Town of Winhall Selectboard Special Meeting: Thursday, August 10, 2023

PRESENT: Stuart Coleman (Chair); Bill Schwartz; Julie Isaacs; Lissa Stark (Town Administrator); Lucia Wing (Secretary); Deb Avison (Town Treasurer), Al Bilka (Ass. Town Clerk)

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Strife III, Ron Hausthor (E-Enable), Thomas Jean (Revize) (via Zoom)

CALL TO ORDER: Coleman called the special meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall in Bondville.

WINHALL WEBSITE: PRESENTATIONS: The Selectboard opened the special meeting to hear proposals from (3) website bidders to redesign the Town of Winhall website. The Selectboard had previously met with a bidder from the Burlington, Vermont area.

- 1) Peter Strife, a resident of Winhall, spoke first relative to his proposal. Strife explained he used Squarespace, a website building and hosting company which was user friendly once set up and allowed page editing and adding content. He had recently designed the website for the Winhall Industrial Society and Bondville Fair. Strife offered to work with the individual departments to obtain input; offered training; an archive page; security; and technological support among others. He came with a background in technology and finance. Strife stated it would take him approx. 4-5 weeks to initially set up the website. Al Bilka spoke about other websites he had reviewed and asked about color and photos; Strife responded those would be included in Winhall's website. Deb Avison talked about including the Grand List and paying taxes online.
- 2) Ron Hausthor (E-Enable) explained he used Word Press which he felt was attractive and easy for users to navigate; he had designed the Town of Arlington's website. He talked about his design for the Winhall website; security; chat options; and hosted his own server. He offered technical support if required. Hausthor did not give a timeline.
- 3) *Thomas Jean* (REVIZE) met with the Selectboard via zoom. After introductions, Jean explained his company, Revize, was located in Troy, Michigan. Designing websites was their only business; they employed (47) employees; and had designed several websites in Vermont. Revize offered custom solutions for all size municipalities, towns, cities, and villages making redesigning websites fast & easy; with ADA/WCAG compliant standards; (20) years of experience; 24/7 technical support with ongoing maintenance, training; user friendly navigation; and ease of use. Revize's timeline to build the website was 3-4 months. Revize hosted its own server. The Selectboard thanked all bidders for their presentations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 6:45 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters relative to the (4) website bidders' proposals; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 7:10 PM the Selectboard came out of executive session; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Out of executive session the Selectboard agreed to wait until the following meeting to make a final decision relative to awarding the website bid.

PAST MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 8/2/23 as presented; motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.

<u>WARRANT</u>: After review, Warrant #8/10/23 was approved as presented; *motion by Schwartz*; seconded by *Isaacs*; *unanimous*.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM; motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.

Lucia Wing, Selectboard Secretary,

Stuart Coleman, Chair

Bill Schwartz