

Town of Tinnmouth
Select Board
April 7, 2016
Minutes

Board members present: Laurie Phillips, Frank Sears, and Matt Patry

Others present: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Grant Reynolds, Tyler Dana, Alan Held at 7:30 (for 10 minutes), and Gail Fallar- Board Assistant

Matt called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Reviewed agenda – added Alan Held and County Sheriff. Approved minutes of 3/1/16;3/2/16;3/8/16;3/24/16;and 3/31/16 as written, moved by Laurie, 2nded by Frank all in favor.

Eric reported all is going well. He advised that there is a problem area on McCoy Road where the road is sliding into the Wells Brook. He has contacted the state stream alteration guy, we'll need a permit to fix it, he asked Dan Allard for an estimate to provide information to apply for a state grant – it will need huge stones on the bottom, followed by large stones and then smaller stones, as well as a culvert. Josh Carvajal, the state river engineer, thought it might cost \$50,000 to fix it. Board will advertise the project if the town gets a grant.

Eric also reported he had fixed the water pump on the loader, its radiator needs to be re-cored if the town is going to keep it. He has been looking for a used backhoe – needs one with a clean-up bucket and thumb. Board inquired about federal or state surplus equipment. Do we need a new (or used) loader or backhoe?

Eric noted he is working on a maintenance program; the one ton will need new tires before winter. He inquired about the town purchasing a wood chipper, Board asked that he obtain information for the next meeting. He also inquired about another chain saw, chaps and helmets. Laurie has the bid information – chainsaws from Charlie White and chaps and helmets from David Birdsall. Frank moved to purchase the chain saws, chaps and helmets, Laurie 2nded, all voted in favor.

Eric and Board discussed more tools needed (no vise grips, power washer needs nozzles, etc.) Eric and Laurie will meet to work on second round of tools/small equipment needed.

Also discussed lack of office space at the garage, he advised that a number of the items on the inspection list had been completed or would soon be done.

He requested the road crew be able to work four 10 hour days during the summer – sometimes a project needs a couple more hours to complete and it is more efficient to keep going than to stop and have to start over the next day – Board approved as long as work was getting done and someone was on call in case of a storm.

Alan expressed concern with Green Mountain Power's recent advertisement regarding herbicide spraying along its power lines. The ad advised that landowners who wish to not have it applied on their property to contact GMP. Alan felt the environment and water quality was at risk and that the Town should ban GMP from the practice in the whole town. He asked that it be placed on the warning for the upcoming special town meeting. The Board advised that the warning had already been signed, but the Alan could bring it up at the meeting under other business. Board asked Assistant to research whether the Town had the authority to act in the capacity to ban GMP's practice town wide.

Board discussed roadside mowing – in the past the Town rented Hollis's tractor and mower and paid him regular salary. Board is willing to hire him as a sub-contractor, not as an employee.

Board signed the Rutland Town Resolution regarding municipal authority for solar project siting. (Board had approved at its January 21, 2016 meeting, but hadn't signed it.)

Board briefly discussed the Equipment Fund, need to meet to discuss details regarding what needs to be replaced when, funding, etc.

Board asked that vacancies be posted to *Tales of Tinmouth* – SWAC, SWARC, deputy tree warden, old creamery committee – as the former holder of those positions declined to continue to serve. Frank volunteered to represent the Town on the Milfoil Executive Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar Board Assistant