

**Town of Ferrisburgh  
Selectboard Minutes  
October 18, 2016**

**Members present:** Steve Gutowski, Loretta Lawrence, Michael “Red” Muir, Jim Warden.

**Absent:** Jim Benoit

**Town officials present:** Gloria Warden, town clerk.

**Visitors present:** Craig Heindel, Elizabeth Lowry, Bessie Sessions.

**1. 6:00 p.m. Annual review — zoning administrator.** For a draft of the minutes, please see the town website.

**2. 6:30 p.m. Regular meeting — call to order.**

Loretta Lawrence, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. She asked for a motion to amend the agenda, moving:

10 (b) Front Porch Forum — request for contribution to 6 (c) general business.

Jim Warden made a motion to amend the agenda as described above. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

**3. Approve minutes — October 4, 2016 (special meeting); October 4, 2016 (regular meeting).**

Red Muir made a motion to approve the minutes of October 4, 2016 (special meeting), as presented. Steve Gutowski seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Red Muir made a motion to approve the minutes of October 4, 2016 (regular meeting), as presented. Jim Warden seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

**4. Selectboard new business**

**(a) Vermont League of Cities & Towns PACIF 2017 inspection and action plan.** After review of the PACIF action plan, the board decided to implement the recommendations for the clerk’s office and town garage. Recommendations regarding the Union Meeting Hall will be addressed prior to any future renting of the building.

**5. Selectboard old business**

There were no items under old business for this meeting.

**6. Selectboard general business**

**(a) Vermont Green Line (VGL) Committee update.** Craig Heindel, chair of the town’s VGL Committee, stated that negotiations for the host town agreement are ongoing. He also stated that the Vermont Green Line project is about to file with the Public Service Board.

The VGL Committee and Jim Carroll, the town’s attorney from the firm of Carroll, Boe & Pell, recommend that the town hire Benjamin Marks, a lawyer who has experience dealing with the Public Service Board. Red Muir made a motion to hire Benjamin Marks, per the legal services agreement, using funds from the escrow account for VGL. Jim Warden seconded. Loretta Lawrence, Red Muir, and Jim Warden voted in favor. Steve Gutowski abstained. MOTION PASSED.

**(b) Red Muir — building maintenance discussion and updates.** Red Muir said he ordered the circulator pump from Vermont Air Systems; the company will coordinate the installation with the town clerk.

**(c) Front Porch Forum — request for contribution.** Loretta Lawrence read a letter from Jim Benoit, selectboard member, stating his opinion. Discussion ensued regarding how many residents have Internet access and use the service. Steve Gutowski made a motion to honor the request from Front Porch Forum for a donation. Jim Warden seconded. All voted against. MOTION FAILED.

#### **7. Public comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **8. Other business**

Jim Warden expressed his concern that more break-ins are occurring; he recommended that an inexpensive alarm be installed in the town offices building. Steve Gutowski suggested 24/7 monitoring of the vault. Loretta Lawrence will contact George Gardner for more information.

Red Muir asked if the speed cart had been moved to Plank Road. Gloria Warden replied that she had emailed Addison County Sherriff Don Keeler, and is waiting to hear back from him. John Bull, road foreman, will set up a meeting with Don Keeler to review which town has jurisdiction over 2166 Plank Road.

#### **9. Correspondence**

**(a) Addison County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) — thank you to the community for continued support.** Executive Director Robin P. Scheu sent a letter to thank the town for renewing its ACEDC membership.

**(b) Lewis Creek Association — thank you to the community for continued support.** Executive Director Marty Illick and Program Coordinate Krista Hoffsis sent a letter to thank the town for its annual contribution.

**(c) Vermont Center for Independent Learning (VCIL) — thank you to the community for its donation.** Executive Director Sarah Wendell Launderville sent a letter to express appreciation for the town's donation on behalf of the board and staff of VCIL.

**(d) Town of Ferrisburgh to Laura Wright — Vergennes Fire Department bill.** Town Treasurer Garrit Smits mailed an invoice for \$128 to recoup the charge for a false alarm at the Wright's residence.

#### **10. Selectboard to approve or sign**

**(a) Junior Grange — rental agreement for upstairs community hall — November 12, 2016, and the second Saturday of each month.** After discussion, Steve Gutowski made a motion to rent the upstairs community hall to the Junior Grange. Red Muir seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

**(b) Selectboard warrant.** After review, Steve Gutowski made a motion to approve the selectboard warrant, which details town expenditures, for a total of \$75,489.31. Jim Warden seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

#### **11. Adjourn**

Steve Gutowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Jim Warden seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Silveira