

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 15, 2021

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Tara Vandervelt, Chris Kolk, Andrew & Carolyn Hall

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

HIGHWAY REPORT: None

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:

1) Bushee reported that the Fire Station was experiencing septic issues; the problem was the pump chamber which needed to be replaced; discussion followed relative to its age, not up to code, and safety issues. Bushee recommended alternatives to get thru the winter and into spring including pumping the tank a couple of times and hiring a professional engineer to assess the best route forward; the Selectboard agreed. Bushee added the Fire Station building itself was in tough shape. He reported the 4-bay garage repair for water damage was in process; he recommended looking at the remainder of the building. Bushee reported he had hired "We Clean Heat Pumps" to clean the air conditioners and external units at the Town Hall, Police Station, and Transfer Station. He recommended purchasing a new can/box for the Transfer Station in the spring- cost approx. \$4,500.

2) There had been one application for the part-time Transfer Station attendant's job; the Town Administrator would reach out to the applicant and set up an interview.

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD CULVERT PROJECT:

FYI: No contract. No bond. The Town Administrator reported she was in contact with the State on a daily basis. A portion of the Access Road was closed; excessive ledge was an issue.

ACCESS PERMIT(S):

After review the Selectboard approved a final permit for Robert Crabtree, #6 Read Road and an access permit for John Gage, #3 Old Peru Road; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* The Selectboard delayed approval of a right-of-way permit for Daniel Goldstein, #366 Winhall Hollow Road to widen his drive and bring the culvert up to code until the Highway Foreman had reviewed and signed the permit.

TOWN HEALTH OFFICER:

The Town Administrator reported the ad for a Town Health Officer was in the newspaper and on the website. Discussion followed relative to the Health Officer's job description. All agreed the position was significant to the Town of Winhall especially relative to short-term rentals.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS

Chris Kolk along with Andrew & Carolyn Hall who cleaned units for Kolk came before the Selectboard to talk about how they might help relative to improving short-term rentals in Winhall. Kolk owned several rentals and relayed mostly positive experiences with renters and how he successfully managed them. The Selectboard informed Kolk they did not want to discourage short-term rentals but recognized the need to regulate and enforce them better. They planned to write an Ordinance in hopes this would mitigate some of the negative issues. Discussion followed regarding overuse of septic systems, insurance matters, fire & safety inspections, garbage, noise, cameras, and what a good host should do.

COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION: Wearing a mask in the Town Hall and at all meetings was now mandatory due to the increase in Covid-19 infections.

COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT: BROADBAND: Status quo

WINHALL NEWSLETTER:

The Town Administrator planned to put together a Newsletter in October and would reach out to the various departments for contributions. All agreed the Newsletter was a good source for Town information.

EMPLOYEE LUNCHEONS:

The Selectboard and Town Administrator talked about scheduling employee luncheons at the Town garage; no specific dates but on the radar.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) No correspondence
- 2) FYI: financials

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES:


The meeting minutes for August 18 and September 1, 2021 were approved as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

WARRANTS:

After review, the Selectboard approved warrant dated 09/15/21 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard



Stuart Coleman, Chair



Julie Isaacs, Vice-Chair



William Schwartz, Member