

**Approved**  
**Ferrisburgh Selectboard**  
**Budget Work Session Minutes**  
**Tuesday December 13, 2022**  
**5:30 p.m.**

*This meeting was held in person.*

Selectboard in attendance: Jessica James, Jim Benoit, Chris Campbell, Clark Hinsdale  
Town officials present: Pam Cousino, John Bull

Jessica James, Chair, called meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

John Bull, the Highway Foreman spoke about the suggested raises for the 2023-2024 budget year. He used 7.7% for the figures, realizing that the cost-of-living number may be less than that, and that a decision doesn't need to be made until June. There was some discussion about the town not being ready to use a step system with the road crew at this point but it may help with retention.

There was then some discussion about the purchase of a new grader since our current grader is almost 20 years old. John reported that there is still some trade-in value and this would be a good time to trade in for a new one. He has asked about using \$200,000 of the ARPA money towards it. After the trade-in we would need to borrow \$124,000. Pam will put it on the warning to be approved at the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. We have a healthy fund balance that may also be used towards that or perhaps lowering the tax rate by a penny.

Jessica asked about the need to increase the zoning attorney fees and there was some discussion about that. The fees were increased from \$4200 to \$6300.

Jim made a motion to adjourn at 6:33 pm, seconded by Chris, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Cousino