

**Town of Winhall Selectboard**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, May 19, 2021 (in-person)**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Fred Schwacke

**CALL TO ORDER:** Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

- 1) Dryden submitted segment information sent by the Windham Regional Commission relative to the Town of Winhall Road Erosion Inventory; discussion followed. Dryden reported the Highway Crew was grading Town roads; ditching; and underway with other spring road projects.
- 2) Dryden reported the RFP had gone out for purchase of a new Town tandem truck; discussion followed about the versatility of a tandem truck.
- 3) After review of the current Town of Winhall Purchasing (Procurement) Policy, *Isaacs made the motion to increase the RFP bidding process from \$7,500 to \$10,000; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.* After further review of the Purchasing Policy, *Isaacs made the motion to temporarily increase the \$1,000 purchasing threshold to \$2,500 for one year (non-competitive bid); seconded by Coleman; unanimous.* The Town Administrator would change the language in the Policy to reflect the above. Discussion followed relative to hiring vendors without liability insurance and/or Workers Comp insurance.
- 4) An onsite meeting regarding the culvert replacement on the Access Road was scheduled for 5/27 at 10AM.

**ACCESS PERMIT(S):**

- 1) After review the Selectboard approved an access and 911 permit for Kristin Pirie, #261 French Hollow Road with an existing 15' culvert; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*
- 2) The Selectboard reviewed a change in access for Audrey Sternberg, #22 Snowflake Lane. They would make a final approval at the following meeting.
- 3) After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit for Robert Crabtree to work in the Town road ROW to install a network information communication cable on South Road with the caveat that Crabtree would be solely liable for all maintenance and repairs; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*
- 4) Dryden reported he had looked at Signal Hill Road relative to excavation work taking place on an abutting property along Route 30 and Signal Hill. No permits were required.

**TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:**

The Selectboard discussed the Mountain Valley Maintenance contract with the Town for summer maintenance, which had been renewed as scheduled. The Town Administrator reported (2) Hazardous Waste Days (not (4) were scheduled on 6/19 and 9/4 at the Transfer Station.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION:**

Vaccine distribution was underway in Vermont for everyone 12 yrs. and up. Discussion followed about mask mandates in municipal buildings; tabled until the next meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT: BROADBAND UPDATE:**

Fred Schwacke came before the Selectboard to discuss his eventual hope for a Tri-Mountain broadband CUD start-up with the premise that fixed wireless broadband was the best overall solution for “a last is first (Last Mile) implementation.” He recommended Winhall form a CUD immediately, and then he would meet with neighboring towns to discuss mutual interests and determine whether or not they wanted to join Winhall. After further discussion about underserved areas in Winhall and special vote by the Selectboard, ***Coleman made the motion that Winhall proceed with looking into forming a CUD, with Schwacke following up with other towns to see if they wanted to join, as formation of a CUD requires multiple towns; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

**ADMINISTRATIVE / CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1) FYI: No correspondence.
- 2) FYI: financials. The Town Administrator updated the Selectboard
- 3) FYI: Workman’s Comp Audit. The Town Administrator updated the Selectboard; discussion followed.
- 4) The Town Administrator would revise the Winhall Purchasing (Procurement) Policy.

**APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES:**

The meeting minutes for May 5, 2021 were approved as presented; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

**WARRANTS:**


After review, the Selectboard approved warrant dated 05/19/21 as presented; ***motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM; ***motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

Lucia Wing, Secretary  
Winhall Selectboard

  
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Stuart Coleman, Chair

  
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Julie Isaacs, Vice-Chair

  
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William Schwartz, Member