

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, November 16, 2022

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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Sarah Kiefer & Steve Bergleitner (Londonderry Parks Dept.)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Tienken introduced Officer Benjamin Lackey; Chief reported that Knox box discussion was in process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 5:45 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss police personnel matters; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 6:00 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Out of executive session the Selectboard voted to hire Benjamin Lackey as a police officer on a per diem basis; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT: Dryden reported first winter storm plowing went well; salt on order; some minor equipment repairs; upcoming hydraulic study on Winhall Hollow Road to improve curve and replace bridge; discussion followed about a box culvert in that location; grants were available; Dryden was planning for a large culvert at the end of Old Town Road.

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD: UPDATE: FYI: culvert hydraulic studies in the State queue.

ACCESS PERMITS: After review, the Selectboard approved a preliminary access permit for Sarah Bokenkamp, #5 Rogues Ridge Road; a final access permit with culvert for Edward Scheid, #59 Todd Hill Road; final access approval for Robin Brooks, #15 Rd to Millbrook; and permission to install underground power for Alexa Kulash, #5 Garden Loop Road (no bond required); *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

FACILITIES REPORT: Bushee reported the Transfer Station was status quo; speed bumps had been removed; the burn pile burned and ready for winter; generators were operable. Bushee commented on a Casella box with a bad door; discussion followed. The Winhall Library floor had been redone and sanded; it looked great.

LONDONDERRY PARKS DEPT. PRESENTATION: Sarah Kiefer & Steve Bergleitner came before the Selectboard to discuss hiring a Mountain Towns Recreational Administrator whose job it would be to expand youth & adult recreational programs in the Londonderry, Winhall, Peru, Landgrove, and Weston areas; the Londonderry Parks Dept. was asking Winhall for an appropriation of \$17,000-\$25,000 based on its fulltime population; discussion followed relative to forming an advisory board. After further review, the Selectboard agreed to write an Article to present at Town Meeting in March; *motion Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Kiefer would write a one-page summary of Londonderry's Parks plan by way of further information at Town Meeting.

BUDGETING: Municipal tax rate increasing overall; discussion followed relative to reserve funds, and department budgeting requests. After review, the Selectboard agreed to increase the Industrial Society's appropriation from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per the Town Clerk's request.

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION: FYI: Selectboard: The Board agreed to put an article in the upcoming Newsletter to see who else might be interested in serving on the Commission.

BENSON FULLER INTERSECTION: FYI On hold: Schwartz still trying to contact the owners with adjacent land on Mt. Haunts Road; no response to date.

COMPUTER SYSTEM UPDATE: FYI: Computers and software fully installed and working well; there would be upgrades to the internet; several new printers would be ordered.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: DISCUSSION: FYI: Isaacs and Schwartz planned to attend an affordable housing seminar hosted by the Brattleboro Credit Corporation.

MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM: The Town Administrator reported she had met with Tom Brown and the Windham Regional Commission to understand the process of Winhall becoming a Designated Village Center in order to qualify for grant funding for a municipal wastewater system. Discussion followed about the Planning Commission's revision of the Town Plan which was another vehicle to qualify for grant funding.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS: The Short-Term Rental Committee was in process of drafting language for an Ordinance.

COMMUNITY UNION DISTRICT UPDATE: FYI: Fred Schwacke would keep Selectboard current relative to broadband in Winhall.

DEPARTMENT CREDIT CARDS & SUPPLY PURCHASING:
The Selectboard and Town Administrator discussed credit cards for departments/employees and decentralizing supply purchasing so that departments could order their own supplies. More discussion to follow.

ADMINISTRATIVE & CORRESPONDENCE: The Selectboard signed the management letter acknowledging the audit findings for the auditors as presented.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S): After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes 11/2/22 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 11/16/22 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

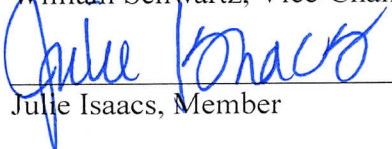
Lucia Wing, Secretary,
Winhall Selectboard



E. Stuart Coleman, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Julie Isaacs, Member