

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, February 17, 2016

PRESENT: Bob Oakes, Bill Schwartz, Stuart Coleman, Lucia Wing (Secretary), Lissa Stark (Town Administrator), Jeff Whitesell (Police)

ALSO: Jane Lazorchak (VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 5:15 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to review employee evaluations for Jeff Whitesell & Lissa Stark; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 5:50 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* No decisions were rendered.

Stuart Coleman and the Town of Winhall thanked Bob Oakes for his many years of service on the Winhall Selectboard.

POLICE/RESCUE REPORT:

Whitesell and the Selectboard discussed the police report for January including traffic tickets and warnings, false alarms, medical alerts, animal control issues, property watch matters, and law incidents in and around Winhall and the Stratton Mountain Resort. Whitesell reported there was an under-age drinking party off Kendall Farm Road; there were fake ID's used at Seven Eleven- the PD had apprehended them; there was a forced entry on Old Town Road; and there was a missing person's report, fortunately resolved without incident. There were many DUI's over the holiday period. Police Officer Derrick Tienken had finished his training as a DRE- drug repetition expert and was going to Arizona for further in the field training; discussion followed.

VERMONT FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT: DISCUSSION:

Jane Lazorchak, representative Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, came before the Selectboard to discuss the Department's interest in acquiring a 192 acre parcel owned by Michael Dritz; the land abutted Gale Meadow Pond with a portion in the Town of Jamaica. The land was tagged as a significant deeryard wintering area and wetland; there was also an endangered woodpecker on the property. Discussion included tax implications relative to the property as a result of proposed changes to the Agency of Natural Resources (PILOT) program as well as the importance of this land to Fish & Wildlife in an effort to preserve and protect all the lands around Gale Meadow Pond- hence the purchase. The property was currently under contract for \$535,000. Further discussion included the State's neglect to maintain Gale Meadow Pond. The Selectboard would support the purchase if conditions associated with the sale included better maintenance of the Pond, cleaning up the access area, and installing a bathroom facility for the public. The Selectboard wanted to review all the information first before submitting a final letter to Fish & Wildlife in support of the purchase.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: (No report)

FACILITIES REPORT: (No report)

OLD BUSINESS: Old business included the current status of the *Mountain School* relative to a potential sale of the building; *Cemetery Policy*- discussion included the idea of choosing a three (3) acre site on

Town owned land at the end of Kendall Farm Road for a new Winhall cemetery as there was virtually no space in the current one; and *Highway Policy*- there was still some question about enforcement of the "Notice of Violation & Intent to Institute Proceedings" form. The Town Administrator would contact VLCT legal counsel for clarification.

HIGHWAY & ROADS REPORT: After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit for D & L Builders, #15 Ravenwood Road; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

NEW BUSINESS: TOWN PLAN: After review, the Selectboard supported the Planning Commission relative to amendments to the Winhall Town Plan.

ADMINISTRATIVE: The Selectboard and the Town Administrator discussed updating the Winhall Purchasing Policy; discussion followed. Some minor changes would be required, mostly the sole source vendor list for routine purchases.

OLD TOWN HALL UPDATE:

Coleman reported he had contacted Cotton/Belaski Architects relative to renovations to the former Town Hall. There would be discussion at Town Meeting on 3/1/16 to see if the Winhall voters would approve the renovations. The Old Town Hall, now the Community Arts Center, was an exceedingly active place. Coleman had also contacted the bridge replacement representative who stated that he would need some different dimensions for a precast bridge on Lower Taylor Hill. This would also be discussed at Town Meeting to see if the Winhall voters wanted to re-open the bridge.

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence included BCA abatement meeting scheduled for 2/25/16.

LIQUOR BOARD: At 7:30 PM the Selectboard closed their meeting and opened the Liquor Board meeting. After review, the Liquor Board approved liquor licenses for the Bromley View Inn & Seven Eleven; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 7:35 PM the Selectboard re-opened their meeting.

PAYORDERS: (No pay orders)


PAYROLL: After review, the Selectboard approved payroll #5, #6, #7 & #8 as presented; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES: After review, the Selectboard approved the minutes of February 3, 2016 as presented; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

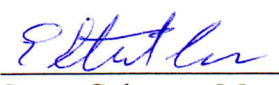
As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Oakes; unanimous.*

Meeting minutes submitted by,
Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard

Robert Oakes, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Stuart Coleman, Member