

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 16, 2020 (via Zoom)

PRESENT: Julie Isaacs; Stuart Coleman; Bill Schwartz; Lucia Wing (Secretary); Lissa Stark (Town Administrator); Trevor Dryden (Roads); Scott Bushee (Facilities), Derrick Tienken (Police), Jeremiah Rogers (Police), and Nicole Dernier (Police).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Laura Gianotti; Tienken Family.

CALL TO ORDER: Isaacs called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Selectboard and Town officials welcomed Derrick Tienken as the permanent Chief of Police for the Town of Winhall. Jeremiah Rogers swore him in; his family and other members of the Police Department were present for the swearing-in. Congratulations were in order.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Dryden reported the backhoe still needed work; John Kenny, newly hired highway crew member, was learning the ropes and doing well; WiFi at the Town Garage was weak; the Town Administrator would reach out to Consolidated. Discussion followed about switching to Comcast. Dryden also brought up hiring a “permanent” fourth highway crew member once Donald Derby retired; the Selectboard asked Dryden to come up with a 4-man, year-round schedule for review.

STRATTON ACCESS ROAD CULVERTS:

FYI: The Town Administrator reported she had not yet received the hydraulic study from the State which would be required before the project could go out to bid; discussion followed.

ACCESS PERMIT:

After review, the Selectboard approved the final permit for Bruce Mack, #124 French Hollow Road to replace a second 18” culvert; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

TRANSFER STATION & FACILITIES REPORT:

1) Bushee reported all of the Transfer Station attendants were back on duty; the Transfer Station would be closed on December 25th but open for the weekend which was expected to be very busy. All three attendants would be working. Bushee recommended covering the stairs on the sand/salt shed by extending the roof over the stairs. The Selectboard agreed.

2) Laura Gianotti recommended an ice shield be installed this winter to divert water over the stairs at the Community Center; the Selectboard agreed. Bushee stated a more thorough job to correct the issue could be installed in the spring. Money to pay for the project could be taken out of the Municipal Reserve Fund.

3) Bushee reported the two exterior doors to replace those at the Police Department had been delivered.

4) Bushee brought up the worker’s compensation issue. After review, *Coleman made the motion based on Bushee’s investigation into VLCT to allow those workers who did not have worker’s compensation to continue making repairs and other at Town-owned property; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

5) The Select Board reviewed the draft Solid Waste Implementation Plan. *Coleman made the motion to adopt the SWIP as presented; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

COMMUNITY HEALTH DISCUSSION: Status quo. Some employees of the Town had quarantined due to Covid-19 concerns; all were well and back at work.

TOWN MEETING: DISCUSSION:

The Selectboard discussed ways to run Town Meeting currently scheduled for March. New legislation (Act 162) did permit voting by Australian ballot. The Selectboard could also open the meeting as scheduled and recess it until a future time and place. Schwartz reported new legislation was currently underway which could allow towns to choose delaying their Town Meetings. The Selectboard discussed delaying until April 27th. Isaacs reported she had communicated with the School Board; they could delay their meeting until May 1st but no later. The Selectboard tabled their decision until 1/6/21 or if needed hold an emergency meeting before then because of the required timelines including warnings.

E&O CERTIFICATE:

After review, the Selectboard approved an E&O Certificate "change of value" for David Keys & Robin Mack for property located on Winhall Hollow Road; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Coleman; unanimous.*

BUDGET: DISCUSSION:

The Town Administrator reported the budget was mostly complete and in order. Money in some of the reserve funds had increased as required. She added the municipal tax would increase only slightly.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CORRESPONDENCE: FYI: Correspondence and financials

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES: The meeting minutes for December 2, 2020 were tabled until the following meeting.

WARRANTS: After review, the Selectboard approved warrant dated 12/16/20 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION: SUPERVISOR EVALUATIONS:

At 6:15 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* At 6:30 PM the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Coleman; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* Out of executive session, no decisions rendered.

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

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard

Julie Isaacs, Chair

Stuart Coleman, Vice-Chair

William Schwartz, Member

*Approved
Virtually*