings will be refreshed this year.

b) Green Mountain Power – notice of planned vegetation management activities

A letter was received from Green Mountain Power stating that planned vegetation management activities along the power line right-of-way will occur in the next six months in several towns including Ferrisburgh. Jessica James will send the information to the tree warden.

c) USDA Solid Waste Management grants

Notice was received about solid waste management grants.

d) United Way of Addison County – thank you for past support

A thank you letter was received from the United Way of Addison County for past support.

e) Rokeby Museum – thank you for past support

A thank you letter was received from the Rokeby Museum for a donation.

f) Friends of the Union Meeting Hall – Ferrisburgh Day thank you

Ashley LaFlam sent a letter of thanks to Red Muir for all of the work and support he has given the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall.

g) Proposed Trails Committee

Clark Hinsdale emailed a draft proposal recommending a Ferrisburgh Trails Committee be formed. He indicated that development pressures have impacted the VAST trail, access to the Town forest and other issues impacting access to outdoor activities. This will be added to a future agenda.

9. Selectboard to approve or Sign

a) Sign Vergennes Fire Department contract

This has been tabled until the Selectboard meets with Chief Wager.

b) Selectboard Warrant

The payment for the Vergennes Fire Department contract in the amount of \$23, 191.78 was removed from the warrant. Red Muir moved to approve the warrants in the amount of \$166,602.69. Clark Hinsdale seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Clark Hinsdale moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Allen