



**Town of Whitingham  
Office of the Selectboard**

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 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 special meeting at 11:40am in the Selectboard Office of the Whitingham Municipal Center on Friday, January 14, 2022.

Selectboard members present: Scott Reed, Chair; and Greg Brown. James Weber attended remotely.

Others present: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Office Administrator. Don Haddox of ANR WID attended remotely.

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

Scott Reed called the meeting to order at 11:40am. There were no changes to the agenda since it was posted.

**Hearing of visitors (for concerns not on the agenda)**

None

**Sewer: meet with ANR Water Investment Division about sewer project**

Mr. Brown started the discussion telling everyone of a phone call he had earlier in the morning with Michael Smith, our sewer engineer. In summary the cost estimate is approximately \$100,000 less for Jacksonville but doesn't provide a list of which specific items were removed or stay in the project.

In that discussion Mr. Smith noted that the Whitingham BioMax unit should stay in the main bid because it will offset the cost of temporary treatment during construction of the Jacksonville plant. Mr. Brown asked Mr. Haddox if we do not move forward with the Whitingham construction portion of the project for a few years will the cost of the unit be covered in our funding package. Mr. Haddox responded that it would not be a reimbursable cost because the program does not pay for uninstalled materials or anything temporary. Mr. Haddox would be willing to speak to the EPA about this aspect because purchasing the Whitingham unit to treat Jacksonville wastewater during the construction project would likely be less expensive than paying for trucking to, and treatment at, another facility.

Mr. Brown questioned Mr. Haddox about the project cost estimate provided by Mr. Smith and how the new cost affects the percentage of the Pollution Control grant (PC grant) or the funding package. Mr. Haddox noted that he is NOT the finance guy, but his understanding is that the 27% PC grant is based on design approval of the entire project with a point system. He said a worst-case scenario is that we might lose 3 points bringing us down to 24%, with the caveat that they

don't have the full opinion of costs from the engineers and suggested that we insist the engineers provide it to us now.

The WID has a complicated formula to determine funding and if the actual cost is grossly different from the engineers "probable" cost they reserve the right to adjust the engineering fees.

Mr. Haddox strongly urged us (again) to contact the engineers to tell them we need the estimate of probable cost at this time (before we sign the contract amendment for the rebid). Gig will send an email immediately.

**Adjourn**

**A motion was made by Greg Brown to adjourn, seconded by James Weber, all in favor.**

Scott Reed adjourned the meeting at 12:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
~Gig Zboray