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Select Board, Winhall, Vermont
Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision
On Discontinuing Read Road (T.H. 7)
ATTEST: Elizabeth Grant
ELIZABETH GRANT WINHALL TOWN CLERK

The Select Board of the Town of Winhall held a site visit and hearing on the discontinuance of Town Highway 7 on September 21, 2016. All owners or persons interested in lands and rights that could be affected by the decision to discontinue Read Road (T.H. 7) in its entirety from its junction with South Road to its terminus were given notice of the inspection and hearing.

Findings of Fact

From the site walk and testimony evinced at the hearing, the Select Board finds:

1. Town Highway 7, also known as Read Road, is a combination of Class 3 and Class 4 highways.
2. Many who testified opposed the discontinuance.
3. The reason is that T.H. 7, if discontinued, would not be useable by pedestrians, horse riders, or other public uses.
4. No witness wanted T.H. 7 to be useable by motor vehicles.
5. Robert Crabtree, the owner of the property crossed by the road, explained that while he didn't want motorized traffic for security and privacy purposes, that he would not gate the road.
6. Trevor Dryden, Road Foreman, told how difficult it was to maintain in the winter because of a tight turn-around.

Conclusions of Law and Decision

The Select Board is not convinced that discontinuance of T.H. 7 is justified by the public good, necessity, and convenience of the inhabitants, given the people who will be unable to use it in the future without permission of the landowner.

Based on the site walk and hearing, the Select Board determined that the public good, necessity and convenience of the inhabitants of the town do not require the discontinuance of this highway.

Interested persons may appeal this decision to the Bennington Unit of the Civil Division of the Vermont Superior Court within 30 days of this decision, in writing.

Dated this 16th day of November, 2016, at Winhall, Vermont.
197.1

E. Stuart Coleman
E. Stuart Coleman, for the Winhall Selectboard

WINHALL TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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