



**Town of Whitingham
Office of the Selectboard**

MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 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, August 21, 2024.

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

Others present: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Office Administrator; Stanley Janovsky, Jr., Road Commissioner; Almira Aekus, Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector.

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

Tayna Bernard, Library Trustee, is here to tell the board that Cindy Holveck has resigned. The Library Board of Trustees recommend Judy Bernard to replace her. Tanya Bernard noted the concerns of nepotism because she and her daughter Shandell are already Trustees. Judy Bernard would fill the vacancy until the next town meeting. **A motion was made by James Weber, to approve the appointment of Judy Bernard to the Library Board of Trustees, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.**

Highway:

Flair head for mower tractor

There was a recent breakdown of the current (15 year old) mower head, parts have been ordered, cost around \$5,000. Mr. Janovsky would like permission to order a flail head for the mower; it is better for grass; the flail head will fit on the arm/boom. The current price is \$19,600. He doesn't want to order it right now but wants permission to pursue it. Mr. Hammer questioned if the tractor has enough hydraulic flow to handle the new head; yes. The cost would come out of the equipment fund. He is seeking prices from different providers. When all prices are in the board will make a decision.

Results of speed study in Whitingham Village

The results of the traffic study are in. Windham Regional Commission noted that the results are not unusual compared to other data they collect in the region, especially on state highways. They suggested that a radar feedback sign might be the most impactful change. They will notify us if any grants become available for the purchase of that equipment.

Sewer

At the last meeting the board motioned to approve Amendment of Owner-Engineer Agreement, Amendment No. 2 in the amount of \$86,587 and to appoint Gig to sign it if the town attorney approved. Since then, the dollar amount changed to reflect actual expenses, reducing the amendment to \$52,060. Attorney Fisher approved this version of the document. Gig signed it and sent it to the state for their concurrence yesterday; they have not approved it yet.

Local Options Tax

More discussion, no decision made.

Mr. Weber found that sewer department can charge a higher rate to out-of-town second homeowners.

Approval of Payables Warrant – August 22, 2024

A motion was made by Scott Reed to approve Payables Warrant #W2508 dated August 22, 2024, seconded by Travis Wheeler, all in favor.

Approval of Payroll Warrant – August 22, 2024

A motion was made by James Weber to approve Payroll Warrant #W2507 dated August 22, 2024, seconded by Craig Hammer, all in favor.

Review and approve Minutes of August 7, 2024

A motion was made by Scott Reed to accept the Minutes of August 7, 2024, as written, seconded by Travis Wheeler, all in favor.

Other business

Municipal Fines we received \$324 in municipal fines on August 14th.

Assessor's Clerk – one applicant so far.

Selectboard Office - Gig will be on vacation starting around noon on Thursday through Labor Day, returning to the office on September 3rd. She will be available by cell or email.

Selectboard Resignation Craig Hammer verbally resigned from the Selectboard tonight due to several significant changes in his and his wife's careers. The board accepted the resignation with thanks for his years of service and wished him well.

Adjourn

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

Scott Reed adjourned the meeting at 7:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,
~Gig Zboray