

**Town of Winhall Selectboard
Winhall, Vermont
“Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, November 6, 2013”**

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

ABSENT: Randy Kimball (Roads), Barbara Ferguson (Buildings)

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Avison & Herb Hughes (Fire Department), Marcel Gisquet, Doris Bass, Cooky Glass, Tammy Blanchard, Irene Nadler (Old Town Hall Committee)

CALL TO ORDER: Oakes called the Selectboard meeting to order at 4:30 PM at the Town Hall, #115 Vermont Route 30.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: TOWN HIGHWAY ORDINANCE:

Marcel Gisquet commented that he had prepared the changes in the Highway Ordinance application process as requested by the Selectboard. In addition there were a few changes to the text of the Ordinance itself. Gisquet stated he had deleted all references to development roads. Oakes felt there should be a separate application form for replacing a culvert. Gisquet had to leave for a prior commitment and would come to the next meeting. As a result, the Selectboard put the discussion on hold.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE & BUDGET ITEMS:

Steve Avison & Herb Hughes came before the Selectboard to discuss several fire department items including cable which had been resolved. Avison commented that the Selectboard might think about a full time fire department in the future as volunteers were fewer and getting older. Avison thought that \$38,000 would be the budget amount for this year which would include an increase in dispatch costs. Avison thought that approximately \$120,000 was in a fire truck reserve fund; he commented a new tanker was imminent. He added that he would also request a stipend increase from \$44,000 to \$54,000.

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE REPORT:

1) Next Chief Whitesell and the Selectboard discussed the Winhall Police & Rescue Report for October including traffic tickets and warnings; animal control problems; false alarms; property watch; medical assists, and law incidents in and around Winhall and Stratton and the surrounding neighborhoods.

2) Whitesell reported the Winhall Police Department was helping out with a new fingerprinting process at the Flood Brook School.

3) Whitesell reported that the Police Department had been involved with a missing person report resulting in a suicide; several drug arrests; several burglaries; and several thank you letters including support for the Great Pumpkin Fun Race on Kendall Farm Road. Police Officer Greg Gould had certified all the middle school kids at the Mountain School in CPR.

4) Whitesell and the Selectboard discussed the 25 mph zones in Winhall. Whitesell reported the Police Department would continue patrolling the Winhall Camp Grounds.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:15 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters; *motion by Blanchard; seconded by Oakes; unanimous.* At 5:35 PM, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.* No decisions were rendered.

OLD TOWN HALL COMMITTEE REPORT:

Doris Bass, Cooky Glass, Tammy Blanchard, and Irene Nadler came before the Selectboard to discuss options for the Old Town Hall. Bass reported that Stone's Lodge/Fat Spy was not interested in buying the building; they might be at a later date. Bass reported that she had had a suggestion to turn the facility into wellness center for yoga and yoga related activities which required no equipment. The Selectboard added that the building could also be used for small social events. The Selectboard commented that insurance was available through the VLCT. The Committee discussed the condition of the building and the cost to do business. Eventually if the Town retained the building a new foundation would be required along with several other renovations. Oakes commented that the voters would ultimately decide whether to keep the building or sell it. A survey of what Winhall residents might like was suggested along with an informational notice in the newspaper about turning the Old Town Hall into a wellness center.

WINHALL MUSEUM UPDATE:

Next the Selectboard and the Committee talked about Winhall Museum items; should the items be displayed at the new Town Hall or kept at the Old Town Hall. Discussion included museum signage; moving the items downstairs; and renovating the downstairs for museum items along with other activities. A suggestion by the State historian was to archive some items and scan others onto the Town website so that a wider audience could view the Museum items.

TOWN OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS:

After review, *Oakes made the motion to reappoint Tony DeFrancesco and Mark Eichhorn to the Planning Commission for a three year term beginning July 1, 2013 and Sandy Mackinnon, Fred Hartmann, and Joseph Morein to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a three year term beginning July 1, 2013; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.*

HIGHWAY & ROADS REPORT:

1) After review, the Selectboard approved an access permit to replace a culvert for Adele Schwartz on 366 Winhall Hollow Road; *motion by Blanchard; seconded by Oakes; unanimous.*

2) As a result of a letter sent by Jack Jones, Oakes brought up the fog lines on Winhall Hollow and the Access Road. Kimball had reported that there would be no fog lines painted on Winhall Hollow or the Access Road this year; the roads would be scheduled for fog lines next year. Stark would respond to the letter from Jack Jones.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: No report

BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE REPORT: (No report)

NEW BUSINESS:

The Selectboard discussed a piece of land at the corner of Stratton Garden Road and the Access Road owned by Prakelt who wanted to donate the land to the Town; the parcel was 1.4 acres. The Selectboard scheduled Tuesday, November 12 at 9 AM to look at the property. The Selectboard would also look at two lots on Lower Taylor Hill Road. In the meantime, Schwartz would research the properties and Stark would warn the inspections.

BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE:

After review, the Selectboard agreed to schedule budget hearings for Saturday, Nov. 23rd beginning at 8:00 AM. Stark would warn the hearings and develop a time line for budget presentations to include police & rescue, highway, maintenance, fire, beautification, library, Town Clerk, planning & zoning,

listers, and administration. In the meantime Stark suggested developing a template to streamline the budget process.

TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

- 1) The Selectboard discussed the financials for October including penalty payments for filing Form HR122- Homestead Declarations late. After review, the Selectboard agreed to refund the above penalties to the approximately 28 residents who filed the forms late; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***
- 2) Stark asked the Selectboard to clarify the Winhall Purchasing Policy; discussion followed.
- 3) Stark reported the ad for winter maintenance was out. She reported that the Mountain School had asked about the parking lines, etc. at the school when they would be painted.
- 4) After review, ***Oakes made the motion to sign the municipal fireworks permit for Stratton Corporation; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.***
- 5) Next the Selectboard reviewed the VTrans Winhall Highway map; there were no mileage changes in the Town of Winhall.

PAYORDER(S):

After review, the Selectboard approved payorder #9 as presented; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

PAYROLL:

After review, the Selectboard approved payroll #33 & #34 as presented; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.***

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTE(S):

After review, the Selectboard approved the minutes of October 16, 2013 as presented; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:20 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.*** At 9:00 PM, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session; ***motion by Schwartz; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.*** No decisions were rendered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE: (None)

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Schwartz; unanimous.***

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by,
Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard



Robert Oakes, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Steve Blanchard, Member