

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, January 9, 2019

PRESENT: Bill Schwartz, Stuart Coleman; Julie Isaacs; Lissa Stark, (Absent), Lucia Wing, (Secretary); Trevor Dryden (Roads); Scott Bushee (Facilities)

IN ATTENDANCE: David Brenner, Laura Gianotti, Jessica Flannery

CALL TO ORDER: Schwartz called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

POLICE/FIRE/RESCUE REPORT: (No report)

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: Bushee reported he had met with Sparky Electric who would run power to the electronics building door; Bushee also reported a problem with one of the overhead doors on the 4-bay garage; it had been fixed.

FACILITIES REPORT: Bushee reported he had ordered a hot water heater for the Library; discussion followed relative to the back door at the Old Town Hall. He would switch the door to swing in rather than out which made more sense.

ROAD & HIGHWAY REPORT: Dryden and the Selectboard discussed several email and written complaints submitted by several different property owners in Winhall voicing concerns relative to winter plowing and maintenance. The Town Clerk had received the complaints and forwarded them to the Town Administrator.

1) Complaint #1: Submitted by Michael Turner, #7 Benson Fuller Drive. Turner claimed the Town Highway Department had compromised the entry to his driveway during recent winter storms. Coleman & Dryden would take a look at the driveway to see what could be done. In the meantime, the Selectboard authorized the Town Administrator to respond to Turner's letter and let him know that the Town and the Highway Department would meet and review his driveway.

2) Complaint #2: Submitted by Karen Shaw, Pearl Buck Drive. Shaw was requesting guard rails on a steep section of Pearl Buck to reduce risk; she stated in her letter that several vehicles had gone off the road because of black ice. Coleman and Dryden would investigate. In the meantime, the Selectboard authorized the Town Administrator to respond to Shaw's letter and let her know that the Town and the Highway Department would meet and review Pearl Buck Road.

3) Complaint(s) #3 & #4: Joan Barker and Bob Barker had both submitted letters relative to the cul-de-sac at the end of the Road To Millbrook. Joan Barker requested the cul-de-sac be plowed and maintained better. Bob Barker claimed it was difficult for him to get out of his driveway to go to work; discussion with Dryden followed about winter maintenance scheduling. In the meantime, the Selectboard authorized the Town Administrator to draft a letter responding to the Barkers' concerns.

4) Complaint #5: Submitted by Chris & Casey Howe, #13 Road To Millbrook who claimed the Town plow was going too fast and had smashed their mailbox; discussion followed that it was most likely heavy snow and not the Town plow as the post remained intact. The Selectboard authorized the Town Administrator to send the Howes' a letter stating the Town would replace the mailbox; discussion followed about whether or not the mailbox had been correctly located relative to the road.

Schwartz and the Town Administrator would meet and review each letter and each response to the homeowners' concerns. Dryden reported he was over budget on salt and was low on both salt and sand.

OLD TOWN HALL: UPDATE:

The Selectboard and David Brenner discussed the lien against the Old Town Hall for no payment to the elevator company. It was the responsibility of Martello Brothers to pay and have the lien removed. The Town had paid Martello for elevator installation. Previously, the Selectboard and Brenner had agreed Brenner would contact his attorney and the elevator company attorney and come to a solution for payment. According to the attorney for the elevator company no such agreement had ever been made nor had he ever been contacted by Brenner's attorney. Discussion followed whether or not the building could re-open and be used by the Community Arts Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:00 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss contractual and litigation matters regarding the Martello Brothers contract and Mechanic's Lien against the Old Town Hall; ***motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*** At 6:20 PM the Selectboard came out of executive session; ***motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*** Out of executive session, the Selectboard agreed to forward all correspondence to the Town attorney relative to the lien against the Old Town Hall. In addition, the Selectboard would ask the Town attorney whether or not the building could be re-opened and used by the Community Arts Center with a lien against it. The Selectboard also agreed they would pay Martello Brothers' final invoice and Change Order for punch list items, but the matter of the lien would have to be resolved first; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) FYI: Personnel Policy
- 2) PTO discussion related to Highway Department PTO usage and Holiday pay; the Town Administrator had sent an email to the Highway crew to reiterate current policies about PTO use and pay for working on holidays.
- 3) FYI: Equalization letter

FACILITIES USE POLICY: DISCUSSION:

Next the Selectboard discussed the above, which included an ongoing long-term use agreements between the Town and the Community Arts Center, the Town and the Library, and the Town and the Fire Department for use of Town facilities. Coordination between the Town Administrator and Laura Gianotti; and coordination between the Facilities Manager and Gianotti would be important. Additional discussion included locking the elevator for safety purposes; mats on the floor to cover the carpeting which Coleman would take care of, keys, and Gianotti's ongoing efforts to set up a non-profit organization to operate the Community Arts Center.

WARRANT:

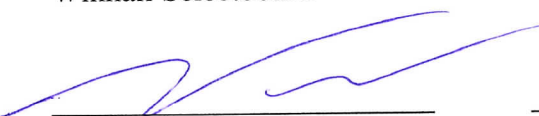
After review, the Selectboard approved warrant #1/09/19 as presented; ***motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

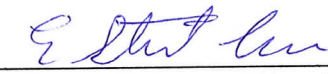
APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):

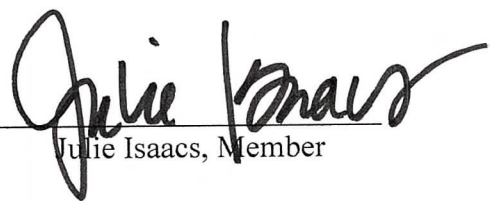
After review, the Selectboard approved the minutes of December 19, 2018 as presented; ***motion by Isaacs; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.***

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM; ***motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard


Bill Schwartz, Chair


E. Stuart Coleman, Vice-Chair


Julie Isaacs, Member