

Town of Winhall Selectboard
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 17, 2014

PRESENT: Bob Oakes, Steve Blanchard, Lucia Wing (Secretary), Scott Bushee (Facilities), Lissa Stark (Town Administrator), Jeff Whitesell (WPD)

ABSENT: Bill Schwartz (SB), Trevor Dryden (Highway)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Kevin Beattie, (Town of Londonderry Administrator), Paul Gordon, Kathy Aragi, Steve Prouty, Jim Ameden (Londonderry Selectboard)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

POLICE/RESCUE REPORT: (No report)

HIGHWAY & ROADS REPORT: (No Access Permits)

TRANSFER STATION REPORT & TOWN GARAGE UPDATE:

Bushee reported that Chaves had come in with a small skidsteer to clear snow around the base of the fencing and other difficult areas after the latest weather event. Town garage construction was underway despite the weather events of the prior week. Blanchard and Gisquet had discussed improved ways of filling the fuel tanks. Discussion followed relative to the roof over the fuel depot and whether or not it needed to be fireproof.

FACILITIES REPORT:

Library: Bushee reported handrails had been installed at the Library.

Fire Station: The Selectboard and Bushee discussed the current condition of the Fire Station roof. It would eventually need to be replaced.

School: Discussion followed about the whereabouts of the salt/sand containers; one was needed at the school; Bushee reported two were located at the Town Hall.

Town Hall: Discussion included water supply for the Town Hall, PD, and Fire Station; Bushee would investigate the cost of water coolers.

Old Town Hall: No report

TOLLGATE ROAD- LETTER TO AOT: The Selectboard and Stark discussed revisions to the letter to the Agency of Transportation relative to their request that the Town of Winhall maintain Tollgate Road; Winhall did not own the road, never had, and had no intention of maintaining it. They talked about rewording the reference to mileage, and the poor condition of the existing bridge on Tollgate Road.

BUDGET UPDATE: The Selectboard discussed purchasing a plow for the grader which was not reflected in the upcoming budget 15/16. \$16,000 would need to be added to equipment purchase for the plow.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 5:10 PM the Selectboard voted to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters re: Stratton Law Enforcement Services Contract; *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 Blanchard; unanimous.* Out of executive session the Selectboard authorized Stark to take the contract to Stratton Corp. and continue negotiations.

NEW BUSINESS: (None)

ADMINISTRATIVE: REPORT: No financials to review.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1) The Selectboard discussed the letter and photos of Capen Road sent by Jeremy Dworkin, attorney for Dorothy Capen. They were asking for a larger right-of-way. Discussion followed about making Capen Road a one-way road or potentially getting a survey.

2) Next the Selectboard discussed the letter from the headmistress of the Mountain School inviting them to visit the school; the Selectboard would schedule a visit after January 1st.

3) After review, the Selectboard signed the contract for timber sales for 1,250 trees to be cut re: Town forest.

MEETING WITH LONDONDERRY SELECTBOARD:

Kevin Beatty, Londonderry Town Administrator, opened the meeting to discuss establishing a law enforcement department in Londonderry. The Londonderry Selectboard was asking the Winhall Selectboard for guidance. Beatty talked about sharing services which many towns were adopting. Comments from Londonderry townspeople had included a need for law enforcement in regard to drugs, law incidents and traffic control among others. Londonderry felt it could no longer depend on the State police for a quick response. Oakes responded that Winhall had started with one police officer 40 years ago and now Winhall could not do without its fulltime Police Department who were also its first responders. Chief Whitesell felt that Londonderry should consider a full service police department to start rather than putting together a piecemeal package; the Londonderry Selectboard felt it might be difficult to sell the Londonderry residents on a fulltime department because of cost. Discussion followed about the possibility of setting up a municipal services agreement between Londonderry and Winhall. The Winhall Selectboard responded it would be difficult; the Winhall taxpayer expected the WPD to be available at all times and in their Town. Londonderry asked how to start the process. Whitesell responded he could come up with a number for Londonderry; it would be high; in the meantime Londonderry should put together a plan which they felt could work for them. Whitesell went on to say the WPD was a full service department and had always responded to a variety of issues; nothing was too small or insignificant; that was a big part of the police department's success. Discussion followed about ticket revenues; Whitesell encouraged Londonderry not to build in ticket revenues as a way to fund a department. He encouraged them to seek out grants instead. Oakes responded the Londonderry Selectboard needed to be 100% in favor of a police force before they went before the voter. They continued discussion about posting speed limits on Londonderry town roads without enforcement as a means to slow down traffic. Whitesell felt without law enforcement it would be difficult. Discussion followed about a Winhall police presence at the Flood Brook School; Whitesell would look into it. Londonderry agreed to discuss a plan and get back to Winhall.

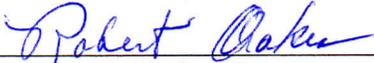
PAYORDERS: After review, the Selectboard approved payorder #12 as presented; *motion by Oakes; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.*

PAYROLL: After review, the Selectboard approved payroll #45, #46, #47 & #48 as presented; ***motion by Blanchard; seconded by Oakes; unanimous.***

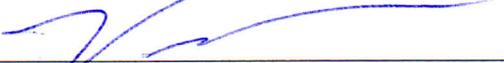
APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES: After review, the Selectboard approved the minutes of December 3, 2014 as amended; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.***

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM; ***motion by Oakes; seconded by Blanchard; unanimous.***

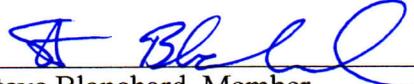
Lucia Wing, Secretary
Winhall Selectboard



Robert Oakes, Chair



William Schwartz, Vice-Chair



Steve Blanchard, Member