**Minutes of regular meeting of the Whitingham Selectboard**

**March 1, 2017**

These Minutes shall be accepted into the public record (with any corrections noted)

 at a future meeting of the Whitingham Selectboard.

The Whitingham Selectboard held a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 7:30pm in the Selectboard Office of the Municipal Center, 2948 VT Route 100, Jacksonville, VT.

Selectboard members present: Vice Chair, Allan Twitchell; Members Karl Twitchell and Robin Kingsley. Chair, Keith Bronson attended via Skype.

Others present: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Administrative Assistant; Almira Aekus, Town Clerk; Jim Dassati, Deerfield Valley News; Wayne Corse, resident.

**Call to Order. Additions or Changes to Agenda**

Vice Chair, Allan Twitchell, called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

**Hearing of Visitors**

“Just visiting.”

**Town Report questions from visitors**

No questions. Two oversites were found in the town report: Library revenues are missing, and under Selectboard members you can see that the names were shifted but the amounts to correspond were not.

**School Funding/Act 46 updates**

Karl Twitchell is interested in seeing what happens at Town Meeting and then formulate a plan. Ed Metcalf is willing to serve on a committee. Argument for inequality of education due to the way it is being funded. We need more people to tell the story. It is going to take more than just us. Wayne Corse suggested employing a lobbyist to work on this problem. It is important for all the towns that are struggling to work together. The Selectboard has been fighting this issue since Act 60 inception and it has come back around to hit us hard again. Keith Bronson mentioned that the real fallacy of the whole issue is the accountability of the receiving towns in how they are spending their Act 60 money.

Almira Aekus noted that if every article passed at Town Meeting (including $100,000 for the litigation fund) the tax rate will be the same as the current year rate (.68 cents- as long as the Grand List doesn’t change drastically). The $100,000 to the litigation fund will add .04 cents per $100 on the tax rate.

**Liquor Licenses**

Jacksonville General Store, Spoonwood Cabin Creamery and First Stop applied to renew liquor licenses. **Karl Twitchell made a motion to approve the three licenses, seconded by Allan Twitchell, all in favor.**

**Transfer Station / WSWMD**

The Selectboard is concerned about the financial status of Windham Solid Waste Management District. In 2012 they had over $400,000 surplus and in February, 2017 they spent all of that and need to borrow $100,000 to stay afloat and meet current payroll liability. The Selectboard would like to write a letter to WSWMD to inform them that Whitingham does not want to be held responsible for any new debts incurred. The Selectboard is appalled at the apparent mismanagement of the District.

**Approval of Payables Warrant – March 2, 2017**

**A motion was made by Karl Twitchell to approve Payables Warrant W1736 dated March 2, 2017, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.**

**Approval of Payroll Warrant – March 2, 2017**

**A motion was made by Robin Kingsley to approve the Payroll Warrant W1735 dated March 2, 2017, seconded by Allan Twitchell, all in favor.**

**Approval of Minutes of February 15, 2017**

**A motion was made by Robin Kingsley to approve the Minutes of February 15, 2017, as written, seconded by Karl Twitchell, all in favor.**

**Other business / Administrative Assistant – as needed**

Review and sign access permit. **A motion was made by Karl Twitchell to approve the access permit for Gerald Hamilton on Burrington Hill Road that was reviewed and approved by Stanley Janovsky, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.**

Town Meeting Preparation - discussed who would read which articles and what documentation would be needed at the meeting.

**Adjourn**

**A motion was made to adjourn by Allan Twitchell, seconded by Robin Kingsley all in favor.**

Allan Twitchell adjourned the meeting at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

~Gig Zboray