

**Town of Winhall**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, November 2, 2022**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall in Bondville.

**Added agenda item:** At the request of Marcel Gisquet, Planning Commission Chair, the Selectboard reviewed, approved and signed “FY23 Municipal Resolution for Municipal Planning Grant” for the purposes of renewing the Winhall Town Plan as required; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*** The Town Administrator would forward the signed document to the Windham Regional Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (None)

**POLICE REPORT:**

The Selectboard & Chief Tienken reviewed the monthly police report for October to include traffic tickets and warnings; false alarms (discussion followed); animal control issues; property watch matters; DUI’s; medical assists in an around Winhall and Stratton Resort; and other. Chief reported he was now fully staffed which allowed officers to go to training events; discussion followed about purchasing a drone for the department; grants were available. Chief reported there was \$20,000 in highway funding for a variety of items including distracted driving, texting and talking. The Department was successful at the Maple Leaf half marathon against the wardens. Chief had submitted his budget for the upcoming year; he requested a reserve fund for a patrol vehicle and cardiac restorer as well as a police dispatch & service reserve fund. Discussion followed relative to the benefits of knox boxes; Chief would investigate. Chief reported the new cruiser was in service and on the road; the old cruiser was for sale.

**HIGHWAY REPORT & ACCESS ROAD UPDATE:**

Dryden reported he had met with the hydraulic engineer; the studies were in the queue; Dryden recommended focusing on replacing the culverts first before paving the Access Road. Dryden also talked about a faulty wall located on Winhall Hollow Road near John Spencer’s which needed an engineering study to determine the what would be required to fix it. Per the Benson Fuller Upper Taylor Hill intersection, Schwartz would reach out to the Flemings (prior clients) who owned the adjacent property on Forest Haunts Road and get their input; ***motion by Coleman authorizing Schwartz to contact the Flemings; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

**ACCESS PERMIT(S):** After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit with an 18”culvert for Michael Cugini, #46 Cranberry Hill Road; and an access permit for Amy Charboneau, #26 Sylvan Ridge Road no culvert required; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.***

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 6:10 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss employee matters; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*** At 6:20 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.

**CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION:** The Selectboard was currently the Cannabis Control Commission in Winhall.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** FYI: Board members planned to attend a “Local Housing Needs” workshop in Wilmington hosted by the Brattleboro Dev. Corp. on 12/1/22.

**MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM:** FYI: Grants for wastewater projects were available; information would be sent to the Selectboard in the coming weeks.

**COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT UPDATE:** FYI: Fred Schwacke extended his feedback to the Selectboard and would stay in touch with them relative to expanding broadband in Winhall.

**SHORT-TERM RENTALS UPDATE:**

The STR Committee comprised of three (3) WPC members had met twice to date. Jeff Yates had compiled information from other town STR ordinances which the WPC had reviewed and felt would work well for Winhall. The Board had \$40,000 in a reserve fund to offset costs of hiring an outside group to manage short-term rentals for the Town.

**TOWN-WIDE REAPPRAISAL: SIGN CONTRACT WITH NEMRC:**

After review, the Selectboard signed the contract with NEMRC for a Town-Wide Reappraisal; in addition, the Selectboard added Nicole Dernier as a second administrator for NEMRC; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

**TOWN OFFICE COMPUTER SYSTEM (IT) UPDATE:** Most of the glitches with the newly installed IT equipment had been solved. All departments had received their IT equipment as requested.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Selectboard reviewed a letter from the Vermont Family Network asking for an appropriation of \$250. The Town Administrator would ask them to petition as required. The Brattleboro Dev. Corp. asked the Selectboard to post information in a public place. The Town Administrator reminded the Selectboard that the Personnel Policy needed to be reviewed and updated, and there was a separate draft computer use policy for Board review. Gary DiMaggio, #122 Benson Fuller Drive, had written a letter to the Town stating how satisfied he was with the job the Highway Crew had done for him.

**BUDGET DISCUSSION:**

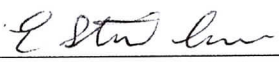
The Selectboard discussed reserve funds in general; discussed the fire truck reserve fund; agreed to raise maintenance expenses relative to Fire Station equipment, etc. discussed community center funds; and look into the appropriation requests.

**PAST MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:** After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 10/19/22 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

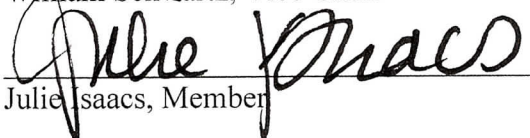
**WARRANTS:** After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 11/02/22 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing,  
Secretary Winhall Selectboard

  
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Stuart Coleman, Chair

  
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William Schwartz, Vice-Chair

  
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Julie Isaacs, Member