

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, April 17, 2024

PRESENT: Stuart Coleman; Bill Schwartz; Julie Isaacs; Lucia Wing (Secretary); Lissa Stark (Town Administrator); Scott Bushee (Facilities); Derrick Tienken (Police); Beth Grant (Town Clerk)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

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

Added to the agenda was Cemetery Commissioner report & unlicensed dog warrants; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Tienken and the Selectboard discussed happenings in and around the Police Department. Chief reported a community barbeque was scheduled; there had been several EMS calls over the last couple of weeks; they had stopped a car which disclosed illegal drugs; Jake LaCasse had completed his specialized training; and Michelle Farrar had been hired to fill the Operations Specialist position. She was well-qualified having worked with the Bennington Police Department for multiple years.

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT: Bushee reported he and the Town Administrator had carefully reviewed Casella's 5-yr. contract with the Town of Winhall; a cost comparison resulted in the Town saving money; Bushee added there was now one less box; discussion followed. Spring clean-up was underway; Transfer Station employees would paint a section of the 4-bay garage interior area. The Library and Community Center were scheduled for new windows which had been ordered. Discussion followed relative to cameras located in the rear of the Community Center which by law required signage; Laura Gianotti had been notified. The Town Hall was scheduled for trim repair and soffits. The vents in the vault had been repaired and painted. Hazardous Waste days were scheduled for May 11th and Oct 26th.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT: Coleman reported Weaver Excavating planned to start culvert replacement on the upper portion of the Access Road the following week; Clark would start the culvert project on the lower section as agreed shortly after followed by Fuller Sand & Gravel paving the section from the Townline to High Meadow Road as agreed. A culvert had backed up near Roberts Road and would have to be fixed. Coleman recommended the Selectboard start planning now for paving on the lower portion of the Access Road as the upper portion was getting completed.

ACCESS PERMITS: After review the Selectboard approved a final access permit with required 18" culvert for Robert Gutoff, Lower Stratton Valley Road; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

LIQUOR BOARD: At 6:00 PM the Selectboard closed its meeting and entered the Liquor Board meeting. After review, the Liquor Board approved a 1st, 3rd, and outside consumption license for the Work Horse Café; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Chief Tienken had no issues. They reopened the Selectboard meeting at 6:05 PM

UNLICENSED DOG WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard agreed to have Patrick Salo, Dog Warden issue warrants for (51) unregistered dogs to date including the prior year; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

CEMETERY REPORT: Beth Grant, Cemetery Commissioner reported that Patrick Salo requested permission from the Selectboard to bury his sister in the Middletown Cemetery; Grant and Salo would pick out a suitable site; the SB granted their support.

ALARM ORDINANCE UPDATE: After review and discussion at the Hearing on 4/3, *Isaacs made the motion to approve the Alarm Ordinance as presented; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Discussion followed about send notices to all residents who had registered their alarms plus others who may be interested.

SHORT-TERM TERM REMTALS: AWARD CONTRACT: After review, the Selectboard voted to award the STR Contract to GovOS to oversee management of STR's in Winhall; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

BENSON FULLER INTERSECTION UPDATE: FYI

AFFORDABLE HOUSING/WASTEWATER UPDATE: FYI:

TOWN PLAN UPDATE: Updating the Town Plan was underway including the addition of a Village Designation Center and survey info sent to all Winhall homeowners; over 200 residents had responded to date. The Planning Commission planned to meet with Matt Bachler (WRC) on 4/30 to review survey responses and formulate a presentation for a Public Hearing scheduled at the Mt. School on May 7th at 7:30 PM.

WRC APPOINTMENT: After review, the Selectboard appointed Cheryl Carr-Melah as the Winhall representative to the Windham Regional Commission; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

POLICIES & PROCEDURES: UPDATE: FYI:

CORRESPONDENCE: Coleman reported he had responded to complaints relative to excessive garbage at #386 Winhall Hollow Road and #27 Mt View Road; discussion followed about putting out a RFP for a Town Health Officer currently Stuart Coleman.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES: After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 4/3/24 as amended; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 4/17/24 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 6:30 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss police personnel matters; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 6:45 PM the Board voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Out of executive session, the Board authorized Stuart Coleman to sign Chief Derrick Tienken's renewal contract as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary Winhall Selectboard

Stuart Coleman, Chair

William Schwartz, Vice-Chair

Julie Isaacs, Member