

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, April 6, 2022

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Kenny Chase, David Squires, Fred Schwacke

CALL TO ORDER: Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall in Bondville.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:35 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive to discuss personnel matters; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* At 5:50 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Out of executive session no decisions were rendered.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Tienken and the Selectboard reviewed the police report for March to include traffic tickets and warnings; agency assists; alarms; animal control problems; property watch, and citizen & medical assists in and around Winhall and the Stratton Mt. Resort. Chief reported that Officer Corey Revett had returned to work; a high-performance CPR class was coming up; he recommended ordering a second police vehicle now as it would not be available until winter; and he had attended a health symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. The Police Department planned to host an employee recognition dinner which would be catered.

HIGHWAY REPORT:

1) Dryden reported he had renewed Hunter Excavating's contract for gravel; he recommended ordering culverts now as they were hard to get; the sand contract and Town road striping had gone out to bid; mud season was mostly over; and the chipper purchase was put on hold until the following meeting. Discussion followed about installing a retaining wall on Kendall Farm Road.

2) After review, *Schwartz made the motion to apply and pay for a Timber Sale Permit from the National Forest to cut down a few trees on National Forest land, cost \$60; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

3) FYI: Benson Fuller/Taylor Hill Road intersection improvements; discussion followed. There had been no response from the owners on Mt. Haunts Road relative to the above. Isaacs would reconnect.

ACCESS PERMIT(S):

After review, the Selectboard conditionally approved (2) access permits for Chris Morrow, #6 Upper French Hollow Road pending the Highway Foreman's final approval of Morrow's plans including culvert installation and moving the access off French Hollow Road to the middle of his 50' ROW; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* After review, the Selectboard approved moving the current access for Larry & Diane Kingsley (Ancadilla) at #156 Winhall Hollow Road to a different location; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit for Robert Crabtree, Read Road Extension for underground power on the Town Trail- 4' below grade; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:15 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss Highway and Transfer Station personnel matters; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 6:35 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Out of executive session,

the Selectboard voted to hire Evan Coleman for a full-time position at the Transfer Station; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:

Bushee reported they had installed a metal door opener at the Fire Station; the 4-bay door was fixed; outlets fixed; he was looking for an experienced person to inspect Town generators; he had found a company to inspect the boiler yearly at the Community Center; and the wood flooring at the Police Department was wet and buckled but getting dried out and fixed. The 4-bay furnace eventually needed to be replaced; the building also needed new siding; he was looking into it. Bushee reported the RFP was out to replace the septic pump chamber at the Fire Station. Discussion followed relative to the Fire Station building being replaced.

ENERGY COORIDINATOR: DISCUSSION:

After review, the Selectboard appointed Dave Squires as Energy Coordinator for the Town of Winhall; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Squires would contact Scott Bushee and come up with a priority list for future energy efficiency projects.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: CONTINUED DISCUSSION:

The Selectboard briefly talked about the potential for available grants for affordable housing use on Town-owned land at the end of Kendall Farm Road.

COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT UPDATE:

Fred Schwacke came before the Selectboard to report on the current status of broadband, internet, and fiber optic use in Winhall along with a Town-wide mailing and electronic space in the Town Garage. After further discussion, *Coleman made the motion authorizing Schwacke to continue his efforts and keep the Selectboard in the loop; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION: Status quo

SHORT-TERM RENTALS:

FYI- the Planning Commission was continuing discussion relative to short-term rental language to be incorporated into the zoning by-law and other.

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD: On hold

MUNICIPAL FOREST FUND:

Coleman reported the Town of Winhall received \$4,000 per year in dividends per the Municipal Forest Fund. After further review, *Isaacs made the motion to reinvest the dividends into the Municipal Forest Fund to build-up reserves; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM:

FYI: The Town Administrator was investigating available grants; discussion followed about locations for the sewer lines.

PITELLI 4-LOT SUBDIVISION:

Schwartz brought up the Pitelli 4-lot subdivision located on Sugarbush Extension in Forest Farms, 3 lots had recently sold. The Planning Commission was holding a public hearing on 4/19/22 to restate the existing subdivision permit. Part of the discussion involved the ROW to access the Winhall Municipal Forest. The WPC would put a condition in the permit stating the following, "The Town of Winhall shall retain the right, if necessary, for all purposes, over the 50' ROW currently in existence and historical use. In so doing the Town shall not inhibit the use of a ROW, as shown on the recorded survey referenced in the Findings of Fact #1, by the owner(s) of lot(s) 1,2,3,4, which provides access to the lots. Any damage done by the Town's use of its ROW shall be immediately repaired by the Town at its expense." After review, *Coleman made the motion*

approving the language above relative to the Town's ROW into the Municipal Forest; seconded Isaacs; passed. (Schwartz recused himself).

LIQUOR BOARD MEETING:

At 7:50 PM the Selectboard closed its meeting and opened the Liquor Board Meeting. After review the Liquor Board approved a liquor license for Stratton Green Apron Restaurant located on the Stratton golf; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* The Selectboard re-opened its meeting at 8:00 PM.

PAST MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 3/16/22 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

WARRANTS:


After review the Selectboard approved warrant dated 04/06/22 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*


Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard



Stuart Coleman, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Julie Isaacs, Member