

**Town of Winhall Selectboard**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 21, 2022**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Jeff Yates (WPC), Greg Sukiennik (Manchester Journal), Pat Moyna & Jeff Cavagnino (Stratton Corp)

**CALL TO ORDER:** Schwartz opened the meeting at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall in Bondville.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jeff Yates, member of the Planning Commission, came before the Selectboard to talk about a webinar he recently attended presented by VLCT and the CCB titled “Regulating Cannabis Retail Establishments.” Takeaways for Yates which he wanted to pass on to the Selectboard included the State as 100% behind growing cannabis as well as cannabis sales; defining a variety of license types and tiers; tax benefits to the Town; interior layouts & stringent security requirements; cannabis establishments subject to the same zoning rules that applied to any business; and the benefits of forming a local control commission. Discussion followed. The Selectboard thanked Yates for his insight.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

1) The Selectboard and Chief discussed the police report for August to include traffic tickets and warnings, alarms, property watch, animal control matters, and agency assists in and around Winhall and the Stratton Mt. Resort. Chief reported the new cruiser had been delivered; the old cruiser was offered for sale to other police departments for \$15,000; and adding a per diem police officer; ***motion by Isaacs to hire; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

2) Chief and the Selectboard discussed revamping the current, complicated dispatch system which was not working well by joining with Manchester; cost \$90,000 annually; fire & rescue to cost \$7,500 annually. The proposed dispatch system was well established and made sense for Winhall to join; communication equipment would need to be updated. Chief also talked about funding regional dispatch models for the future and adding an officer (fulltime) to the Vermont Drug Task Force.

**STRATTON ACCESS ROAD: UPDATE:**

Pat Moyna & Jeff Cavagnino (Stratton Corp) came before the Selectboard to discuss future upgrades to the Access Road which included replacing a number of culverts including a large one at the top. All agreed the upper section of the Access Road needed more work than the lower section. A rough estimate for the work was approx. \$1,000,000 to be divided equally by Winhall and Stratton Corp. Budgeting & funding would be reviewed for the coming year.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

1) Dryden reported Rosemary Strine on Winhall Hollow Road was requesting reimbursement for damaged mail boxes; discussion followed; the Selectboard would require a receipt for the new box and would reimburse Strine for the new mailbox once it was installed in accordance with USPS regulations.

2) On Monday, September 19, 2022, Trevor Dryden, Josh Carvajal, and Joe Sullivan met about a culvert that crosses Sylvan Ridge Road onto Sullivan’s property. Sullivan was in agreement that if / when he develops his land and he can show beyond a reasonable doubt that the culvert in question is causing water issues for his property, the town would be willing to go back up and revisit the situation at that time.

3) Dryden reported the Rice Lane sign in Stratton View was missing; Dryden would speak with the HOA or homeowners about ordering a new sign; the homeowners are required to pay for replacement road signs as Rice Lane is a private road. Also, several culverts in Stratton View needed to be replaced; homeowners would have to pay or find grants for the expense as Stratton View is a private road.

4) Dryden reported the Strattonwald dam was damaged and required repair; the Homeowners Association would have to come up with the funds. Roger Loeb, #22 Jamie Lane had alerted the Highway Department that the Town

road was washing into their drive; Dryden would investigate. Elisabeth Goodman, next door to the Town offices, reported four elm trees were dead and might fall down, causing damage; she wanted to determine if the elms were on her land or Town-owned land. Trees would be taken down by the Highway crew if the trees are on town land. Dryden would follow up to determine the property line. William Bellando, #9 Beaver Bellando had reported water issues on his property which had been resolved. Dryden and the Selectboard discussed installing speed bumps on Lower Taylor Hill Road; Chief would look into which kind of speed bumps might be legal and safe to install on the road. Dryden reported that there were issues with scheduling the line striping and K5 Corp was not responsive with a timeframe.

**ACCESS PERMITS:** After review, the Selectboard approved an “access permit to proceed” for Home Purchasing LLC, #142 High Meadow and an access permit with 18” culvert required for Robert LaCosta #6 Benson Fuller Road; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

**FACILITIES REPORT:** Bushee reported all was under control at the Transfer Station; green garbage bags were in stock. Bushee reported new sewer pipes would be required at Fire Station but would be paid separately from A.S. Clark & Sons’ project.

**SPECIAL OPT-IN/OPT-OUT CANNABIS VOTE:** FYI: Scheduled for Tuesday, September 27, 2022 from 10AM-7PM at the Town offices.

**COMPUTER SYSTEM UPDATE:** The Town Administrator reported Consolidated Communications Pro-Connect was able to offer a new fiber system at both the Town Garage and Town Offices; the build-out would be free with a 5-year contract. Estimated timeframe 60-90 days to build fiber systems. Town phones would be moved to the new fiber system for considerable savings. *Isaacs made the motion to approve the fiber proposal for internet and phones; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING: DISCUSSION:** FYI: affordable housing; discussion followed about the benefit of having a municipal wastewater system in Town.

**MUNICIPAL WASTERWATER: DISCUSSION:** FYI: Funding was potentially available for municipal wastewater projects (design).

**SHORT-TERM RENTALS:** The Planning Commission had formed a 3-person committee to draft language for an Ordinance relative to short-term rentals.

**COMMUNITY CENTER & HEALTH UPDATE:** FYI: status quo.

**TOWN-WIDE REAPPRAISAL:** FYI: Poulter still waiting for numbers from NEMRC.

**COMMUNITY UNION DISTRICT UPDATE:** FYI: Fred Schwacke involved.

**ADMINISTRATIVE & CORRESPONDENCE:** After review of the Act 250 Municipal Impact Questionnaire, the Selectboard made the motion authorizing Schwartz to sign.

**APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):** After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes 9/3/22 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

**WARRANTS:** After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 09/21/22 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

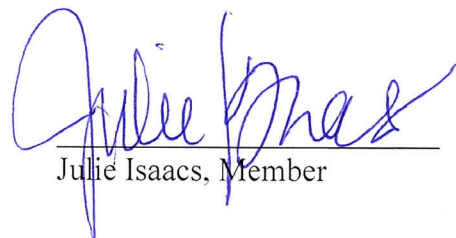
As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary,  
Winhall Selectboard

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E. Stuart Coleman, Chair



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William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



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Julie Isaacs, Member