

Town of Winhall
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, May 17, 2023

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Beth Grant (Town Clerk), Deb Avison (Town Treasurer), Bob & Nancy Oakes

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bob & Nancy Oakes came before the Selectboard asking for guidance relative to the Bondville Cemetery on Winhall Hollow Road. They commented that the front of the cemetery needed work as well as the wall area on the Route 30 side. Since the Beautification Committee no longer maintained the fence and the cedars were now too big and “unsightly,” they recommended removing both. The Selectboard agreed, removal would be the simplest way to improve the cemetery without any further maintenance. The SB explained the wall, however, was in a State ROW and the land did not belong to the Town nor did the cemetery itself which was privately owned. Isaacs asked to prune the lilac trees at the top of the wall; the Selectboard agreed. After further discussion, *Schwartz made the motion authorizing the Highway Foreman to take down the trees and fence; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

POLICE REPORT: (No report)

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT:

1) Dryden reported Melanie & Steve Morse, #40 Stratton Mtn Access Road had asked the Highway Dept. to repair the Access Road outside their driveway which continually washed away. After discussion, the Selectboard agreed fixing the road was Stratton’s responsibility. They asked Dryden to email Patrick Moyna (Stratton Corp) to resolve the matter.

2) FYI: Benson Fuller intersection. An RFP for an engineering study had resulted in an engineering firm outlining providing a proposal for studying the potential project, alternatives and options. The Selectboard wanted a set of plans; discussion followed relative to legal implications, eminent domain, and contacting the owner who had not responded to date. The Selectboard would hold off on a vote until they had reached out to the Town attorneys.

3) Dryden and the SB reviewed the “ditching fill waiver” and would contact the Town attorneys to review the form. Dryden reported the new truck had not been delivered; the backhoe had been repaired; the plow trucks tuned up; tree removal would get underway where necessary; culvert replacement would get underway on Winhall Hollow and Old Town Roads and Signal Hill at the end of Snow Valley Road. Future projects included dust control; mowing roadsides; and delivering more stones to Kendall Farm Road to be installed around the telephone pole.

ACCESS PERMITS:

Access permits were granted to the following: *Vito & Vanessa LaRosa*, Sugarbush Road Extension who required an 18” culvert and 911 number; discussion with Bushee followed relative to the difficulty in issuing a 911 number in that location and the potential of naming a new road; *Adrien Owles*, #24 Stonehouse Road- re-permitting an expired access; *Jim Lauro* #25 Jamie Lane- the access was in and finalized; and Jay Hachadoorian, #15 Lake Road to replace a culvert; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:

Bushee reported the Transfer Station had been re-soiled, graded, graveled; and a speed bump installed. Waste Hazard Day was scheduled for June 17th. An “updated” new camera system was getting installed. A new

propane tank had been installed at the Fire Station; drainage issues at the Town Hall were getting fixed along with the back parking area; painting was underway at the Community Center; Bushee would send out one more RFP trying to get someone to fix the 4-bay; he would keep the Selectboard informed.

LIQUOR BOARD HEARING: (None)

TOWN TREASURER REPORT: The Town Treasurer and Selectboard discussed audit findings and recommendations, policies, and procedures. Discussion followed relative to the audit recommendation of a fraud risk/assessment policy and others.

TOWN OFFICE COMPUTER SYSTEM (IT) UPDATE:

An RFP for a Town website would be emailed, posted, and put on the Town website. After discussion, *Schwartz made the motion approving the RFP; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: FYI: Affordable housing; Wastewater System; Grants

CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD: FYI: The Selectboard was currently the Cannabis Control Board in Winhall.

COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT UPDATE: Coleman reported Consolidated was almost finished putting up cable in Londonderry; Winhall was next on the list.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS UPDATE:

The Planning Commission met on 5/16 to discuss next steps regarding short term rentals in Winhall. Planning Commission Chair Gisquet had met with GovSoS via Zoom on 5/17/23 to discuss hiring their firm to manage short term rentals in Winhall.

PAST MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 5/3/23 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

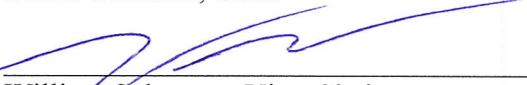
WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 5/17/23 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*


Lucia Wing,
Secretary Winhall Selectboard



Stuart Coleman, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Julie Isaacs, Member