

**Town of Tinnmouth
Select Board
September 22, 2016
Minutes ~ Special Meeting**

Members present: Laurie Phillips, Frank Sears, and Matt Patry

Others present: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Grant Reynolds, and Gail Fallar- Board Assistant

Matt called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Board opened bids for an excavator and a skid steer from Nortrax and Mountain View Equipment (John Deere), Champlain Valley Equipment (Bobcat), and Milton Cat (Caterpillar).

At 6:40 Matt moved and Frank 2nded to enter executive session to discuss affordable housing issues at 52 Sugar House Lane, all voted in favor. Present were Board members and Gail, as well as Attorney Tad Powers via telephone conference call. Board exited at 7:10. Board decided to have Attorney Powers draft a letter regarding the Town's responsibility regarding the affordable housing questions that have been raised.

Back to the bids, Eric had reviewed them while Board was in executive session. Board reviewed excavator bids first, although Milton Cat bid the two machines with one quote of \$141,000. Champlain Valley Equipment (Bobcat) bid \$102,373 for the excavator and \$34,980 for the skid steer (total \$137,353), Nortrax (John Deere) bid \$109,900 for the excavator and Mountain View Equipment (John Deere) bid \$44,115.66 and \$46,200 for two different skid steers. John Deere totaled \$154,015.99.

Eric recommended the Cat equipment, he felt they had better controls, a rubber track that bolted on, and that he was still able to get parts easily for his 1984 Cat excavator. After review of the various offers including warranties, Frank moved and Laurie 2nded accept the bid from Milton Cat for \$141,000 for both pieces of equipment. All voted in favor.

Board discussed old creamery post – decided that it needed to be replaced and re-positioned, rather than having more cement poured about the original post. Frank offered to donate a new 6x6 post from Phil's Mill. Laurie moved and Frank 2nded to have Ken Krantz move the post and not lose the pin that is imbedded in the current pier. All voted in favor. Ken was unable to attend the meeting.

Frank had prepared questions for the upcoming House of Representative debate to be held in Pawlet. Other members approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar Board Assistant