

**Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 4, 2024**

PRESENT: Stuart Coleman; Bill Schwartz; Julie Isaacs; Lissa Stark (Town Administrator); Lucia Wing (Secretary); Chief Tienken (Police), Elizabeth Grant (Town Clerk), Deb Avison (Town Treasurer)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: David Powers

At 5:30 PM the Selectboard recessed its meeting to attend the Planning Commission Public Hearing relative to the Final Draft of the Winhall Town Plan; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* At 6:00 PM the Selectboard opened its regularly scheduled meeting; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

CALL TO ORDER: Coleman opened the Selectboard meeting at 6:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)

LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD: (None)

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Chief Tienken and the Selectboard discussed the police report for November to include traffic tickets & warnings; vehicle accidents; property watch; alarms; animal control matters; and medical & agency assists in and around Winhall and Stratton Mt, Resort. Chief reported the month of November was busy with Thanksgiving and motor vehicle tickets. He reported the new cameras were operational; the Winhall PD had helped out the Manchester PD; Jake Lacasse was working on grant availability; and the police department had received a \$1500 educational grant from VLCT. Discussion followed about the number of motor vehicle complaints and Knox Box installation and cost which had overall lessened.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE APPROVAL:

After review, *Schwartz made the motion to approve the STR Ordinance as written and post it in five (5) places including the website per protocol; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.* Discussion followed relative to hiring a STR Administrator. David Powers, short-term rental operator, added he was not opposed to STR regulation.

PUBLIC SAFETY & FACILITY DESIGN PROJECT:

Goldstone Architecture & Design asked to cancel the special meeting scheduled for the following day because of hazardous driving conditions and reschedule for December 12th at 9AM at the Firehouse building. The Selectboard agreed; Coleman would not be able to attend.

ACCESS PERMITS:

After review, the Selectboard approved a final access permit for William Innes, #12 Beaver Street to install an 18" culvert; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

WINHALL WEBSITE: No update

AFFORDABLE HOUSING/WASTEWATER/GRANTS: FYI

ARPA FUNDING:

Isaacs suggested using \$100,000 of ARPA funds be allocated for feasibility studies to determine potential locations for affordable housing. Discussion followed about using tax payer money for ongoing affordable housing projects. After further discussion the Selectboard agreed to add \$50,000 to the housing budget line item and allocate the current \$218,000 ARPA funds for upgrades to the Town Hall; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by*

Coleman; passed (Isaacs abstained). In the meantime, Isaacs would gather more information about what feasibility studies entailed.

TOWN TREASURER/TOWN CLERK:

After discussion, the Selectboard voted to increase the Town Treasurer's and Town Clerk's salary to \$42,000; *motion by Isaacs; seconded Schwartz; unanimous.* Discussion followed about adding an Article to Town Meeting to increase Justices of the Peace from five (5) to seven (7) members; the Selectboard agreed to keep it to five (5). Currently there were two (2) Articles proposed for Town Meeting.

TOWN CLERK: DOG LICENSES:

After review, the Selectboard agreed with the Town Clerk's recommendation to increase dog licensing fees to \$12.00 for spayed or neutered dogs and \$16.00 for intact dogs; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

OTHER BUSINESS:

Coleman brought up the Fire Department applying for a grant for purchasing wilderness equipment. If the Fire Department was unable to get a grant, they would like to take money out of the reserve fund. The Selectboard agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE: (None)

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):

After review, the Selectboard approved the meeting minutes of 11/20/24 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

PAYROLL/WARRANTS:

After review, the Selectboard approved warrant 12/4/24 as presented; *motion by Isaacs; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Isaacs; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard

Stuart Coleman, Chair

Willam Schwartz, Vice-Chair

Julie Isaacs, Member