

**Town of Tinnmouth
Select Board
May 19, 2016
Minutes**

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

Others present: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Hollis Squier, Larry and Cris Carabeau, Jan Krantz, and Gail Fallar- Board Assistant

Matt called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Reviewed agenda – added lap top computer, gravel for old creamery, transfer station inspection, electronic recycling collection, and SWAC appointment. Board approved minutes of 4/7/16 as written, moved by Frank, 2nded by Laurie, all in favor.

Eric reported the road crew has been busy grading and graveling back roads. He mentioned the need for an excavator; several surrounding towns now have them. He also looked into a wood chipper – there is a used one available for just under \$10,000 – renting them costs \$275 per day, but those are not sturdy enough. Laurie raised a concern about equipment just setting, Eric noted that it could help fill in the time schedule and was more efficient than piling it in the truck and hauling it to the town garage. A new backhoe set up as needed might cost \$135,000. Board decided it needs more information and a plan, they will appoint a committee to make recommendations regarding equipment replacement. (Board will look for volunteers.)

Board reviewed driveway applications from the Carabeaus. Approved three with conditions, one near the old Capron place – doesn't need a culvert, the other two are on the old Valentine farm – both need culverts, one will replace two.

Gail reported that the town did not receive a paving grant this year, but was advised that more than likely would be in line for next year. Board decided to skip over area that needs reconstruction and pave up through Crampton's woods on Rte 140, near the intersection of Rte 140 and North End Road. Paving bids will be due June 9th.

The town did receive a grant for dump loks (a safety device for working on dump trucks) from VLCT PACIF – the town's insurance company. They will pay half.

Board was updated on the progress with the safety inspection, electrical work is all done, furnace has been cleaned, still working on moving the chimney.

Board discussed roadside mowing – Hollis advised he was willing to work as a town employee and charge rent for the equipment as in the past, noting his mower could mow wider and faster than a brush hog. Laurie expressed concern with the tractor lacking safety features like a roll bar/cage and the town's liability. It may be exempt due to its age, this will be researched. Hollis is still waiting for an insurance quote to be a sub contractor.

Board read letter from Terry McGann. He expressed concern about water in the ditch on his property on Tinnmouth Pond Road. Eric noted that water does not run uphill and that there is a wetland nearby. Hollis added that it had been that way for years, Board took no action.

Board reviewed two quotes for a lap top computer for the road crew, Frank moved and Laurie 2nded to approve the purchase from Staples along with a 2 year warranty. All voted in favor. Gail, on behalf of the Old Creamery Committee, requested the town haul a load of gravel for use under the new porch, and that the school and community center all needed some as well. The OCC will pay for the gravel, and all the buildings belong to the town. Board approved.

Gail reported that the transfer station had been inspected by the state, no written report yet, but the issue of the gate being locked re-emerged and the tarp needs replacing. Eric advised that Middletown Springs has two dumpsters with compactors and their road crew does not have to do anything (such as move paper gaylords, compact the trash with the backhoe, etc.). Board will have the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee look into it.

Board appointed Wheaton Squier as Tinmouth's representative to the Solid Waste Alliance Communities.

Board approved collecting electronics – have to wait for gaylords- if computer stuff is sorted/separated the town will be paid for that. One bin will be for computer components, another for other electrical gadgets.

Some folks have been mowing their lawns onto and leaving the grass clippings on the road. This is a safety concern, Board will write a letter advising them to stop. Another person is filling the ditch with leaves and grass clippings, they too will be sent a letter.

It was also reported that someone is burning trash near Rte 140 and Rte 133. They will be sent a letter to stop as it is illegal to burn trash.

Board signed Warrant for unlicensed dogs. Constables and Animal Control Officer may now round them up.

Board discussed request from the State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation regarding amending a 1985 easement to include the conservation of 10.1 acres (house lot 8) in the Tinmouth Mountain Land Condominium. There are currently hundreds of acres conserved there; this is a separate lot that was not, and it is now being added to the common land. Frank moved and Laurie seconded to approve the proposed amendment and protection of the 10.1 acres. All voted in favor. The state is involved as they hold the restrictions as well as the Vermont Land Trust for the entire property.

Board approved and signed the Agreement with the Tinmouth School District involving the use of the Community Center. This replaced the interlocal contract recently dissolved by a special town meeting.

Laurie moved and Frank seconded to approve the LEOP (Local Emergency Operations Plan) for 2016, all voted in favor.

Board created two classes for disability insurance benefits, Class 1 for all full time highway employees and Class 2 for full time town office employees, effective March 1, 2016. Employees must work 30 hours per week to qualify. Laurie moved and Frank seconded, all voted in favor.

Laurie reported that chainsaw chaps and helmets have been purchased – they are good for five years unless they get dinged and then they have to be replaced. Vise grips, can for oily rags and tag-out/lock-out equipment have been purchased. Still working on list of tools needed. Frank inquired about the tool inventory; Laurie will meet with Eric to keep working on it.

Matt expressed appreciation to Holly Noble for stepping in as moderator for the special town and school town meeting in early May.

Board signed Bills and Orders and reviewed the financial report.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar Board Assistant