

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 6, 2023

PRESENT: Stuart Coleman; Bill Schwartz; Julie Isaacs; Lissa Stark (Town Administrator); Lucia Wing (Secretary); Beth Grant (Town Clerk)

ALSO: Joanne Beck; Deb Avison (Town Treasurer); Al Bilka (Ass. Town Treasurer); Karoline Wallace; Tim Apps; Marcel Gisquet (WPC)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1) *Joanne Beck* came before the Selectboard in support of consideration, stipend, or other compensation to reimburse Laura Gianotti for all she does managing the Winhall Community Center. The Selectboard explained to Beck that because the Center was a non-profit the Town could not pay Gianotti directly as she was not considered a Town employee. However, as a non-profit, the Community Center could raise its own money thru a variety of fundraiser events which Gianotti could then use to help her financially run the Center. The Selectboard added they planned to increase the Center's appropriation to \$26,250 the same as the Winhall Library's, also a non-profit organization. The Selectboard thanked Beck for her concern.

2) *Tim Apps* came before the Selectboard asking them to consider delinquent tax money be returned to the Town as fair and equitable; discussion followed about what other towns did in Vermont relative to delinquent taxes. Al Bilka spoke that currently the Town Treasurer was taking on the temporary role of delinquent tax collector and should receive the 8% to date. The Selectboard agreed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:10 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to interview (3) applicants for the position of interim Delinquent Tax Collector; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 7:10 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Out of executive session, *Isaacs made the motion to appoint Deborah Avison interim Town of Winhall Delinquent Tax Collector at the current rate of 8%; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.* Discussion followed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:45 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters relative to short-term rentals; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 8:30 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Out of executive session no decision was rendered.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: (No Report)

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: REPORT: (No Report)

ACCESS PERMITS:

After review, the Selectboard approved access permits for Sterve Liberti, #2 Twin Pond Road-18" culvert required; Seth Meyers, #18 Wind Tree Road- request to burying cable underground; and Chris Casiraghi, #46 Rogues Ridge; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

FACILITIES REPORT: (No report)

LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD: (No Report)

BENSON FULLER INTERSECTION UPDATE: (No Report)

TOWN TREASURER REPORT: The Town Treasurer submitted current financials.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING/WASTEWATER UPDATE:

The Town Plan had been amended to add a Village Designation Center section per the Windham Regional Commission. The amendment would enable the Town to apply for a wastewater grant.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS:

The Planning Commission had sent a draft of the STR Ordinance to VLCT for their opinion and comment before sending it on to the Selectboard for their approval. In addition, the WPC would make a decision shortly relative to hiring a short-term rental company per the three (3) submitted RFPs.

TOWN CLERK UPDATE:

The Town Clerk reported she has made several corrections to the Town Report including adding members of the newly formed Energy Committee and making sure all Town appointed terms were correct. After review, the Selectboard appointed Beth Grant as Museum Curator; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Discussion followed about plans to pave a portion of the Industrial Society and Bondville Fairgrounds.

BUDGETING:

Department heads were scheduled to meet with the Selectboard on Saturday, December 16, 2023 starting at 8:00 AM to discuss their proposed budgets.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES:

On hold: Alarm Ordinance and Conflict of Interest Policy.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):

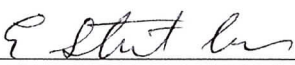
After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 11/1/23 & 11/15/23 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

WARRANTS:

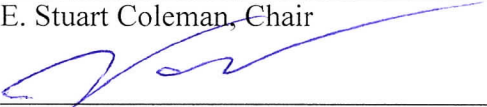
After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 12/6/23 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

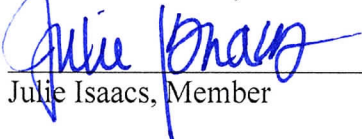
Lucia Wing, Secretary,
Winhall Selectboard



E. Stuart Coleman, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Julie Isaacs, Member