**Minutes of regular meeting of the Whitingham Selectboard**

**February 1, 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, February 1, 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 and member Karl Twitchell. Chair, Keith Bronson attended via Skype.

Others present: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Administrative Assistant; Dan Hollister, Animal Control Officer.

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

Vice Chair, AllanTwitchell, called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

**Hearing of Visitors**:

No visitors.

**Animal Control issue**

Dan Hollister discussed the recent incident with dogs at a camp on Merrifield Road. On Monday, January 30th State Trooper Dean, ACO Dan Hollister, Humane Society Director Annie Guion, and Veterinarian Sue Kelly arrived at the property to determine the health and safety of the dogs. Town records indicate the dogs were not registered or inoculated against rabies. One dog was inoculated by the Vet on site. The agencies all tried to offer help and the dog owner refused. As it stands now all the dogs must be registered by April 1st per an agreement between the ACO and the dog owner.

**Sign letter regarding Education Funding**

The Selectboard expressed their frustration over the education funding method used by the State. They wonder why the Selectboard was the first to write a letter to all state representatives and why the School Board isn’t up in Montpelier complaining.

The Selectboard would like to write a second letter, this one to the Voters of Whitingham encouraging them to vote down the School Budget.This letter and vote is not intended to reflect poorly on the School Board but to encourage taxpayers to take a stand against the State. The funding method is all wrong and does not work, even after the merger with Wilmington. The Selectboard feels that other towns in the area should also vote down their school budgets so the State sees small towns aren’t going to take it anymore.

Selectboard members questioned why the School Board is waiting until a week before Town Meeting to hold an informational meeting? Karl Twitchell feels that waiting to present their budget is not very transparent.

**A motion was made by Karl Twitchell to sign the letter written to many State representatives about Education Funding, seconded by Keith Bronson, all in favor.**

**Review and sign Certificate of Highway Mileage**

**A motion was made by Karl Twitchell to sign the annual Certificate of Highway Mileage, seconded by Keith Bronson, all in favor.**

**Transfer Station update**

Karl Twitchell would like to put numbers together to consider inviting Halifax to use the Transfer Station. The idea is that the Town of Halifax would have to pay a fee and the residents would have to purchase a sticker and pay for bags of garbage as Whitingham residents do. Keith Bronson wants to be sure the numbers will be accurate so as Whitingham does not end up subsidizing Halifax. Much more research is needed.

**A motion was made by Karl Twitchell to sign and send the letter written to WSWMD Board of Supervisors, seconded by Keith Bronson, all in favor.**

**Approval of Payables Warrant – February 2, 2017**

**A motion was made by Karl Twitchell to approve Payable Warrant W1732 dated February 2, 2017, seconded by Keith Bronson, all in favor.**

**Approval of Payroll Warrant – February 2, 2017**

**A motion was made by Karl Twitchell to approve the Payroll Warrant W1731 dated February 2, 2017, seconded by Allan Twitchell, all in favor.**

**Approval of Minutes of January 18, 2017**

**A motion was made by Allan Twitchell to approve the Minutes of January 18, 2017, as written, seconded by Keith Bronson, all in favor.**

**Other business / Administrative Assistant – as needed**

None.

**Adjourn**

**A motion was made to adjourn by Keith Bronson, seconded by Karl Twitchell all in favor.**

Allan Twitchell adjourned the meeting at 8:39pm.

Respectfully submitted, ~Gig Zboray