

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, February 17, 2021 (via Zoom)

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

JOINING ZOOM: Fred Schwacke, Jeff Such, Jan Shaefer, whovergard2, Big Robi, R Megroz, John, Ken Shapiro

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT: DISCUSSION:

Fred Schwacke and Jeff Such (So. VT Communications Union District) came before the Selectboard to continue discussion regarding broadband in Winhall and bringing fiber optics to the community at large. Such reiterated the benefits of fiber optics; cable and satellite versus fiber optics; municipalities banding together; and not tax dollars required to bring broadband to Winhall. Schwartz added he saw no downside to Winhall joining the CUD as there was no cost, no tax, no risk. Such added most towns were positive about joining CUD and he subsequently shared information- Broadband Statistics Summary by Towns as of Dec. 31, 2019. Discussion followed about appointing a representative and looking for an alternate. Such added representatives and alternates were appointed for one- year terms. After further review, *Schwartz made the motion for Winhall to become a member of the So. VT Communications Union District; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.* Further, *Schwartz made the motion to appoint Fred Schwacke Winhall's representative on the Board; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.* Schwacke promised to update the Selectboard periodically; in the meantime, the Town would look for an alternate by advertising the position on its website.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Dryden reported the backhoe problem remained ongoing; discussion followed. He added the Town had experienced several nasty winter storms; sand was holding up; he had ordered 270 additional tons of salt; and mostly all the highway equipment remained in good order. The highway crew was moving forward.

ACCESS PERMIT:

After review, the Selectboard approved a 911 number for Donna Evans, #215 VT Route 30; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE:

After review, the Selectboard authorized the Town Admin. and Town Clerk to sign the Certificate of Highway Mileage as presented; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:

Bushee reported the Transfer Station was status quo. He reported he had replaced the cables on the overhead doors at the Town Garage; he recommended reviewing all municipal overhead doors (16) total for cable replacement; discussion followed. He added the alarm box at the Library was experiencing moisture issues due to winter conditions; he would contact Consolidated. Bushee ordered a new coffee maker for the Transfer Station.

COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION: Status quo. Vaccine distribution was underway in Vermont; eligibility was based on age.

TOWN-WIDE REAPPRAISAL: The Selectboard discussed a Town-wide reappraisal for a future time. The Selectboard puts money into the Reserve Fund annually for that purpose. Currently the CLA & COD were within State guidelines.

TOWN REPORT:

The Town Administrator reported she had submitted the Town Report for printing and was currently reviewing the proof copy.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:

1) Correspondence included a letter supporting joining CUD and a request for flag holders at the Bondville cemetery; the Selectboard agreed to order.

2) FYI: financials; the Selectboard discussed quarterly distribution of financials.

LIQUOR BOARD:

The Selectboard voted to close the SB meeting at 6:05 PM and enter the Liquor Board meeting. After review, the Liquor Board approved a liquor license for Guest Convenience Stores dba as Seven Eleven; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; passed. (Coleman abstained)*. After review, the Selectboard approved a liquor license for the Winhall Market; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous*. The Selectboard voted to reopen its meeting at 6:10 PM.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting minutes for February 3, 2021 were approved as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Coleman; unanimous*.

WARRANTS:

After review, the Selectboard approved warrant dated 02/17/21 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous*.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:15 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous*. At 6:35 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous*. Out of executive session, no decisions were rendered.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous*.

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard

Approved Virtually on 03/03/2021

Julie Isaacs, Chair

Stuart Coleman, Vice-Chair

William Schwartz, Member