

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, July 5, 2023

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

ALSO: Beth Grant (Town Clerk); Deb Avison (Town Treasurer), Ed Rooney (Edgeworks Creative)

CALL TO ORDER: Coleman opened the meeting at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

The Selectboard & Chief Tienken reviewed the monthly police report for June to include traffic tickets and warnings; false alarms; animal control issues; property watch matters; DUI's; motor vehicle accidents, and medical & pedestrian assists in and around Winhall and Stratton Resort; discussion followed. Chief reported the new cruiser was getting outfitted and would be operational soon; he had posted the job for a new police officer. Schwartz discussed moving the mobile speed cart further down Route 30 heading into Bondville; it would have less impact on homeowners who lived in that area; Chief agreed and would get permission from the State to move it. Schwartz also discussed the Winhall Noise Ordinance as a means for police to fine renters who abused Airbnb's and other short-term rentals; discussion with Chief Tienken followed. The Chief and Selectboard also talked about an alarm ordinance; increasing spot control for speeding; signage especially when groups of individuals were training on roller skis on Town roads; and the driveway created for police emergency purposes only. VTrans had okayed it for that use. The homeowners at the end of the driveway would continue to use it to access their residence as before. Discussion followed relative to the rear parking lot and who should park there. A suggestion was made to file a letter in the Land Records to record who could use the rear parking lot.

WEBSITE PROPOSAL:

Ed Rooney (Edgeworks Creative) came before the Selectboard with a proposal to revamp and redesign the Winhall website; he was one of several bidders whom the Selectboard would meet with before making a final decision. Rooney gave an overall background about himself and his company and what they did; he stated currently he was working with the Brattleboro municipality to develop a website; his company had also designed websites for libraries, schools, and colleges. He explained his company created its own continuous platform with a focus on messaging and maintaining security; they billed annually rather than monthly; cost \$720 per year; cost to build the website, \$22,000; time 10-16 weeks. Discussion included ironing out issues in the first 90 days. The Selectboard thanked Rooney for his presentation and would keep him informed of their final decision moving forward.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: REPORT:

Dryden reported that a culvert located on Winhall Hollow Road past the Kingsley property had washed out along with a portion of the road due to a large beaver dam breaking apart. Emergency repairs to the road and culvert were done to allow vehicle access. Dryden explained a new culvert was needed to replace the old one. Discussion followed about different kinds of box culverts and cost- concrete or aluminum; the SB preferred concrete even though it cost more; it lasted longer. The Selectboard agreed to contact all contractors immediately who had worked for the Town in the past and schedule an onsite meeting for the following week. Time was of the essence! The Town Administrator would put together a shortened RFP format; the Selectboard would wait until the State had sent final specs for the culvert. After further review, ***Coleman made the motion to contact all contractors who had done business with Winhall in the past, have an RFP ready for an onsite meeting the following week; and wait for exact specs from the State; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD UPDATE: The Town Administrator reported she had not received a final report from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding high water calculations relative to culvert installation on the Access Road. Discussion followed re: Utility easements and available utility surveys.

ACCESS PERMITS: After review, the Selectboard approved a final access permit for Michael Zieminski for Lots 5 & 6 on Garden Loop Road; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

BENSON FULLER INTERSECTION UPDATE: FYI: The Town Administrator was in contact with Otter Creek Engineering to see if they could survey the area and include it in their price.

LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD: (No report)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1) After review, the Selectboard approved the Winhall Investment Policy and Fraud Prevention Policy as written; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* They tabled the Conflict-of-Interest Policy until the following meeting. The Town Treasurer submitted a State audit & financial summary sheet to the Selectboard for their review; discussion followed regarding the SB attending financial training.

2) After review, the Selectboard authorized Stuart Coleman to sign the "Financial Management Questionnaire;" *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Discussion followed relative to online payment for taxes on the Winhall website.

COMPUTER SYSTEM UPDATE: FYI: website bids.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING/WASTEWATER: UPDATE:

After review, *Schwartz made the motion authorizing Julie Isaacs to sign the Wastewater Loan Application Form so the Town Administrator could move forward; passed* (Stuart Coleman to abstain due to a potential conflict of interest).

SHORT-TERM RENTALS: FYI: Gisquet and the Town Administrator were working on an RFP to hire an outside company to manage short-term rentals in Winhall.


ADMINISTRATIVE & CORRESPONDENCE: FYI

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S): After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 6/7/23 as corrected and 6/21/23 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*


WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 7/5/23 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

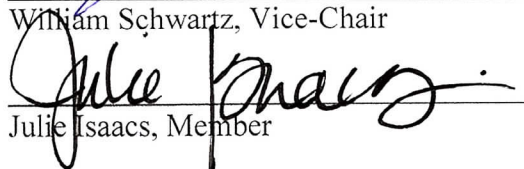
Lucia Wing, Secretary,
Winhall Selectboard



E. Stuart Coleman, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Julie Isaacs, Member