

Town of Winhall
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, July 19, 2023

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Pat Moyna & Jeff Cavagnino (Stratton Corp), Deb Avison (Town Treasurer)

CALL TO ORDER: Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall. The Selectboard voted to add setting the tax rate to the agenda; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

ACCESS ROAD: UPDATE:

Jeff Cavagnino & Pat Moyna came before the SB to update them on progress on the Access Road. They reported clean-up from the flooding event was in progress; the Access Road was open to traffic. Discussion followed relative to available FEMA funding; the Town Administrator would keep them posted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:40 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters relative to the Access Road; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*** At 5:55 PM the Board voted to come out of executive session; ***motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*** Out of executive session, ***Schwartz made the motion authorizing Coleman to contact Weaver Excavating to negotiate the current contract; the SB could pay Weaver for the two culverts he had installed on the Stratton Access Road; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- 1) Dryden reported all Town roads were currently open to vehicular traffic. Cranberry Hill, South Road, Winhall Hollow, and River Road all needed further work. Discussion followed relative to moving the "Road Closed" sign on Route 30 in Bondville to a different location as it was confusing.
- 2) Dryden reported the Highway Dept. had cleaned up the area near #15 Aspen Lane where water had flooded onto the owner's property. Justin Kojak, a resident on Old Snow Valley Road, asked the Highway Dept. to mow the sides of the road. The SB agreed to move forward; discussion followed about replacing the culvert on that road.
- 3) Dryden reported the pre-bid meeting went well relative to Winhall Hollow Road culvert damage as a result of a beaver dam flooding the area; (5) potential bidders had attended. After further review, the Selectboard agreed to a special meeting on 7/26 at 5:30 PM to award bids for culvert replacement on Winhall Hollow Road.
- 4) Dryden reported side mowing was in progress on Town roads; the backhoe had rolled over on Read Road Trail; the operator was not hurt; the backhoe had sustained minor damage. He had sent one of the Town trucks to Londonderry to help during the flood; more gravel had been delivered; and the Deer Yard Road cul-de-sac required grading as a result of road damage after the flood.
- 5) Coleman reported the Rawsonville Bridge was currently not passable and would require extensive rebuilding as a result of the flood; a temporary bridge would be installed in the meantime to allow traffic through.
- 6) After review, ***Schwartz made the motion to postpone awarding the line striping bid because of the flood and resulting road damage; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

7) The Town Administrator reported the Catamount Trail Association was requesting Selectboard approval for a ROW over town-owned land; detailed information would follow at a future meeting.

8) FYI: Benson Fuller intersection. Schwartz asked the Town Administrator about the GMP utility surveys.

ACCESS PERMITS:

After discussion, the Selectboard agreed to waive the homeowner \$100 fee to replace damaged driveway culverts as a result of the flood through October; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

LIQUOR BOARD: None

TOWN TREASURER REPORT & TAX RATE APPROVAL:

1) After review, the Selectboard set the 23/24 tax rate according to State & Town computations: Combined Town & Homestead Rate @ \$2.2148; Combined Town & Non-Homestead Tax Rate @ \$2.4083. *Isaacs made the motion to approve the above; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

2) The Town Treasurer and Administrator reported on the Town audit; site work had concluded. The Treasurer submitted end of year financials.

TOWN OFFICE COMPUTER SYSTEM (IT) UPDATE:

The Selectboard had received (4) bids to revise the Town website; one bidder had presented his proposal to the Selectboard at a prior meeting. The Board wanted to contact the other three to ask questions and potentially meet with them before making a decision.

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

SHORT-TERM RENTALS UPDATE: Gisquet and the Town Administrator had finalized an FRP to hire an outside company to manage short-term rentals in Winhall.

NEW BUSINESS: Coleman reported there was no water in the basement after the flood as a result of drainage improvements to the back of Town Hall land. The Selectboard had received FEMA Flood Maps.

PAST MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 7/5/23 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

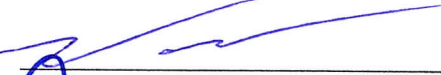
WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 7/19/23 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

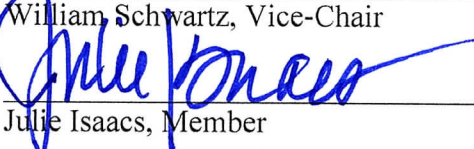
Lucia Wing,
Secretary Winhall Selectboard



Stuart Coleman, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Julie Isaacs, Member