

Town of Whiting
Unapproved Minutes
*****Special Town Meeting*****
Tuesday June 18, 2024 @ 6:30pm
Whiting Town Hall

Meeting came to order at 6:30pm

Moderator Pat Mattison read the following:

The legal voters of the Town of Whiting, in the County of Addison, the State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Whiting Town Hall, 27 South Main Street, Whiting, VT, at 6:30 PM on June 18, 2024, to consider and vote on the following non-binding advisory article:

1. Shall the voters of the Town of Whiting advise the Whiting Select Board to enact a proposed ordinance regulating and allowing the operation of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) on certain town highways? (A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, 29 South Main Street, Whiting, VT during regularly scheduled hours.)

Ordinance committee member Steve Quinn explained how they wrote this ordinance and what the ATV ordinance would allow people to do.

The ordinance committee members feel it would take the place of snowmobiles, since we have not had much snow in the last several years.

People wanted to know how they would enforce this ordinance for ATVs?

Some people feel you could go out and talk to people that are not following the ordinance, others said you could call the State Police or Sheriff's department. People responded that they did not feel the State Police or Sheriff's department would respond, it is hard to get them to a domestic dispute call or an accident.

People were concerned with the noise at night.

It was asked, if they could put in a condition for a trial period.

The committee explained that in the ordinance it states that you can only ride during certain hours.

People wanted to know if they must be registered.

Committee explained that they need to be, registered, Insured and a Licensed driver.

People wanted to know if it would cost the town more if this is allowed.

The committee does not think it would.

The committee said the riders would have to buy the required signage.

The selectboard feels that they will need to do more grading and chloride.

People asked if the town would have liability if something happened.

It would depend on if an accident was caused due to road conditions (like hitting a big pothole).

Jeanne leno made a motion to vote on this with a paper ballot. Jamie Quenneville seconded.

Vote results are:

29-yes

18-no

The selectboard will take this into consideration when they decide on the ATV ordinance.

Bob Wood (selectboard chair) wanted to let everyone know that tree trimming would be happening in the next few weeks.

Motion made by Stacey Freeguard to adjourn the meeting. Rusty Brigham seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:30pm