

**Town of Winhall Selectboard**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, August 18, 2021**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Tami Blanchard (Planning Commission)

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:**

1) Bushee reported the Casella invoice had finally been corrected. He reported he was investigating composting companies; discussion followed relative to where to find composting bags. Bushee stated short-term rentals were causing garbage issues at the Transfer Station, mostly because renters were uninformed.

2) After review of the RFP to hire a part-time Transfer Station attendant, *Schwartz made the motion to move forward; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

3) Bushee reported the Winhall Library had flooded during recent rainstorms; no damage to the building; some electrical damage. Coleman added he had purchased a sub pump. The Librarian had resigned and two residents were filling in for now.

4) Bushee reported there was mold in the “trooper room;” a dehumidifier was taking care of the problem for now. Coleman reported the streetlight at the Fire House needed to be upgraded with an LED light. Discussion followed relative to removing two (2) lights at the Town Garage. Bushee brought up elevator inspection(s). The Selectboard talked about replacing windows upstairs at the Community Center. Bushee reported the Bondville Fair was ready for action.

**STRATTON ACCESS ROAD CULVERT PROJECT:**

Coleman reported he had been in contact with Fitzpatrick Excavating who had been awarded the contract for the Stratton Access Road culvert project to start in August, 2021; the culvert, replacing the existing one in the Access Road, was in process of being constructed. Additionally, replacing the Fire District water main was tentatively scheduled at the same time. Obtaining a stream alteration permit from the State was also underway. Coleman reiterated the project should move forward soon as planned.

**OLD SNOW VALLEY ROAD PROJECT:**

After review of the damage to Old Snow Valley Road during a freak rainstorm including overwhelming damage to the existing culvert, *Schwartz made the motion to have Weaver Excavating hired to repair the road and upgrade the culvert from 18” to 24” start immediately; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* An additional \$15,000 which the Selectboard agreed to would be required to completely fix the road. Discussion followed relative to FEMA reimbursement which could take up to two (2) years. Discussion followed relative to Chickadee Lane which was a private road and would not be included in the above road work.

**ACCESS PERMIT(S):**

After review the Selectboard approved a final access permit for Tom Molinelli (Molinelli Family Trust) off French Hollow Road; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Next the Selectboard discussed a request from Adrian Owles to place conduit under Stone House Road in High Meadow; the Selectboard concluded Owles should contact Stratton for permission as High Meadow roads came under Stratton Corporation’s jurisdiction and not the Town of Winhall’s.



**TOWN HEALTH OFFICER:**

After review, the Selectboard agreed to advertise for a Town Health Officer offering a range of \$20-\$25 per hour including mileage; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Discussion followed relative to the Health Officer's job description. All agreed the position was significant to the Town of Winhall.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION:** Status quo.

**COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT: BROADBAND:** No Update.

**SHORT-TERM RENTALS: DISCUSSION:**

Tami Blanchard, Vice-Chair of the Winhall Planning Commission, and the Selectboard discussed increased issues surrounding short-term rentals in Winhall which included noise, garbage, septic failure, parking, and compliance with State health, fire, tax, and environmental requirements. The Selectboard reviewed the "Winhall Policy Resolution for Short-Term Rentals" which the Planning Commission had drafted and posted to the Town website. However, it was becoming clear that Winhall needed to take a stronger stand. Discussion followed about the WPC and the Town Administrator collaborating on writing an Ordinance adopted by the Selectboard which would give the Town a stronger position in dealing with short-term rentals.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:**

1) After review, the Selectboard approved the Town Personnel Policy as written; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

2) FYI: financials. The Town Administrator updated the Selectboard; discussion followed.

**APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES:**

The meeting minutes for August 4, 2021 were approved as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

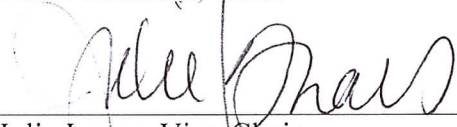
**WARRANTS:**

After review, the Selectboard approved warrant dated 08/18/21 as presented; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary  
Winhall Selectboard

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Stuart Coleman, Chair

  
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Julie Isaacs, Vice-Chair

  
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William Schwartz, Member