

**Town of Whitingham**

**Office of the Selectboard**

**MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 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, December 6, 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 Greg Brown and Robin Kingsley.

Others present: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Office Administrator. Jim Boyhen, Lois Libby and Bill Holveck of Sadawga Lake Association.

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

Allan Twitchell called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. There were two changes to the agenda. The attorneys are not available tonight so there was no executive session. One more access permit came in for approval.

**Hearing of visitors** None.

**Lake Sadawga plant study grant application**

Sadawga Lake Association members came to the table, introductions were made. They are looking to get a plant study grant from the state. They are concerned about the invasion of Eurasian milfoil. If left untended the milfoil could take over the lake. There are rare plant species in the lake that must be documented before a mitigation plan can be put in place.

Greg Brown expressed his disappointment that the state, who owns the lake, is not taking this on themselves, and seem to be passing the buck onto the Lake Association members. Greg also questioned if the state considered the spread of milfoil from the many geese that frequent the lake.

The Association noticed that after the lake was drawn down to repair the dam the newly exposed lake bottom mud froze, and the milfoil seemed to be less this year. Greg Brown would like more information about the “no draw down” policy.

**Greg Brown made a motion to apply for the grant as presented by the Sadawga Lake Association, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.** Allan Twitchell signed the letter of support. Keith Bronson or Gig Zboray will sign the actual grant application when it is ready to file.

**Education Funding Litigation**

The December 8th court hearing on the application for a preliminary injunction related to the education funding litigation has been postponed (new date not yet set).

**Transfer Station/WSWMD**

The Town received a letter from the Department of Environmental Conservation confirming compliance with the food scraps collection requirement. A few days letter we received a memo from WSWMD indicating that the state is looking into our idea to provide any food scraps collected to local chicken owners for feed. It is a temporarily approved practice however the policy could change to require chicken “farms” to register as solid waste facilities.

The budget will be discussed at the December 20th meeting.

**Review and approve access permit**

**A motion was made by Greg Brown to approve two access permits that were inspected and approved by Stanley Janovsky, Road Commissioner, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.** (David Marcotte on Deer Hill Road and Chris Black on Lake Hill Road.)

**Approval of Payables Warrant – December 7, 2017**

**A motion was made by Greg Brown to approve Payables Warrant W1824 dated December 7, 2017, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.**

**Approval of Payroll Warrant – December 7, 2017**

**A motion was made by Robin Kingsley to approve Payroll Warrant W1823 dated December 7, 2017, seconded by Greg Brown, all in favor.**

**Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2017**

**A motion was made by Robin Kingsley to approve the Minutes of the November 8, 2017 as written, seconded by Greg Brown, all in favor**. The November 22, 2017 Selectboard meeting was canceled. Only two Selectboard members attended the River Corridors public meeting on November 29th so no Selectboard Minutes were recorded (the Planning Commission had a quorum, so Minutes were recorded for them).

**Other business / Office Administrator – as needed**

1. Winter is rapidly approaching. We should appoint someone to approve warrants if a Selectboard meeting needs to be canceled due to the weather. **A motion was made by Allan Twitchell to appoint the closest available Selectboard member to sign the warrants if a weather event causes cancellation of a scheduled Selectboard meeting, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.**

**Adjourn**

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

Allan Twitchell adjourned the meeting at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

~Gig Zboray