



**Town of Whitingham
Office of the Selectboard**

MINUTES OF MAY 29, 2024

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, May 29, 2024.

Selectboard members present: Scott Reed, Chair; James Weber, Vice Chair; and Travis Wheeler.

Others present: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Office Administrator. Stanley Janovsky, Jr., Road Commissioner, Wayne Corse, landowner, Doug Dix, ACO; Allison Kelly, TVMHS; Donald Campbell, Vermont Land Trust, Leon Corse, resident

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 for concerns not on the agenda

None

TVMHS: request by Allison Kelly to have a student run farm stand at Municipal Center during the summer

Ms. Kelly runs the special needs department at the school. She has brought the students here to help with senior meals. They would be here 1-2 days per week in the summer for the students to sell the produce that is purchased elsewhere. Probably on Wednesday, set up to sell, then clean up. The school is the employer, the town would not be the employer. The board approved.

Gig noted that we have probably have a tent left over from EDG Farmers Market, as well as some signage they may be able to adapt.

Animal Control: appoint new ACO

At the May 1st meeting a motion was passed to post the position of Animal Control Officer. The job opening was posted with a deadline for letters of interest of today by 2pm. Doug Dix has been working as the interim ACO. No other letters of interest have been received. **A motion was made by James Weber to appoint Douglas Dix as Animal Control Officer, seconded by Travis Wheeler, all in favor.** Mr. Dix agreed to the same pay that the old ACO received (\$35 for first call out, \$15 per hour for any follow up, plus mileage at federal rate).

In order for Mr. Dix to have ticketing authority two letters must be written to the Vermont Judicial Bureau: one requesting a department number, the second requesting the appointment of Mr. Dix. After review, **a motion was made by James Weber to appoint Scott M. Reed to sign the documents for the Vermont Judicial Bureau, seconded by Travis Wheeler, all in favor.**

Sewer: meet with plant operator

Chris Hayes of SOS addressed the E.coli problem that we initially had but that has been corrected. Levels are looking good, and tests are passing. Mr. Hayes is hesitant to give any report for Whitingham because the flow is still being manipulated for construction.

Sludge in the sludge tank – venting, need an aeration line in the sludge – that is standard. Solution – Gig talk to Carl and put him in touch with Chris.

Not in compliance with sampler, they've been ordered.

Whitingham has a lot of iron, so it is scaling the UVs. Aeration may help with iron settling.

Philanthropic cause at the end of projects, Kingsbury tries to either give a donation or volunteer for a philanthropic cause that the owner chooses. Ms. Aekus suggested the Historical Society – they might need a new steeple. Ms. Stevens mentioned the need to prevent moisture coming up from underneath. Ms. Aekus also suggested the Cemetery to fix the stones. Selectboard suggested river retaining wall at Eames Village Park. Gig will contact Kingsbury to ask how much they are thinking.

Vermont Land Trust: Donald Campbell re Corse land

Mr. Campbell questions if the property being discussed is in the Village zoning district (10.6 acres) because on the Zoning map it shows Village district but in the town plan a different map is presented. The Land Trust needs a letter of support from the Selectboard stating that it is zoned as village but our town plan supports keeping farmland.

Leon Corse commented that his farm is certified organic and that this 10.6 acres is the flattest field in their ownership. Mr. Corse presented a letter of support signed by 3 neighbors of the property.

Wayne Corse commented that when that parcel was purchased from Mrs. Brigham, she wanted it used as farmland.

Mr. Campbell will send some suggested verbiage and the board will review a letter of support at the next meeting. The board would like it to say they support it as farmland now, and not ever used for solar fields or other commercial enterprise except farmland.

Highway: review and approve access permit

Mr. Janovsky presented an access permit for Scott Stevens at lot 2 Kentfield Road. **A motion was made by James Weber to approve and sign the access permit, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.**

Review and approve liquor licenses (1st & 3rd class restaurant) for JG Store

After review, a motion was made by James Weber to approve both the 1st and 3rd class restaurant liquor licenses for JG Store, seconded by Scott M Reed, all in favor.

Review and sign contracts for limited services for cleaning and pavilion project

For workers compensation audit purposes, we need non-employee agreements from RSI Premier Cleaning of the Municipal Center and with Pioneer Timber Frames for the pavilion project at Town Hill. After review, a motion was made by James Weber to approve and sign the two contracts, seconded by Travis Wheeler, all in favor.

Approval of Payables Warrant – May 30, 2024

A motion was made by James Weber to approve Payables Warrant #W2448 dated May 30, 2024, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.

Approval of Payroll Warrant – May 30, 2024

A motion was made by James Weber to approve Payroll Warrant #W2447 dated May 30, 2024, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.

Review and approve Minutes of May 15, 2024

A motion was made by James Weber to accept the Minutes of May 15, 2024 (dog hearing and regular meeting), as written, seconded by Travis Wheeler, all in favor.

Other business

We received \$479 in fines on May 20th, 2024.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by James Weber, seconded by Travis Wheeler, all in favor.

Scott Reed adjourned the meeting at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
~Gig Zboray