

**Town of Winhall Selectboard**  
**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, November 17, 2021**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sam Bledsoe, Michael Wilson, Jeff Cavagnino (Stratton)

**CALL TO ORDER:** Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall in Bondville.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**HIGHWAY REPORT:**

1) Dryden reported the new Town truck had been delivered and was in process of getting detailed; the salt contract with American Rock Salt was solidified but no sampling or testing offered; Dryden would pursue getting certified anyway. After discussion relative to the Benson Fuller and Upper Taylor Hill Road intersection and ongoing safety concerns, the Selectboard agreed to put it on hold for the winter and would revisit hiring an engineer in the spring. Dryden reminded the Selectboard that Benson Fuller Road was due to be paved. The Town Administrator reported she had reached out to several engineering firms.

2) After discussion, the Selectboard agreed to purchase a leaf blower at a cost of \$1,400 to the Town along with a grant of \$5,500; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Dryden and the Selectboard talked about selling the wood chipper as it was not used and installing the new leaf blower on the tractor.

**STRATTON ACCESS ROAD CULVERT PROJECT: UPDATE:**

Jeff Cavagnino (Stratton) and the Selectboard reviewed the Final Site Inspection Report from VHD engineering conducted on 11/9/21 relative to the culvert project located on the Access Road. VHD final items included reseeding, grubbing and stone fill as a result of erosion; discussion followed. To date, Fitzpatrick Excavating had not been fully paid. Coleman would follow up with Fitzpatrick on any items left to do. Hunter Excavating was still in process of replacing Fire District water lines in the ditch at the side of the road and out of the Access Road.

**TOWN HEALTH OFFICER: EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 5:30 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to interview a candidate for the position of Town Health Officer; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 5:45 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Out of executive session, the Selectboard agreed to appoint and hire Michael Wilson as Town Health Officer and authorized the Town Administrator to sign the appointment and send all necessary paperwork to the State; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

**TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:**

1) Bushee reported garbage bags had been ordered for the Transfer Station both 15 and 30-gallon sizes; discussion followed. Bushee would keep the Selectboard updated. Bushee reported the new attendant was doing great; he reported the old can/box in disrepair would be used for bottle recycling.

2) Bushee reported Dorr had cleaned out the Fire Station septic system; Wesley Ameden would no longer be plowing snow for the Town; the Town Highway crew would take-over the responsibility and plow the Town Hall, Firehouse; and Community Center; the Selectboard agreed; discussion followed. The 4-bay garage door would be covered for the winter; the Selectboard agreed to have Dennis Roy install a drip-edge over the Community Center door; and the backhoe needed to be fixed. Bushee reported the backhoe was used a lot and had over 4000 hours on it; discussion followed about purchasing a new one; the current backhoe was five years old. Bushee reported the electric box on the outside of the Fire Station needed work; it was the responsibility of

Green Mountain Power; discussion followed relative to street lights. Coleman reported the Fire Station light had been replaced.

**ACCESS PERMIT(S):**

After review the Selectboard approved a 911 number for Bob & Carolyn Guttroff, #290 VT Route 30; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

Chief Tienken and the Selectboard reviewed the Police Report for October to include traffic tickets and warnings; agency assists; alarms; animal control problems; property watch; and citizen & medical assists in and around Winhall and the Stratton Mt, Resort. Chief and the Selectboard discussed putting a reminder in the December Newsletter to register alarms and include an article about the upcoming Fire Department toy drive. Chief reported the Department was ready for a new cruiser; he would be ordering one for the spring. Tienken reported on new grant opportunities which included new vests @\$5,000; car laptops @\$11,000; and additional speed carts for the Town. Greg Eckhardt & Nicole Dernier had passed their EMT exams and Jake LaCasse had received his drug recognition certification. Chief reported thefts of all kinds were on the increase; police staffing was in place to handle the larger ski crowds expected this winter; a second physical fitness test was scheduled for Monday 11/22.

**SHORT-TERM RENTALS:** FYI: discussion followed relative to including a short-term rental section in the Winhall Zoning Regulations.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION:** FYI: Kids 5-11 were now eligible for Covid-19 vaccinations.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1) No correspondence
- 2) FYI upcoming budget for 2022/2023. The Town Administrator reported she was meeting with department heads on budget matters.

**APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES:**

After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of November 3, 2021 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

**WARRANTS:**

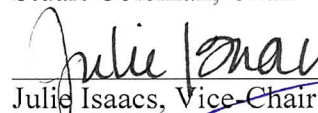
After review, the Selectboard approved warrant dated 11/17/21 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*


Lucia Wing, Secretary  
Winhall Selectboard

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Stuart Coleman, Chair



Julie Isaacs, Vice Chair



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William Schwartz, Member