

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, January 20, 2021 (via Zoom)

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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

CALL TO ORDER: Isaacs called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Dryden reported the backhoe problem was finally getting resolved and would be picked up the following week and repaired; John Kenny, newly hired highway crew member, was learning the ropes and doing well; there had been lots of snowplowing as a result of the latest snow storm. Dryden once again brought up the importance of hiring a “permanent” fourth highway crew member. At Isaac’s request, Dryden had sent her a highway overview and timetable of year-round projects which could include a 4th man. Coleman commented that as Winhall was experiencing an influx of new residents, Town roads were much more utilized. Other discussion included offsetting overtime by employing more highway crew; “call out” protocol; money on hand in the general reserve fund; and consideration of merit-based raises. After review, the Selectboard added \$25,000 to the budget under line item “crew member salaries”.

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:

Bushee reported the alarm on the police side of the Town Hall and at the 4-Bay needed to be looked at; Bushee speculated alarm issues had been caused by the recent heavy snowfall. He reported he had met with the insurance agent from Traveler’s Insurance to update coverage on compressors and furnaces at municipal buildings. The elevator at the Town Hall had been serviced as required. He reported busy but steady traffic over MLK weekend at the Transfer Station; he recommended reviewing Transfer Station policy as regards to safety protocol; a floor safe had been donated by Tony Carroccio and had been installed at the Transfer Station for security purposes.

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD CULVERTS:

FYI: The Town Administrator reported she had not yet received the hydraulic study from the State relative to the Access Road culvert replacement.

COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION:

Status quo. The Town Clerk and Isaacs were helping out several families in the community.

TOWN MEETING:

As Governor Scott had signed Act 162 into law which allowed towns to delay Town Meeting, the Selectboard unanimously voted to hold Winhall Town Meeting Day on Tuesday, April 27th at the Town Garage starting at 10:00 AM. The Winhall School Board also agreed to hold their meeting on the same day. After further review, *Schwartz made the motion allowing absentee ballots be requested no later than 1:00 PM on Mon., April 26th; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.* The Town Clerk would not be required to mail ballots to everybody on the voter list. Bushee recommended turning up the heat at the Town garage two days prior to the meeting. Social distancing, masks, and speaker system protocol were also discussed.

TOWN MEETING WARNING & ARTICLES:

After discussion, the Selectboard approved the Town Meeting Warning & (4) Articles as reviewed and written; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

TOWN REPORT:

The Town Administrator stated she needed to submit the Town Report for printing by February 12th. The School Board budget and information would be included.

BUDGET:

After review, the Selectboard approved the budget as discussed and adjusted; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

TAX SALE:

Travis Dobson who had purchased the two Chapin lots on Lower Taylor Hill from the Town was following up with his lawyer to finalize the sale.

EMPLOYEE LUNCH:

The Selectboard scheduled an employee lunch for 1/26; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.* Discussion followed.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:

FYI: Correspondence and financials

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting minutes for January 6, 2021 were approved as amended; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

WARRANTS:

After review, the Selectboard approved warrant dated 01/20/21 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard

Adopted Virtually 02/03/2021

Julie Isaacs, Chair

Stuart Coleman, Vice-Chair

William Schwartz, Member