Town of Winhall Selectboard Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, October 4, 2023

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

ALSO: Archie Clark (A.S. Clark & Sons)

CALL TO ORDER: Coleman opened the Selectboard meeting at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

The Selectboard & Chief Tienken reviewed the monthly police report for August to include traffic tickets and warnings; false alarms; animal control issues; property watch matters; DUI arrests; motor vehicle incidents; and medical & pedestrian assists in and around Winhall and the Stratton Mountain Resort. Chief reported that Chris Miller, recently hired fulltime police officer, started duties with the Winhall Police Department; Sergeant Jerimiah Rogers and canine Gunner successfully apprehended an individual wanted for murder; and several officers including Chief Tienken would be taking training/educational courses. Discussion followed about purchasing additional speed carts (cost approx. @\$2500) for Winhall as several had been tampered with or broken down; it was clear they positively impacted vehicle speeding on Town roads. Chief reported the new police survey was returning positive results.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: AWARD CONTRACTS:

- 1) After review, the Selectboard awarded the Cranberry Hill Upper Culvert bid to Hunter Excavating for \$18,600; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Other bids included Daniels Construction for \$21,500 and Ameden Construction for \$40,000.
- 2) After review, the Selectboard awarded the River Road Stacked Wall bid to Daniels Construction for \$69,500; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous*. Other bids included Hunter Excavating for \$88,000, A.S. Clark & Sons for \$123,900, and Ameden Construction for \$225,000; four (4) bids total.
- 3) After review, the Selectboard awarded the Winter Maintenance bid to Lancaster Management for \$7,500; *motion by Isaacs; second by Schwartz; unanimous.* Discussion followed about offering a one-year contract with renewal language. Bushee would be the point of contact for Lancaster.

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD: UPDATE:

The Selectboard agreed to pay Weaver Excavating for the two (2) remaining culverts for the Access Road, provided he produced a detailed invoice of all culverts and comes in to meet with the Select Board in person (where he would receive the check) about the contract and plans for the project. The Town already paid Weaver for all the other culverts currently stored behind the Fire Dept; Dryden had inventoried and accounted for all of them. After discussion, the Selectboard agreed to either renew Weaver's contract to finish work in May or rebid the project; discussion followed relative to Stratton's role in the bid process. After review, Schwartz made the motion to have Weaver attend the following Select Board meeting on 10/18, explain future work plans, provide a detailed invoice, sign a revised contract, and collect money owed him; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous. Coleman would contact him and get the invoice asap.

ACCESS PERMITS:

After review, the Selectboard approved replacing culverts for RJ Guttroff, #44 Lake Road because of recent flooding and an access permit for Amy Charboneau, #26 Sylvan Ridge; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

BENSON FULLER INTERSECTION UPDATE:

The Town Administrator reported she had reached out to several surveyors re: the above intersection. Surveyors had responded as currently too busy.

ALARM ORDINANCE UPDATE:

Coleman reported the Winhall Alarm Ordinance was underway with installation of lock boxes outside for entry keys so that the Fire Department could get into the houses to investigate the problems.

TOWN TREASURER: REPORT:

After review, the Selectboard gave permission to the Town Treasurer to invest Town funds in CD's; *motion by Schwartz; seconded Isaacs; unanimous.* She then handed out current financial statements.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING/WASTEWATER: UPDATE:

Coleman asked about the status of the Town Plan revision. The Town could not apply for a wastewater grant until the Plan included a section on establishing a Village Designation Center. Currently the Planning Commission was finalizing an STR Ordinance.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS:

The Planning Commission was in the final stretch of completing a Short-Term Rental Ordinance for approval by the Selectboard.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Selectboard asked the Town Administrator to draft a letter in support of Hunter Excavating extending blasting in its pit past the October 15th State Act 250 deadline. She would reach out to Stephanie Giles, Act 250 coordinator and draft a letter for Board review.

CORRESPONDENCE: TOWN CLERK AWARD:

Coleman read a letter of congratulations to Elizabeth Grant, Winhall Town Clerk awarding her a Certificate of Training elevating her to the next level of Town Clerk. The Selectboard extended their congratulations as well.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):

After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 9/6/23 & 9/20/23 as presented; motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.

WARRANTS:

After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 10/4/23 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM; motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.

Lucia Wing, Secretary, Winhall Selectboard

E. Stuart Coleman, Chair

William Schwartz, Vice-Chair

Julie Isaacs, Member