



**Town of Whitingham
Office of the Selectboard**

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2, 2022

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, November 2, 2022.

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

Others attending: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Office Administrator; Stanley Janovsky, Road Commissioner. Mary Wright, 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

None

Transfer Station

Discussed the HHW Collection Event. It went well. People brought lots of paint which can be accepted during regular Transfer Station hours. Gig ordered a flammables cabinet and will try to conduct an inventory of what was collected in order to schedule a pickup.

Discussion about the job posting, Mr. Weber suggested we perhaps post it on Indeed website. Gig found that it would cost \$20 per application received. The board would like it posted on that website.

Sewer: discuss well pump

During the repair of the pressure tank last week the plumber discovered that the well pump is not functioning properly. Mr. Kingsley estimated \$1,600 for the pump, if wire or pipe must be replaced, it will be more. The board would like Mr. Kingsley to do it as soon as possible.

Health Order – any follow up

Gig noted that Attorney Fisher filed the Health Order and Zoning Violations with the court on Friday, October 28th. An emergency hearing was held yesterday. The judge upheld the order on the Health Order but allowed them until December 1st to make all necessary repairs and state-permitted connections to the Town sewer system, or else to vacate the premises until the house is made habitable with a permitted and inspected town sewer connection that lies completely within the heated house and which is not subject to freezing and shall submit to the

Town proof of all permits and installation certificates of the remediated sewer connection before re-occupying the premises, as requested in the legal Complaint.

Animal Control: what evidence is required for a barking complaint?

Erica Johnson of 73 School Street has made several complaints to the Animal Control Officer about a dog at 105 School Street barking excessively. Mr. Hollister has investigated the complaint making a point to stop by the neighborhood several times and has not heard the dog barking excessively. No other neighbors have complained. Ms. Johnson would like to know what proof she needs to collect and offer to the town so that a ticket can be issued to the dog owners.

Gig went to the neighborhood on Monday, was in the area for nearly an hour and never heard the dog bark once. She consulted with a neighbor and was told that the dog seems to bark as needed (talking) and not excessively.

Mr. Brown had also gone to the neighborhood and heard no barking; he recommends accepting the Dog Officer’s report that there is no substantial proof. The board agreed.

Approval of Payables Warrant – November 3, 2022

A motion was made by James Weber to approve Payables Warrant #2318, dated November 3, 2022, seconded by Greg Brown, all in favor.

Approval of Payroll Warrant – November 3, 2022

A motion was made by James Weber to approve Payroll Warrant #2317 dated November 3, 2022, seconded by Robin Kingsley, all in favor.

Review and approve Minutes of October 19 and 26, 2022

Correction to the October 19th Minutes, under “Hearing of Visitors”, it was Richard Lemaire who suggested the town purchase a one-ton truck, not Richard Tefft.

Correction to the October 26th Minutes, under “Sewer: Review and adopt new EU Classification System” say “after some discussion a majority of the board felt...” **A motion was made by Scott M. Reed to accept the Minutes of October 19 and 26, 2022, with the corrections noted, seconded by Greg Brown, all in favor.**

Highway – executive session

A motion was made by Greg Brown to enter into executive Session to discuss administrative matters in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 312(g) to include Stanley Janovsky, Jr. and Gig Zboray, seconded by James Weber , all in favor.

With no decisions made executive session ended at 7:29pm.

After some discussion about post-pandemic pay rates and the value of keeping well trained, reliable employees on staff **a motion was made by Robin Kingsley to increase all Highway Department employee’s hourly rates by \$5 per hour effective October 28, 2022, seconded by Greg Brown, all in favor.**

A motion was made by Greg Brown to increase Marylee Putnam's hourly rate by \$3 per hour effective October 28, 2022, seconded by Craig Hammer, all in favor. The sewer treasurer salary remains the same.

Other business

We received \$171.50 for September traffic fines.

Jacksonville Pond Emergency Action Plan Gig noted that she just finished updating the Emergency Action Plan for Jacksonville Dam, it doesn't seem to need official board approval.

Greg Brown would like the police to do speed patrol between 7:30am and 9pm. Gig will notify Chief Murano.

Adjourn

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

Scott M. Reed adjourned the meeting at 7:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

~Gig Zboray