

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Bondville, Vermont 05340
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, January 7, 2015

PRESENT: Bob Oakes, Bill Schwartz, Steve Blanchard, Lucia Wing, Secretary, Lissa Stark, Town Administrator, Jeff Whitesell, (Police), Trevor Dryden (Highway)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dave Glabach (Health Officer), Fred Hartmann, Pat Salo (Animal Control), Marcel Gisquet

CALL TO ORDER: Oakes called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM at the Town Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: FRED HARTMANN- CAPEN ROAD: *Fred Hartmann* came before the Selectboard to discuss his letter to the Selectboard regarding Capen Road. Hartmann proposed staking the road in front of his house for the winter to delineate where to plow snow. The Selectboard (Bill Schwartz opposed) had no problem with Hartmann marking the road in the Town right of way as many property owners did the same. Dryden (Highway) stated he also had no problem with stakes; it helped him out. The Selectboard would let Jeremy Dworkin, attorney for Dorothy Capen, know their thoughts on the matter.

POLICE/FIRE/RESCUE REPORT: Whitesell and the Selectboard discussed the monthly police report for December including traffic tickets and warnings, law incidents, false alarms, medical alerts, animal control problems, and property watch issues. Whitesell reported there were one burglary and two cases of fraud which the WPD was still investigating. Whitesell and Derrick Tienken were attending a course in Las Vegas concerning law enforcement liability issues; VLCT would pay the majority of the cost. Whitesell reported there were electrical problems with two of the police cruisers. Whitesell had recently met with the Agency of Transportation and Dept. of Motor Vehicles regarding a requirement from the State for large trucks to put on tire chains during a winter storm or wait it out especially on Route 9; discussion followed.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT: (No health report)

Dave Glabach reported he would like the Town to consider plowing some of the Town roads earlier especially in Strattonwald. Oakes responded the problem would most likely go away once the Town had its new plow trucks.

PET POLICY ORDINANCE: PAT SALO: DISCUSSION: Pat Salo came before the Selectboard to discuss the new municipal pet policy; Salo questioned the policy relative to picking up or dropping off strays or lost dogs. The policy stated that no dogs were allowed in any municipal buildings in Winhall. Salo suggested the Town construct a pen in the back of the Town Hall whereby strays or lost dogs could be kept while waiting for pet owners or him to pick them up. A suggestion was to put them in the police garage or basement. The Selectboard agreed to delay signing the policy until Whitesell and Salo could revise the language and work out a solution.

PRIVATE ROAD SIGN POLICY: DISCUSSION: Discussion included who was responsible for installation of the private road signs. Currently the Highway Department could install them; private road signs could be provided by the property owners or Town. The Selectboard agreed the Highway Department could provide the labor to install the signs if the property owners wanted it; the Town would bill them back for \$100 plus the cost of the sign if needed. After further discussion, the Selectboard made several changes to the policy.

HIGHWAY & ROADS REPORT: Dryden and the Selectboard discussed the status of the new Town trucks. Currently they had not been shipped to Canada for outfitting. Blanchard had been in touch with the

company who stated they would be shipped on 1/8/15. Discussion followed about continuing to lease plow trucks which had been problematic during recent winter storms. Discussion followed about Dryden salting the parking lot at the Town Hall; the Selectboard stated "go ahead." Dryden commented on a snow pusher for the grader; Randy Ameden had one he might be willing to sell; Dryden would investigate further. A property owner had voiced concern about water backing up on her land on Lower Stratton Valley Road; discussion followed. Dryden and the Selectboard discussed buying a roadside mower and/or new 550 truck for the upcoming year; it was a matter of budgeting and dollars available. Renting a mower or hiring out might be the better solution. Next Dryden and the Selectboard discussed logging traffic on Kendall Farm Road. Dryden would keep watch to make sure the trucks were not damaging the road.

TOWN GARAGE UPDATE: Dryden reported that alarms on the fuel tanks at the Town garage kept going off for freezing conditions. It needed a shed roof. The Selectboard discussed hiring a local contractor to build a cover. Dryden reported three (3) trusses were constructed; progress on the new garage was slow and steady.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Stark updated the Selectboard re: Law Enforcement Services Contract with Stratton Corporation; to date Stratton was reviewing the contract but had not yet signed it.
- 2) Mike Wilson, a resident on Rocky Dell Road off Kendall Farm, had voiced concerns relative to erosion of the Winhall River directly across from his road. Stark would look into it as well as contact the Agency of Natural Resources.

LIQUOR BOARD: At 6:45 PM the Selectboard closed the Selectboard meeting and opened the Liquor Board meeting. After review, the Liquor Board approved a liquor license for Winhall Market; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.* At 6:50 PM the Selectboard re-opened the Selectboard meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE: UPDATE: FYI: Financials. Stark updated the Selectboard re: work starting on the Town forest.

CORRESPONDENCE: Birch Hill Co-op was hooking up to the Stratton/Winhall Fire District.

PAYORDERS: After review, the Selectboard approved payorder #1/7/15 as presented; *motion by Schwartz; seconded by Oakes; unanimous.*

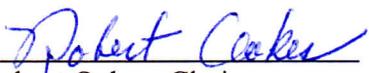
PAYROLL: After review, the Selectboard approved payroll #49-#52 as presented; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.*

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):

After review, the Selectboard approved the minutes of December 17, 2014 as amended; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard


Robert Oakes, Chair


Bill Schwartz, Vice Chair


Steve Blanchard, Member