

Town of Tinnmouth
Select Board
August 13, 2015

Board members present: Matt Patry, Gregg Casey, and Laurie Phillips

Others present: Joe Haberson from VTel, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Eric Buffum, Hollis Squier, Kevin Ruane, and Gail Fallar- Board Assistant.

Matt called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Grant, as School Board Chair, advised that the Tinnmouth School District (TES) is going to disappear, like it or not, to comply with Act 46 (state legislation adopted in the last session). Our current supervisory union may merge into the Mill River United District, at which time all TES assets and liabilities are absorbed by the new district. The school building sets on the town green, it has no land. The School Board would like to pursue giving the building to the town and the town leasing it back to the school district. Voters in both the town and school district will need to vote on this.

Matt noted this made sense, as the community center is a town building attached to the school. Select Board is agreeable, could warn in conjunction with the special town meeting needed for the vote regarding the Pavilion.

Minutes of July 9, 2015 and July 14, 2015 were approved as written.

Joe, from VTel, noted he had not been part of the fiber optic project, was here to discuss providing service to the Scott's at the end of Crow Hill Road. There was much discussion regarding this: the possibility of running the line up the road as it is a class 4 road, the town only maintains culverts (and there are five which would need to be bored under as the road is too shallow to go over); running poles zig-zagging across the road; or using the current right of way for electricity that runs through private property. He advised that as the project had ended, the Scott's would be responsible for the cost beyond 1000 feet.

The Board advised that the fiber optic line running along the East Road on the Blow property was merely strung through the trees, Joe was rather upset to hear this. Hollis also advised of other trouble spots, he and Joe will meet in the near future to review these.

The Board formally requested the culvert boring profiles for the entire project in Tinnmouth.

The Board also requested a proposal to amend VTel's underground burial permit to include work on Crow Hill Road.

Joe was also advised that the town office and fire house were still waiting to be cut-over to the fiber optic line, despite several calls and emails requesting it. He will take care of it.

Hollis advised that Rte 140 was nearly ready for paving, Fuller was scheduled to begin the week of the 21st. There is some jack hammering of ledge to be done. Ronnie is headed out west to fight forest fires.

Hollis then handed in his letter of resignation, retiring on December 31, 2015. He advised that some towns provide health insurance to retirees until they are eligible for Medicare and asked the Select Board to consider this. He also noted that he had used his own tools for nearly 36 years, and that he was willing to work part-time if someone was sick and roads needed plowing for instance. Matt thanked Hollis for his service and asked him to reconsider. Hollis advised he wanted to give the Board time work out a solution. Board discussed process, will hold a special meeting on September 3rd to discuss upcoming vacancy and personnel issues.

Gregg express concern with the new culvert at the cemetery, he thinks it needs a catch basin or some sort of safety grate. Hollis will take a look, noting the state required the 18” culvert.

Matt reported that a resident requested a reduction in the speed limit on north end North East Road, it is currently 35 mph. To lower it would require a traffic study. Board felt that enforcement was a better option, asking that the Sheriff’s Department be advised of when most of the speeders seem to be traveling the road, so they could run radar there.

Hollis requested the Board send a letter to Edwin Baker regarding the lawn clippings that are being left in the road, creating a hazard. Board reviewed state statutes and agreed to the request.

Board discussed complaints about Howard Regimbald’s use of the town’s right of way (and the East Road) for his business. After consulting state statutes, Board will send letter advising him to cease and ask the County Sheriff to issue tickets if it continues.

Eric advised that he’s lived in Tinmouth for 13 years and is interested in the road commissioner’s position. He’s worked in construction since 1996 and has a Class A CDL. Board advised that they will have a special Board meeting to work on the process, whether to appoint someone until town meeting, or hold a special election.

Board signed contract for FY16 with the Rutland County Sheriff’s Department for speed enforcement and patrols.

Board appointed Theresa Schmelzenbach as deputy health office.

Gail advised that the Pavilion on Tinmouth Pond has been reserved on August 29th for a special Board meeting with the Pavilion Exploration Committee, to hear concerns of lake owners and others regarding the Town’s proposed purchase of the Pavilion (Parker) property. 4:00-5:30 - it follows the Milfoil Project’s annual meeting.

Board entered executive session at 8:30 to discuss potential real estate transaction, exited at 8:55. Not action taken.

Rick LaCroix, Transfer Station Manager, sent word that Hubbards will take tin and aluminum cans in the metal dumpster, they can be pulled from the recycling bin and save a bit of money.

Board discussed wages and benefits, health insurance, etc., will continue discussion at their special meeting on the 3rd.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar
Board Assistant