

Town of Winhall
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, August 16, 2023

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Whatley, Elizabeth Grant (Town Clerk); Deb Avison (Town Treasurer)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *Brian Whately*, a resident on #22 Road to Millbrook, came before the Selectboard to request a \$100 application fee waiver for replacing two culverts at the end of his driveway damaged by the recent flooding. After review, the Selectboard granted the waiver as requested; ***motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD: CULVERT UPDATE:

The Town Administrator reported the Army Corp of Engineers would issue the required State permits re: culvert replacement on the Access Road after the mandatory public comment period ended on August 23rd.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT: Dryden reported the owner of #102 Benson Fuller Drive proposed the Town pave the area in front of his driveway because of mold and water issues on his property; the problem was ongoing. Coleman and Dryden would review the location to determine a solution. Dryden reported sand, ordered from Hunter Excavating, was being delivered along with some additional gravel; the new Town truck had not been delivered; several small black tops areas on Town roads would be filled in; the culvert for Cranberry Hill was awaiting final State approval; the culvert replacement project on Old Snow Valley Road would begin shortly; and roadside mowing was mostly complete. Discussion followed regarding the Lower Stratton Valley culvert. Coleman reported all Town roads were now open and the road closure signs could be removed.

ACCESS PERMITS: After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit with two 24" culverts for Brian Whatley, #22 Road to Millbrook as discussed; ***motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT: Bushee reported he had contacted Casella regarding cardboard/paper removal. He explained that it would cost the Town only \$40 per ton for cardboard with no paper in the container; currently Casella charged \$124 per ton if paper was commingled. Bushee recommended comingling paper with plastics, bottles, and cans and purchasing a new container from Atlantic Compactor costing \$33,049.85 which the Transfer Station needed. The Town would ultimately save a considerable amount of money. He stated funds for a new compactor was available in the reserve fund. Additionally, he could move the compost container to the front of the yard which would help with the ongoing bear problem. After further review, the Selectboard approved purchasing a new compactor for \$33,049.85 as discussed; ***motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*** Signs for the police emergency road would be installed shortly.

WEBSITE PROPOSALS: After review, the Selectboard approved hiring Revize to redesign the Winhall Website at a cost as proposed and discussed; ***motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*** The Town would own the website with 24/7 technical support. Discussion followed about forming an energy committee.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES/AUDIT: UPDATE: The Town Administrator would work with Schwartz to revise some of the language in the Winhall draft policy regarding Conflicts of Interest & Ethical Conduct for clarity and resubmit it to the Selectboard for their approval; discussion followed.

BENSON FULLER INTERSECTION: UPDATE: FYI: the Town had received some survey info from GMP.

LIQUOR BOARD: None

TOWN TREASURER REPORT: The Town Treasurer reported property taxes had been mailed; payment online was available. Avison submitted the most recent financial summary. The Town Clerk requested Avison email her the above information; agreed.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING/WASTEWATER UPDATE: The Town Admin. and Selectboard discussed developing a Village Designation Center through the Town Plan revision process in order to apply for wastewater grants. The Planning Commission had applied for a municipal planning grant, but it did not include the above designation center language. Schwartz suggested the Windham Regional Commission could provide guidance. Cost would be picked up by WPC funds.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE UPDATE: The 3-member STR Committee had mostly completed a draft of an STR Ordinance. Discussion followed relative to the Winhall Alarm Ordinance including labelling propane tanks as to who owned them and installing outside lock boxes for ease of access in the case of a fire alarm.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1) The Town Clerk asked permission for the Kepler Family to bury their father in the cemetery on South Road; ***motion granted by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*** She commented that Ron Slade Jr. had been laid to rest in the Middleton Cemetery.

2) The next *Employee Luncheon* was scheduled for Monday 9/11/23 from 11AM to 1PM at the Town Garage.

PAST MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: After review, the Selectboard approved the special meeting minutes of 8/10/23 as presented; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***


WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 8/16/23 with the inclusion of three invoices relative to the Fire Department; ***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.***

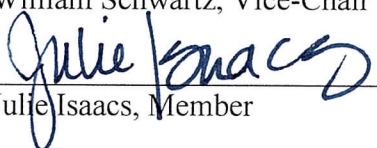
Lucia Wing,
Secretary Winhall Selectboard



Stuart Coleman, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Julie Isaacs, Member