

**Town of Tinmouth  
Select Board  
Special Meeting  
July 19, 2018**

Members present: Frank Sears, Cathy Reynolds, and Michael Fallar (at 7:08)  
Others present: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Kim Harbaugh, Bob Lloyd, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Heather McMahan, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant

Frank called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Agenda was reviewed, added tax sale update and moved Bob to the top.

Minutes of June 14, 2018 and July 12, 2018 were approved as written. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded, both voted in favor.

Bob spoke to the condition of the Pent Road, providing a bit of history as it was laid out in 1797. It has had its ups and downs in the last twenty years (Roy lawsuit that lasted years) and in the last 30 years the town has made some improvements as have the property owners who adjoin it. They have made two major repairs – six culverts following the July 1974 flood and more work on the lower part from Upper Gulf to Rustin’s cabin. Shortly before Hurricane Irene, then road commissioner Hollis Squier took the grader up to Roy’s cabins and did major grading which saved the road when the storm arrived. The owners have sought grants from Better Back Roads, but were told the road was not eligible – it’s run-off was not making its way to a river. So the owners have decided to again invest in the road – to the tune of \$18,000. Bob came before the Select Board last fall and asked that the town help – town is only responsible for culverts and bridges on Class 4 town roads. Board approved 4 or 5, whatever was needed. The owners contracted with Leon Corey to do the road work once the culverts were installed. To date they have not replaced. Bob contacted Eric and was told the work would be done in June. He is here to ask that the work get done soon.

Eric advised that the work on the Pent Road is next on the list barring any unforeseen emergencies, but that he could install the culverts even if the other work was done first. Bob felt the repair would hold better if the culverts were installed before the gravel was laid. He also noted that the owners were not the only beneficiaries of the work, it is a town road and the road that leads to the town’s forest and recreation area and cabin.

After brief discussion, Frank advised that it would be done within two weeks. Bob expressed appreciation.

In other highway business, Eric advised the road crew had replaced a culvert on Merrill Spring Road and were ditching, 14 loads so far, another day and a half to complete it. He noted he had tried grading on the North East Road, but it soon turned to dust – he again advised that the town should be applying liquid chloride after grading to help hold the road crown. The state prefers the salt stabilizing the road, to the road washing away into a stream. He spoke to the Board a couple of years ago, cost of equipment needed may cost \$10,000 or so and \$5,000 in chloride a year. Eric noted that Clarendon and Danby are now using it; it would save the town money in the long run; and the state is pushing it. After more discussion, Board asked Eric to bring back further information at their August meeting.

Eric also advised the new truck is being worked on; he would like a fourth camera and that needs a new monitor as the original equipment called for 3 cameras and a monitor that only reads three. Additional cost is \$250. Cathy moved to spend \$250 for safety of the driver, the truck and

property, Frank 2nded – Cathy and Frank voted yes, Michael voted no – expressing concern that the cameras and monitor could be a distraction. Motion passed.

Josh Carvajal, from the Agency of Natural Resources, is helping with bid specs for the culvert replacement on McCoy Road, with luck they will be ready for the next Board meeting. He is creating a model for all towns to use, with specifics for each project.

Board discussed process for proceeding with the Master Plan for the town garage/salt & sand shed/transfer station. Michael advised he had spoken with Scott Lepley who is willing to meet with the Board to discuss options. He has also called others who have worked with towns building new town garages. He prefers to work on the town garage first, wants to put the transfer station changes (switching to compactors) on hold as the salt and sand shed and the town garage are already amounting to a huge amount of money. Cathy raised concerns with space in the current town garage and the state's requirement regarding fencing for the transfer station. Frank noted a concern with the public being near the highway department facilities. Board decided to hold a special meeting with Scott on August 4<sup>th</sup> at the town garage.

Gail advised that FEMA still has not released funds from last year's storm damage.

Board discussed continued use of the right of way on the East Road, Board decided to hire an attorney to deal with the situation, photos and other documentation is needed, instructed the Select Board Assistant to contact attorney, have a process for the August meeting.

Board discussed trash problems, Carmen/Cook are now using the transfer station, Frank will visit the Baker farm with the Deputy Sheriff – Gail advised the Baker family is trying to evict the owner of the pigs and make him clean the site.

Board requested copies of current ordinances – traffic, sludge, solid waste, are there any others?

Michael reported he contacted the local game warden regarding the bear at the transfer station. He was advised that barricades and other measures to discourage the bear needed to be taken. He will install an electric fence near the dumpster. He was also given permission to trap the beaver building a dam across the big culvert on North End Road.

Cathy advised that her six year term as Tinmouth's representative to the Rutland Free Library ends in October. Barry Cohen has expressed an interest. After brief discussion, Cathy moved, Frank 2nded to appoint Barry Cohen when the term starts in October. All voted in favor.

Board appointed Chris Martone, new transfer station manager, to the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee. Michael will check with volunteer for the planning commission. Cindy Taylor-Patch and Carolyn Feury volunteered to serve as Health Officer. After brief discussion, Micheal moved to recommend Cindy, Cathy 2nded, all voted in favor, and thanked both for being willing to do it.

Board set town tax rate at \$0.6765 plus \$0.0004 (veteran's exemption) for a total \$0.6769. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to set the rate at \$0.6769 and to move the due date for the first half to August 23<sup>rd</sup> to ensure 30 days as required by statute. All voted in favor.

Board decided to change to date of the August meeting to the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Board will also hold its Public Hearing on Draft Zoning and Subdivision Amendments that evening.

Board discussed proposed contract for the Rutland County Sheriff's Department. There is no mention of the new four town agreement. Frank will investigate before the next meeting. Board postponed action.

Cathy spoke to the Regional Marketing Initiative explaining the process – working on getting more people to move to Rutland County – helps the region, but maybe not Tinmouth.

Board worked on Purchasing Policy, setting minimum to go out to bid, no decision on whether bids can be emailed, more work is needed.

Board decided to move Select Board Assistant job description to the top of the agenda for the August meeting, as it keeps getting post poned.

Board set Board of Civil Authority Hearing for an appeal from the Listers, for August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Gail provided an update of the tax sales – four are now paying monthly, one has paid in full and two are being sent to the attorney.

At 9:20 Cathy moved that the Board enter Executive Session for discussion of a possible real estate transaction that prior knowledge of which would not be in the public's best interest Frank 2nded, all voted in favor. Board exited at 9:32. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to authorize the Select Board Assistant to pursue a potential easement. All voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar  
Select Board Assistant