

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, October 21, 2015

PRESENT: Bob Oakes, Bill Schwartz, Stuart Coleman (Absent), Lucia Wing (Secretary), Lissa Stark (Absent), Scott Bushee (Facilities)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Carolyn Blitz, Patricia Stanley & Thom McMahon (Mountain School)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

POLICE/RESCUE REPORT: (No report)

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: Bushee reported electric recycling prices were down; discussion followed. The new packer had been delivered; Bentley would wire it.

FACILITIES REPORT:

Next the Selectboard reviewed winter maintenance contracts; Bushee reported there were two bids: Wesley Ameden (Ameden Construction LLC) @ \$135 per plow and Randy Ameden (Mountain Valley Maintenance) @ \$205 per plow. After further review, *Oakes made the motion to hire Ameden Construction LLC for winter maintenance; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Bushee reported he had bought floor rugs for the municipal building(s); he had decided to discontinue Foley Service and save the Town \$1,100 per year; the Selectboard agreed. Bushee believed the roof at the Town Hall would not be finished until spring; he stated there was no immediate urgency. Oakes and Tricia Stanley, Headmistress of the Mountain School, discussed increased security at the Mountain School as a result of recent vandalism; discussion followed. Bushee recommended contacting First Line Security to see what made sense. The Mountain School thanked Bushee for his cooperation and support during the burglary. Bushee reported the fire alarm system had been activated at the Town garage.

MOUNTAIN SCHOOL: DISCUSSION:

Carolyn Blitz, President of the Mountain School Board, updated the Selectboard relative to the school's interest in a new location in the Town of Stratton. Discussion included impacts of Act 46; keeping the present school in Winhall; impacts of building and moving the Mountain School from its current location to Stratton; re-opening conversation relative to the Mountain School buying the existing building and land; getting new and updated appraisals for the existing school; purchasing the school prior to State consolidation which would have all kinds of impacts; and local sentiment to keep the school in Winhall. Bushee then gave a brief overview of the State's direction with Act 46. Oakes felt there were three issues concerning the school. 1) Establishing a fair and equitable price for the building which the Winhall School Board owned; 2) establishing a price or use for the land which the Town owned; and 3) establishing current community use of the building. Discussion followed about the Town using the gym for Town Meeting or other community functions and in turn permitting the school to use the land for outdoor sports and recreation. Another suggestion was for the Town to potentially hold a portion of the mortgage if the building were to be sold to the school. Mountain School representatives were all in favor of working with the Town and its community. Blitz stated a primary goal would be to find a financial way to make the school viable in Winhall. She suggested a brainstorm session with Oakes, Bushee (Winhall School Board), and herself. Next the Selectboard talked about the current lease situation with the Mountain school; discussion followed which included dropping the square footage price; plowing-who pays for what; establishing specific language in the lease relative to the systems in the building like

water heating & boiler repair; and including a termination clause in the lease in case of a sale. Blitz reiterated it was the intention of the Mountain School to move forward, establish new criteria, and not look back.

HIGHWAY & ROADS REPORT:

After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit for Corey & Don Alpert (A12 Highmeadow LLC), #97 Highmeadow Road in the Highmeadow Subdivision in Winhall; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence; no administrative; no financials; no new business

PAYORDERS: None

PAYROLL: (None)

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES:

After review, the Selectboard approved the minutes of October 7th as amended and the special minutes of October 9, 2015 as presented; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

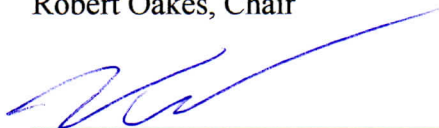
As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Oakes; unanimous.*

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by,

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard



Robert Oakes, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair

Stuart Coleman, Member