

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Selectboard Minutes
November 2, 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

Visitors present: Bessie Sessions, Jean Richardson, Walter Reed, Andy Kirkaldy, Carl Cole

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

Jessica James called the meeting to order at 6:44p.m.

2. Approve Minutes – Executive session, October 19, 2021; budget work session, October 19, 2021; regular meeting, October 19, 2021

Jim Benoit moved to approve the minutes for the Executive session on October 19, 2021 as presented. Red Muir seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Jim Benoit moved to approve the minutes of the budget work session on October 19, 2021 as presented. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Jim Benoit moved to approve the regular Selectboard Meeting minutes on October 19, 2021 as amended. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. Clark Hinsdale noted that item 8.g) was missing under Correspondence. All voted in favor to approve the amended minutes. MOTION PASSED

3. Public Comment

None

4. Selectboard New Business

a) Clark Hinsdale – proposed Ferrisburgh trails committee

Clark Hinsdale provided information on the status of town trails and the impact to VAST, hunters, fisherman, and other recreation. He proposed establishing a committee and believes it would open opportunities for grants.

Clark Hinsdale moved to form a Ferrisburgh trails committee. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Clark Hinsdale will work with Pam Cousino to have it posted on Front Porch Forum to find volunteers.

b) Letter re: voter authorizations from Jesse Brooks of United Way

Jesse Brooks sent a letter asking if the petition process will be suspended again this year due to COVID-19. Red Muir moved to waive the petition process for one year for voter authorizations and discussion will be held during town meeting. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

c) Audio/video system report

Jean Richardson has been researching what could be done to improve the audio/visual systems in the Town Hall for holding hybrid meetings. Jean presented an initial report on what is needed to be setup in the two meeting areas.

Jim Benoit moved to approve up to \$10,500 for audio/video system improvements. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

5. Selectboard Old Business

a) Ferrisburgh-Vergennes municipal boundaries update from October 20, 2021 joint meeting

The meeting is being edited to try and fix the background noise and other issues.

b) National Opioids Settlement – form a committee

Clark Hinsdale will speak with his wife to determine her interest as her career has been working with troubled youth.

c) Violation Notice to Bastille

There still has been no contact or response. Chris Campbell proposed seeking advice from the town attorney. Jessica James will reach out to determine next steps.

d) Letter to McClays re: ROW conditions at Union Meeting Hall

The original letter was resent via certified mail with a signature required on October 21, 2021 and the signature card has not been returned. Discussion was held regarding what other options they have.

Red Muir moved to have John Bull purchase and install right of way signs. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. Jim Benoit, Red Muir, Clark Hinsdale, and Chris Campbell voted in favor. Jessica James abstained. MOTION PASSED

6. Selectboard General Business

None

7. Other Business

None

8. Correspondence

a) Kristin DeBillis – letter of resignation from deputy town health office position

Kristin DeBillis received a new opportunity and has resigned as the deputy town health officer. The board appreciates all Kristin has done.

Red Muir moved to send a certified letter to the Town Health Officer requesting her appearance at a Selectboard meeting. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

b) Age Well – thank you for continued support

Age Well sent a letter thanking Ferrisburgh for their continued support.

c) Elderly Services – request for same donation as at 2021 Town Meeting

-- Ferrisburgh Selectboard, November 2, 2021 --

Elderly Services sent a letter requesting Ferrisburgh give the same donation as 2021.

d) Vermont Agency of Transportation – grants for municipal road projects

The town has received notification from the Vermont Agency of Transportation that the Better Roads program grant is now open for applications with a deadline of December 17.

9. Selectboard to approve or Sign

a) Selectboard Warrant

The lift used for painting has been returned and Carl Cole was able to negotiate a reduction of \$750.

Discussion was held on the Vergennes Fire Department line item. Jim Benoit moved to table the Vergennes Fire Department payment until the Ferrisburgh Selectboard meets with the Vergennes Fire Department. Clark Hinsdale seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

The Maple Broadband line item was discussed and tabled until more public discussions are held on the use of the ARPA funds.

Chris Campbell moved to approve the warrants in the amount of \$56,098.92. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

10. Adjourn

Red Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44. Jim Benoit seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Allen