

**Town of Tinmouth  
Select Board  
Regular Meeting  
April 12 , 2018**

Members present: Frank Sears, Michael Fallar, and Cathy Reynolds

Others present: Chuck Bronk, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Kim Harbaugh, Sherry Johnson, Paul Morris – First Constable, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant

Frank called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Agenda was reviewed, Board adjusted the order.

Minutes of March 15, 2018 and March 26, 2018 were approved as written. Cathy moved, Michael 2nded, all voted in favor.

Highway – Cathy moved and Frank seconded to approve Eric’s request for \$790 for a road watch monitor system. Michael questioned the amount of salt to be saved, Eric advised that the temperature of the roads vary greatly in different parts of town, being able to adjust the amount of salt to be applied would save a lot, only needed on one truck – the one that maintains the paved roads – that’s where most of the salt is used. Frank and Cathy voted yes, Michael voted no, motion passed. It will be installed on the new truck.

Cathy introduced Chuck Bronk (a former project manager for the University of Pennsylvania) who has been helping pull together all the information regarding the moving of the transfer station, building a salt/sand shed and new town garage. Cathy, Chuck, Eric and Gail have been meeting to discuss the project. She provided a handout of the steps to be taken, engineering, permitting, etc. She presented a revised design for the transfer station which would include a shed roof over the front and between the compactors to house electronic recycling. A civil engineer needs to be involved and an electrician, Chuck is checking with three firms now. The salt/sand shed would be one big structure, covered with fabric with a waste block foundation – the town of Mendon has recently built one, and the committee has spoken with the town of Guilford which built one several years ago. The town garage will need to have voters approve a bond as there is not enough money in the Capital Building Fund to cover everything. Cathy noted that a process needed to be figured out for how to keep the process moving forward, should the committee decide or the Select Board? Board set a special meeting for April 26<sup>th</sup> to consider bids.

Frank advised that he wants to present information to the town about what the money will be spent on. Cathy agreed that everything needs to be transparent, but that some money would have to be spent in order to have enough information for voters to vote on a bond. Much discussion on how to proceed, Michael asked if it’s not broke why fix it? Cathy noted there are several issues with the old town garage – no water or septic for instance; the state wants the transfer station to be locked and right now it occupies a lot of space being spread out; the transfer station and highway department should be more separate for safety concerns with the public; more storage is needed for winter salt, and eventually the state will require the sand pile to be covered. Is a town meeting needed right now, or a meeting for the public – how does the Board get people to attend? Post cards will be sent in addition to other posting requirements.

Eric advised he (as road commissioner) can do the site work for the transfer station and the salt/sand shed, maybe not for the town garage.

Board discussed applying for a safety grant for back-up cameras for the trucks and equipment. Cathy moved to apply, Frank 2nded, Cathy and Frank voted yes, Michael voted no, motion passed.

Board discussed applying for culvert replacements on McCoy Road from the Vermont Agency of Transportation. Cathy moved and Frank 2nded to apply for replacing both culverts #1 and #2. All voted in favor.

Board discussed fuel bids, Bob Noble advised checking the State bid, if we are able to piggyback with them we won't have to go out to bid in June.

Board discussed the request from the Old Creamery Committee (OCC) for help with excavation for the foundation work on the south wall. Michael recused himself – moved to the other side of the table - as he was chosen by the OCC to perform the work. Board had asked Eric to meet with the contractor and provide feedback to them. Eric advised that the road crew had enough to do among other concerns; but would do it if the Board authorized it. After discussion of the town's responsibility as it is a town building, Cathy moved and Frank 2nded to authorize the labor and equipment necessary for the project on the south side of the old creamery building. Cathy and Frank voted yes. Michael recused himself. Grant advised that the Old Creamery Committee would be responsible for any gravel or back fill needed. Board authorized removal of a maple tree if necessary, and asked that drainage pipe be installed if possible.

Cathy reported on an Advisory Committee meeting with Joanne Garton from the Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation's Urban and Community Forestry Program. Eric was there as road commissioner, David Birdsall was there as tree warden, Doug Fontein was there as Chair of the Conservation Commission, Cathy represented the Select Board and Gail was there as town clerk. Tinmouth was chosen as one of ten towns in the state to participate in a program called "Resilient Rights-of-Ways" which will inventory vegetation in the town's right of way and help the town develop a tree policy, guidelines for removing invasive species, encouraging native habitat, storm-water management, best practices, etc. The Board decided to create a committee to work on a Tree Policy for the Board to consider. Sherry Johnson volunteered, Frank volunteered, and the Board appointed David Birdsall and Eric Buffum. They will ask for other volunteers as well. Eric noted there are at least eight trees that are dangerous and need to be removed. Tree Warden has to approve. He will meet with David. There is a maple on Route 140 close to Ballou's swamp that comes to mind.

Paul, newly elected first constable, advised that he would like to become certified and asked the Board to pay it. Frank advised that the Board would not pay, the Town has hired the Rutland County Sherriff's Department for law enforcement as the town voted several years ago to restrict constable law enforcement duties. A draft memorandum of understanding regarding constable duties was discussed, it needs more work. Board advised that the town is not insured for constables to carry firearms while performing constable duties and they are not authorized to do so. Paul acknowledged the town's position.

Board reviewed list of delinquent tax payers that Cat Yoder proposed to move to tax sale as they are not paying or attempting to pay. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to proceed tax sale with the following property owners: Douglas Baker, Courtney Carmen and Jeremy Cook, Russell Dunham et al, Tracy Gioffi-Baker, Lisa Velde, Thomas Velde, Jr., Fairfield Whiting. All voted in favor.

Gail advised that FEMA has come up more questions regarding the repair work done on McCloy Road. They have been answered before, process is very frustrating.

Michael, as Planning Commission Chair, advised that the PC is asking the Select Board to appoint Rainbow Squier and Larry Carabeau to vacant positions and to re-appoint Andy Gilmore and Kevin Ruane with a one year probation as they have not met attendance requirements. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to accept the recommendations from the Planning Commission, with the understanding that Andy and Kevin will attend PC meetings. All voted in favor.

Gail advised that the Addendum C has not yet been approved by the Board, there are still a couple of outstanding issues concerning coverage for Medicare eligible participants. Board asked they be resolved for their May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Board reviewed job description for transfer station manager position, decided to post vacancy on Front Porch Forum and in *Tales of Tinnmouth*.

Board reviewed LEOP (Local Emergency Operations Plan) prepared by Michael Fannin, Emergency Management Coordinator. Cathy moved and Michael 2nded to approve provisionally as there are questions for Michael Fannin who was unable to attend the meeting and as Frank needs to attend special training prior to signing for the Board. All voted in favor.

Board received a letter of condolence from Michael Snyder, Commissioner of Forest, Parks and Recreation regarding the recent loss of 56 year Fire Warden Glenn W. Merrill. His service was very much appreciated.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar  
Select Board Assistant