

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
January 14, 2016
Minutes**

Board members present: Matt Patry, Laurie Phillips, and Gregg Casey
Others present: Stan Wilbur, Wendy Loomis- Director of Children First Advocacy, Ross Loomis, Todd Eaton – circuit rider for Vermont Local Roads, Grant Reynolds, Kevin Ruane, Frank Sears and Gail Fallar- Board Assistant.

Matt called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. He was at another meeting a apologized for being a little late. Agenda was re-arranged to allow visitors to go first.

Wendy requested that an appropriation request for \$400 be placed on the town meeting warning to support the non-profit group Child First Advocacy Center which is dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment to assist victims and their families in the discovery, intervention, treatment and prevention of child sexual abuse, severe physical abuse and children affected by violence. Laurie moved and Gregg 2nded to add it to the warning. All voted in favor.

Todd presented a power point demonstration explaining pavement assessment, treatment and management. He noted that a paved road should be thought of as a roof structure, if it leaks it could cause major damage. He described four types of damage, how to deal with them, ‘the right treatment, the right road and the right time’. Some roads merely need shim and top coating, some should be crack sealed, pot holes need emulsifier before the hot/cold mix is added, geo textile binder can be used in places, etc. Keep good roads good, and work on poorer roads as dollars and time allow. Most towns have a mix of good and bad roads, they need to determine how to allocate available money to keep them in the best shape possible – a dollar spent on prevention keeps from spending eight dollars on restoration.

Board reviewed agenda, added tool replacement under highway business. Minutes of 12/10//15 and 12/17/15 were read, Laurie moved and Gregg 2nded to approve all as written, all approved.

Kevin reported lots of plowing and sanding, hub on blue truck needed repair, first batch of tools are here, equipment is getting rusty from salt – need to be able to wash it.

Gregg had researched cost of a jet pump to feed the pressure washer from the small pond near the town garage; the problem needs to be addressed now to get the salt off the vehicles. He moved to purchase the jet pump, hose and water tank to hook to the pressure washer (purchased last year for thawing culverts) spending up to \$600. Laurie 2nded, all voted in favor.

Gregg and Kevin attended a workplace safety workshop. VOSHA will be conducting inspections of all town garages; the town needs to be prepared. There is a program that is a voluntary inspection (Project Worksafe), but once started the town has to correct all deficiencies. Todd suggested that the town have its insurance company’s (VLCT PACIF) risk assessment staff do a preliminary inspection first. Gail will contact Wade Masure. It was also suggested that the town apply for a PACIF grant for two dump blocks which are needed when working on the dump trucks. Grant will pay 50%, blocks are \$620 each.

Kevin is still working on estimate for repair of the loader - \$7300 (radiator, windshield, tires, brake, steering column, injectors) before the motor, which needs an oil analysis, but as he just

changed the oil, it needs to run for at least 100 hours before that test can be done. Use averages about 300 hours per year. Laurie moved and Gregg 2nded to get brakes and steering column fixed now. All voted in favor. Discussion of whether to repair and keep for another five years.

Grant asked on behalf of the Old Creamery Committee that the Board allocate \$5,200 from the town's Building/Repair Capital Fund for the proposed porch on old creamery, so that the project can go forward this spring. The OCC has received a Small Communities Grant (\$2500) from the Vermont Community Foundation and anticipates another \$500 from a TCF grant. In addition, Stan noted on behalf of the Tinmouth Historical and Genealogical Society that they are also applying for a TCF grant and will match it with \$500. Grant and Stan advised that both groups will work on fund raising and will do their best to replace the \$5,200. After discussion, Laurie moved and Gregg 2nded to allocate \$5,200 from the Capital Building Repair Fund for the old creamery porch, with the understanding that THGS and OCC will pay it back. All voted in favor.

Matt called the Hearing for proposed amendment of the Zoning Regulations to order. Grant spoke for the Planning Commission, explaining these were setback and screening requirements for the Public Service Board to consider if a commercial solar project was proposed in Tinmouth. The Town has no permitting authority regarding solar projects as they have to go to the Public Service Board for approval. Board expressed concerns about the size requirements (applies to projects greater than 150KW and greater than 1 1/2 acres). Board wants to encourage solar development. After discussion, Laurie moved and Gregg 2nded to warn the vote for March 1, 2016. All voted in favor. Grant also advised that the Planning Commission is working on an amendment to the Town Plan regarding possible solar project locations.

Matt read letter from Planning Commission Chair Michael Fallar requesting \$3,050 be added to the FY17 budget for revision of the Town Plan which must be done by September 2017. The PC's planning grant application was not approved by the state. The PC needs professional help with some aspects of the update. Board thought that there should be money set aside each year to make sure there was enough when the next revision would be required. Laurie moved and Gregg 2nded to add \$3,050 to the FY17 budget for planning, all voted in favor. Board decided to not fund the reappraisal yearly set-aside and use that money for planning for FY17.

Board reviewed draft highway budget, need more dollars for culvert work as the list from the recent culvert inventory lists several as critical. Discussed culvert on Rte 140 near the Gulf Road, need size to request hydraulic study. Discussed the need to replace the back hoe – its replacement is not on the equipment fund list – Board will look for a used one.

Board reviewed draft general budget, no big changes, did increase Sheriff patrol a bit.

Board set January 21, 2016 for a special meeting to finalize proposed budgets and warning for town meeting.

Board received a petition to place an article on the town meeting warning, signed by 33 voters having to do with providing health insurance to a retiree. Matt advised that per state statute the Board has no obligation to put it on the warning as voters don't have the authority to decide personnel policy. Members did not want to add it as advisory only, noting it could be very controversial. After brief discussion, Matt moved and Laurie 2nded to reject the petition on the grounds that it is not legally operative, statute does not give voters that authority. All voted in favor.

Matt then suggested that the Board appoint a Blue Ribbon Committee to assist the Board in developing a new personnel policy, comparing salary and benefits with other towns of similar size, etc.. No action was taken.

Gail requested the Board approved a 30 day extension of the deadline to file the 2015 Grand List final 411 with the State as there were still ongoing exchanges happening regarding Current Use between the Listers and PVR. Laurie moved and Gregg 2nded to approve extension, all voted in favor.

Gail advised that the School Board was willing to share the cost of an attorney to properly transfer title of the school building to the town. Gregg moved and Laurie 2nded to approve, all voted in favor.

Board reviewed Rutland Town's Resolution regarding local input for solar project. Gregg moved and Laurie 2nded to support this resolution seeking greater input from municipalities. All voted in favor.

Gail requested that the Board share the 21st with the Board of Civil Authority which needs to meet to set time for the election on March 1st (opening time has to be changed to 10 AM to match other towns for voting on the school merger) and add volunteers to the election worker list. In addition the Board of Tax Abatement will meet immediately after the BCA (BCA is part of that Board) to hear a request for tax abatement. Select Board agreed to allow those two Boards to meet prior to the Select Board meeting that evening.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar Board Assistant