

**Town of Winhall Selectboard**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 2, 2020**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Jennifer Samuelson

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*Jennifer Samuelson* came before the Selectboard to talk about her interaction with Kelly Pajala, State Representative, who was putting together a group to welcome the influx of new residents to the area. Samuelson suggested a “Welcome to Winhall Banner.” In addition, a welcome to Winhall message could be part of the next Winhall Newsletter. She also suggested a Community welcome event; discussion followed. The Selectboard agreed to the banner; perhaps on the Community Center building; Samuelson would get a zoning permit from the Zoning Administrator.

**POLICE/FIRE/RESCUE REPORT:**

Chief Tienken and the Selectboard reviewed the monthly police report for August 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 there had been a significant increase in false alarm calls as a result of an increase in the number of residents coming to Winhall. Tienken reported Tom Curran, recently hired part-time police officer, was on board and starting an EMT class. Tienken stated the department had included a police survey with the mailing of property tax bills; a good number had already been returned. He talked about “Highway Safety” in place and several DUI arrests. He had applied for a Federal grant for (5) portable speed signs to help with speeding on Town roads. Discussion followed relative to future dispatch service. Chief Tienken added he would submit department news for the next monthly Winhall Newsletter.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION:**

Discussion of Covid-19 protocol at the Town Hall followed; the building is technically open during regular hours (M-Th), though members of the public are encouraged to schedule an appointment if they need to do research in the vault. Staff are no longer required to use the backdoor or stagger work hours to avoid being in the building at the same time. Masks are required in the building.

**TOWN-OWNED LOT SALE:**

The Town-owned lot in Stocker Acres which had recently sold to Whispering Lodge LLC and had been noticed without objection for (30) days as required protocol under State statute. The Town-owned lots on Lower Taylor Hill had been noticed and the appeal period will be over on September 11<sup>th</sup>. The Selectboard agreed to put it on the agenda for 9/16.

**EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS:**

As Coleman was absent from the meeting, the Selectboard agreed to table employee evaluations until 9/16.

**EMPLOYEE LUNCHEON:**

The employee luncheon was scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup>. Isaacs was handling the food; she anticipated a follow up luncheon in October.

**ROAD & HIGHWAY: AWARD LINE STRIPING CONTRACT:**

After review, the Selectboard awarded the line striping bid to K-5 Corporation @ \$9,300; *motion by Schwartz authorizing Isaacs to sign; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Other bids included Fresh Coat @ \$11,500 and L&D Safety @ \$15,500.

**ACCESS PERMITS:**

After review, the Selectboard approved 1) a final access permit to Whispering Pines LLC, #13 Slippery Fox Road with no culvert required; 2) access permit approval to Mathew Spear for 911 numbers which included #301 & #303 VT Route 30 (Franks subdivision); 3) access permit approval to Daniel Stiglitz & Andrew Moore, #18 Deer Street which required replacement of an undersized 15" culvert with an 18" culvert; and 4) access permit approval to Robert Morgan on Jamie Lane with no culvert needed and a 911 number to follow; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Selectboard reviewed a resident's letter with concern about the break in the guard rails at the top of French Hollow Road. The break was deliberate and allowed for the snowplow to push snow. Dryden reported the Highway Department had done work in that area.

**WINHALL NEWSLETTER:**

The Selectboard as well as those present praised the Town Administrator for a job well done. The Newsletter would go out monthly and was highly informative to both existing and new residents moving to Winhall. All departments were encouraged to contribute.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:**

1) FYI: Review financials re: Town Auditors to reach out to the Selectboard. The Selectboard reviewed language in the Town Procurement Policy per Town Auditors; discussion followed relative to necessary changes in other Town Policies. The Selectboard would discuss at future meetings.

2) The Town Administrator reported she had applied for COVID grants from the State and FEMA for reimbursement. She also talked about the River Road project and available grant money.

3) After review, the Selectboard authorized Julie Isaacs to sign the yearly NEMRC contract; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

4) FYI: Robert & Carolyn Crabtree one-lot subdivision approval (Read Road) by the Winhall Planning Commission.

**APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):** After review, the Selectboard approved the minutes of August 19, 2020 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

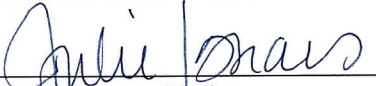
**WARRANT:** After review, the Selectboard approved warrant #09/02/20 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

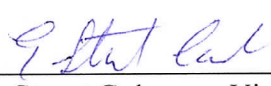
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 6:30 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* At 7:08 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Out of executive session, no decisions were rendered.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary,  
Winhall Selectboard

  
Julie Isaacs, Chair

  
E. Stuart Coleman, Vice-Chair

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William Schwartz, Member