

**Town of Winhall Selectboard**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, August 5, 2020**

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

**ALSO:** Randy & Teresa Ameden, Travis Dobson, Justin Kojak

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

After review, the Selectboard added an E & O Certificate and Access Permit to the agenda; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Justin Kojak came before the Selectboard for an update on work on Old Snow Valley Road (Class 4) where he is a resident. He questioned the Selectboard relative to culverts and ditches which the Town maintained. The Town Administrator had applied for a grant and was awaiting an outcome from the State. The Board questioned Kojak about a 15" culvert which he had installed without an access permit from the Town; Kojak responded he would apply for an access permit which would require installation of an 18" culvert; he would remove the pile of debris around site in the meantime. The Town highway crew would grade the road and smooth it out. Kojak also reported a number of vehicles and people not from the area partying at the end of Old Snow Valley Road; he had blocked the road with his vehicle to keep party-goers off his property. The Selectboard recommended informing the police at once and not blocking the road. Kojak and the Selectboard also discussed increased signage on the road; the intersection of Old Snow Valley Road and Route 30 as much improved; and a potential tax sale of a lot off Chickadee Road, which had been previously up for tax sale with no bidders.

**POLICE/FIRE/RESCUE REPORT:** Chief Tienken and the Selectboard reviewed the monthly police report for July including traffic tickets and warnings, false alarms, animal control matters, property watch, medical assists, and law incidents in and around Winhall and the Stratton Mountain resort. Tienken reported much speeding on Town roads including Winhall Hollow, Old Town Road, within the Village of Bondville, and others. The WPD would increase a police presence on these roads. They were giving out more speeding tickets and were looking to increase signage and add speed signs. Winhall was experiencing many more vehicles on its roads going way too fast. Tienken reported Stratton had no immediate plans to reopen the snowmaking pond; there had been an accident involving several vehicles at the intersection of Old Town Road and Route 30 which was under investigation; and there were numerous false alarms for the month due to the increase in Winhall's population. The Selectboard discussed snowmobiles, (and the State Statute related to such, on Kendall Farm Road during the winter months.) They unanimously agreed that snowmobiles would not be authorized or permitted on the road at any time; they also talked about ATV's and other motorized uses.) The current sign relative to snowmobiles posted on Kendall Farm Road would be removed by the Highway crew and the Selectboard would discuss new signage relative to use at the next Select Board meeting.

*a future*

**COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION:** Tienken reported generally status quo; there were no new cases of coronavirus reported in Winhall. Masks would be available for distribution by the Town through a statewide program. The Food Pantry was constantly getting filled and used by those in need. Dryden reported he had stocked-up on sanitizers and other disinfecting materials.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 5:40 PM the Selectboard voted to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 5:55 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of Executive Session; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Out of Executive Session no decisions were rendered.

**TOWN-OWNED LOT SALE:**

1) The Town-owned lot in Stocker Acres had been sold for \$7,723.43 to Whispering Pines VT, LLC. The purchase price reflected the amount of money the Town had invested in the lot. Schwartz commented the Town was not

permitted to make a profit under State Statute pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Section 1061 (a)(1). Stuart Coleman had been previously authorized to sign the contract.

2) Next the Selectboard discussed the (2) Chapin lots owned by the Town (purchased at tax sale) located on Lower Taylor Hill Road. Travis Dobson, a resident on Lower Taylor Hill, presented the Selectboard with an offer to buy the lots; his property abutted them. The Town had invested \$16,294.61; plus the cost of notice, plus the cost of EntryOnly fees to list the lots for sale previously. The Selectboard reviewed the offer and made a counter offer with revisions. After further review, ***Isaacs made the motion authorizing Stuart Coleman to initial the revised contract; both Dobson and his wife initialed the changes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*** The sale of the (2) Town-owned lots would have to be noticed without objection for (30) days as required protocol under State Statute.

#### **ROAD & HIGHWAY REPORT: AWARD PAVING BID:**

After review, the Selectboard awarded the paving bid to Fuller Sand & Gravel for the low bid of \$107,299; ***motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*** Other bidders included Peckham Industries at \$262,469 and Pike Inc. at \$169,171. School Road; Winhall Hollow Road intersection; Winhall Woods; and French Road on the Route 30 end were scheduled for paving. The Selectboard reviewed an ad for an additional part-time highway crew member. Coleman reported on the Cranberry Hill culvert project. It was well underway. The Town Administrator reported the hydraulic study on the Access Road culvert was in the queue.

**ACCESS PERMIT:** After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit with installation of an 18" culvert for Suzanne Nanney, #98 Sylvan Ridge Road; ***motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1) FYI: The Town Administrator would draft a monthly newsletter informing residents, especially new residents, of happenings around Winhall.
- 2) Correspondence included a letter dated 7/21/20 to the Town of Winhall about infrastructure in the Village. The Selectboard would respond.
- 3) FYI: Review financials re: Town Audit. The Town Administrator reported she was closing out the project with FEMA from the April 2019 rain/flooding event. The Town was entitled to a reimbursement of a percentage of the eligible costs incurred by the Town.

**ERRORS & OMISSIONS CERTIFICATE:** After review, the Selectboard approved and signed an E & O change relative to current use for David Key and Robin Mack; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.***


**APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):** After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of July 15, 2020 and emergency meeting minutes of July 22, 2020 as presented; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.***

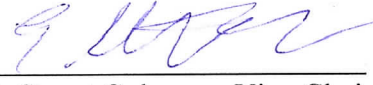
**WARRANT:** After review, the Selectboard approved warrant #08/05/20 as presented; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.***

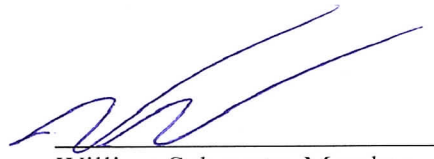
As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.***

Lucia Wing, Secretary,

Winhall Selectboard

  
Julie Isaacs, Chair

  
E. Stuart Coleman, Vice Chair

  
William Schwartz, Member