



**Town of Whitingham  
Office of the Selectboard**

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2023**

*These Minutes are considered a DRAFT until accepted into the public record (with any corrections noted) at a future meeting of the Whitingham Selectboard.*

The Whitingham Selectboard held a regular meeting at 6:30pm in the Selectboard Office of the Whitingham Municipal Center on Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

Selectboard members present: Scott M. Reed, Chair; James Weber, Vice Chair; Craig Hammer, and Robin Kingsley.

Others attending: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Office Administrator. Mary Wright, resident. Dave DiCantio, Chief Sewer Plant Operator, attended remotely.

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

Scott M. Reed called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Changes to the agenda were noted on the meeting copy.

**Hearing of Visitors** nothing

**Highway:** nothing, Mr. Janovsky was out plowing.

**Transfer Station:**

Gig put a help wanted ad for a backup attendant in the Town Report. We should also advertise it at Town Meeting.

**Sewer:**

Dave DiCantio answered the boards questions. They would like to be informed if any major repairs or equipment replacements are done. Mr. DiCantio doesn't think covering the construction should be a budget concern, he will be available and the assistant is budgeted at 30 hours per week. Mr. Weber questioned what happens when the assistant goes over 30 hours? Mr. DiCantio will keep an eye on it. Mr. DiCantio questioned if he should purchase a new pump for the one that was replaced. Mr. Hammer asked if a pump is an in-stock item for quick delivery or if there is a long lead time. Mr. DiCantio will find that out and how much they cost now. If it is available for quick delivery it probably shouldn't be purchased now because all of the equipment will be replaced starting in May.

**Budget: final review of 23/24 budget**

The board conducted a final review of the budget. **A motion was made by Scott M. Reed to accept the proposed budget for fiscal year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024, of \$740,771.00 of which \$323,476.00 to be raised in taxes, the balance to be offset by \$260,332.00 in anticipated revenues and \$156,963.00 appropriated from prior year's fund balance, seconded by James Weber, all in favor.**

**A motion was made by Robin Kingsley to accept the proposed Highway budget for fiscal year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 of \$1,563,829.00 of which \$1,162,380.00 to be raised in taxes, the balance to be offset by \$134,411.00 in anticipated revenues and \$267,038.00 appropriated from prior year's fund balance, seconded by James Weber, all in favor.**

**Warning for Town Meeting: final review and signing**

Some discussion revolved around having an in-person town meeting versus having everything on a ballot again as allowed by the state legislature, but not yet signed by the Governor. The board noted that they have always met in person throughout the pandemic. Of course, they can't know how Covid will be presenting in March but decided on in-person.

The board reviewed and approved the Warning for Town Meeting. **A motion was made by James Weber to approve and sign the Warning for Town Meeting on March 7, 2023, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.**

**Approval of Payables Warrant – January 26, 2023**

**A motion was made by James Weber to approve Payables Warrant #2330, dated January 26, 2023, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.**

**Approval of Payroll Warrant – January 26, 2023**

**A motion was made by Robin Kingsley to approve Payroll Warrant #2329, dated January 26, 2023, seconded by James Weber, all in favor.**

**Review and approve Minutes of January 11, 2023**

**A motion was made by Robin Kingsley to accept the Minutes of January 11, 2023, as written, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.**

**Other business**

**Review and sign thank you letter** A donation of \$1,000 was made by Andrew and Karen Zephir towards the pavilion improvements and the fire department's fuel. The board reviewed and signed the thank you letter.

**Appoint a contact person for the Act 172, Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program** This program/grant is being run by the Windham Regional Commission, it will be years in the making. **A motion was made by James Weber to appoint Gig Zboray to be the contact person for the Act 172 grant, seconded Scott M. Reed, all in favor.**

**Sanders Congressionally Directed Spending** At Ms. Wright's request an explanation of the Congressionally Directed Spending funds that were approved for Whitingham of \$1M and how they would be spent. The money is ONLY for the sewer project; at this point we don't know if we can only use it to improve the infrastructure or if it can be used to lower debt.

**Adjourn**

**A motion to adjourn was made by James Weber, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.**

Scott M. Reed adjourned the meeting at 7:26pm. Respectfully submitted, ~Gig Zboray