

**Town of Winhall**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, April 19, 2023**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Scott Brooks, Andy Longee, Greg Povey (Consolidated), Beth Grant (Town Clerk)

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

The Selectboard voted to add Liquor Board Meeting to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (None)

**POLICE REPORT:** (No report)

**CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS PRESENTATION:**

Scott Brooks came before the Selectboard as a courtesy to inform the Board that Consolidated would begin installing fiber cable through the Town shortly and would finish in approx. twelve weeks; fiber hook-up would be available to all Winhall residents. Brooks stated that Consolidated had partnered with Southern Vermont CUD- Bennington for fiber build out. Discussion followed relative to service to the Town; providing mapping to the Town Clerk; working in the Town road right of way (Dryden would be informed); establishing a sales team who would personally contact all residents; and notifying the police that Consolidated would be contacting resident's door to door. Other recommendations were to post notices around town; post information on the website; and add a notice to the Winhall Newsletter. The Selectboard thanked Consolidated for the good news.

**OTTER CREEK ENGINEERING WASTEWATER PROJECT DISCUSSION:**

The Selectboard met with Otter Creek Engineering via remote to discuss a potential wastewater project for Bondville. Discussion included establishing a Village Designation Center via Town Plan revisions which the Planning Commission would undertake shortly. Based on establishing a Village Center, tax incentives would allow for grant funding from the State. Other discussion with Otter Creek and the SB included defining the Village of Bondville as one square mile; 50,000 gallons of sewer per day were already allocated to Winhall thru the Municipal Services Agreement; and the process of working with the State for putting together funding including subsidies and reimbursements. The Town Administrator would stay in touch with Otter Creek Engineering.

**ROAD REPORT: STRATON ACCESS ROAD PREBID MEETING:**

Dryden reported there were approx. 7-8 bidders present for the pre-bid hearing for culvert installation on the Access Road. All interested bidders would submit their bids via email. Dryden reported the traffic counter at the intersection of Taylor Hill and the Access Road

needed upgrades; discussion followed re: grant information. Dryden reported RFPs for a hydraulic study for South Road; gravel bids; and box culvert on Old Town Road & Winhall Hollow were out. He reported no grant funding for the bridge near John Spencer's house on Winhall Hollow Rd. was available; roadside trees on Town roads had been cleared to allow for more sun, more room for snow, and reduced mud impacts; ditching and grading Town roads were underway. Benson Fuller intersection engineering study was still on the radar.

**ACCESS PERMIT:**

No permits: Dryden reported pending access permits were increasingly more complicated.

**LIQUOR BOARD HEARING:**

At 6:40 PM the Selectboard voted to close its meeting and open the Liquor Board Hearing. After review with the Town Clerk, the SB approved a 2<sup>nd</sup> class license for the Winhall Market; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous*. The Town Clerk reported Seven Eleven and the Red Fox Inn & Tavern liquor licenses were pending. The Selectboard voted to close the Liquor Board Hearing and re-open its meeting at 6:45 PM. The Selectboard agreed to leave Liquor Board Licenses on the agenda as an FYI.

**TRANSFER STATION:** (no report)

**TOWN OFFICE COMPUTER SYSTEM (IT) UPDATE:**

The Town Clerk reported there had been problems with the cloud and getting access to NEMRC. There had been some estimated quotes for creating a new website.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:**

Isaacs reported she would contact the Town of Londonderry to get a copy of their very informative and thorough study relative to affordable housing in the area.

**CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD:**

The Selectboard was currently the cannabis control board in Winhall.

**MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM:**

FYI: See Otter Creek Engineering

**COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT UPDATE:**

The Selectboard would update Fred Schwacke on the meeting with Consolidated. Schwacke had been instrumental in the Town relative to getting broadband to everyone in Winhall.

**SHORT-TERM RENTALS UPDATE:**

Coleman reported he had recently met with Marcel Gisquet who had updated him relative to the direction the Planning Commission was taking re: short term rentals in Winhall.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:**

1) After review, the Selectboard agreed that Isaacs would remain the liaison for the Police Department; Coleman for the Highway Department; and Schwartz for Facilities.

2) The Selectboard would discuss the position of Fire Warden and establishing a policy at the next meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:03 PM, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* At 7:15 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* No decisions were rendered.

**PAST MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 4/5/23 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

**WARRANTS:**

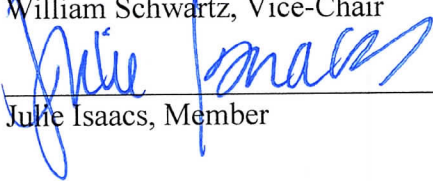
After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 4/19/23 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing,  
Secretary Winhall Selectboard

  
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Stuart Coleman, Chair

  
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William Schwartz, Vice-Chair

  
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Julie Isaacs, Member