

TALES OF TINMOUTH

December 2018
Vol. 32 Number 12

Tinmouth
Vermont

Editors' Notes:

Peace on Earth, Good Will to All.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month, for publication on the 1st of the following month. Please email your information to (tinmouthtales@gmail.com).

Pat Psholka, Helen Mango, & Gail Fallar

Food Drive For

Tinmouth Community Christmas Food Baskets

Saturday, December 15th

9:00 AM until 11:00 AM

in the basement of the Tinmouth Community Church

These items will be used to fill 25 or so food baskets for less fortunate families in town, who really appreciate your generosity. Or you can drop things off at the Town Office anytime between now and then. The Mill River Union High School National Honor Society is helping with this effort; they will be providing turkeys and all the fixings (having organized food drives in all the schools in the district and done fund raising to purchase turkeys). We will then add to those baskets with more food and other items.

Non-Perishable Food Items such as peanut butter, jelly/jam, applesauce, pineapple, oatmeal, cereal, flour, sugar, oil, soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, juice, boxed cake mixes, stuffing, tuna fish, crackers, rice, mac and cheese, beans

Household Items such as laundry detergent, dish soap, hand soap, shampoo, facial tissue, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper

Pet Food such as canned cat food, canned dog food, small bag dry dog food, small bag dry cat food, dog or cat treats

Also needed are *monetary donations* to help cover the costs of perishable items such as meat, milk, juice, eggs, produce, fruit, and bread. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to the Roy and Anne Wilbur Fund (which is under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church), and left at the town office or mailed to 515 North End Rd, Tinmouth, VT 05773.

Also needed are *monetary donations* to help provide clothes and gifts for kids (books, socks, mittens, toys, etc.)

A note to the many gifted Tinmouth Bakers – baked goods can be dropped off early at the Tinmouth Church on Saturday the 22nd. Baskets will be picked up that day.

Thank you for your kind generosity !

Joyous Holidays to All!

The Tinmouth Elves



~ Christmas Baskets ~

The **Roy & Anne Wilbur Fund**, under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church, helps folks with heat, lights, groceries, etc. It also helps provide **Christmas Baskets** to folks in town. Donations of non-perishable food and other items (soap, laundry detergent, shampoo, paper products-toilet paper, tissues, etc.) can be left at the town office. Your generosity and help is greatly appreciated.

If you, or someone you know, need(s) a basket, please call Gail at 446-2498. If you have a bounty of potatoes, onions, or squash from your garden, or fresh eggs, they are most welcome. **If you have an extra turkey or ham, that you would like to donate that is welcome as well.**

Fruit Baskets are distributed to nearly 20 folks as well.

There were **six Thanksgiving Baskets** delivered, thanks to the generosity of folks attending the Community Thanksgiving Service – they brought food for the collection, and others who donated money for turkeys and perishables and left food at the town office. They were very much appreciated.

The Town Office and Library will be closed on Monday, December 24th in observance of the Christmas Holiday.



December 2018 Calendar of Events



Library OPEN	Saturday	1 st	9:30 - Noon	Library
Chanukah	Monday	3 rd	Sundown	
Fire Department	Thursday	6 th	7:00	Fire House
Select Board	Thursday	13 th	7:00	Town Office
Holiday Food Drive	Saturday	15 th	9:00-11:00	Church Basement
Planning Commission	No Meeting in December			
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Thursday	20 th	Don't Miss It!	
Contra Dance	Friday	21 st	8:00	Community Center
First day of Winter	Friday	21 st	Enjoy the Solstice!	
Caroling	Sunday	23 rd	6:00	Meet at the Church
Christmas Eve Service	Monday	24 th	4:30 (4:15)	Church
Town Office & Library	Monday	24 th	CLOSED for Christmas Eve	

January 2019 Calendar of Events

Town Office	Tuesday	1 st	CLOSED for the Holiday	
Fire Department	Thursday	3 rd	7:00	Fire House
Special Library AM Hours	Saturday	5 th	9:30-Noon	Library
Select Board	Thursday	10 th	7:00	Town Office
Planning Commission	Thursday	17 th	7:00	Town Office
Contra Dance	Friday	18 th	8:00	Community Center
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Sunday	20 th	Don't Miss It!	
Conservation Commission	Monday	21 st	7:30	Town Office

Sunday Church Service 9:00 AM ~ All are welcome!

Transfer Station hours are Wednesday 4:00 - 7:00 pm & Saturday 8:00 am - noon.

Library Hours ~ Monday 10:00-noon & 1-5 and Thursday 10:00-noon & 1-5

Knit, Craft or Chat ~ Mondays 3:00 – 5:00 pm ~ Library

Fun “non-competitive” Volleyball on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm. All abilities are welcome!

Bone Builders ~ Tuesday 10:00-11:00 am & Friday 9:00 – 10:00 am ~ Library

All are welcome!

~ December reminder from your local Fire Department (TVFD) ~

Please remember to keep your walkways shoveled and clear – even to the doors you only use occasionally – you never know when you might need the Rescue Squad or which door they may need to use. Goes for the inside too, don't block doorways with ‘stuff’. You may need to make a hasty exit (in case of fire) or the Fire Department may need to get in!

TVFD also reminds everyone to make sure your smoke detectors are working and that you have more than one way out of your house!!!



~ Caroling ~

Christmas Caroling, **Sunday, December 23rd**. We meet at 6:00 at the Church, then carpool around town to a dozen or so elderly and shut-in folks, bringing them a bit of holiday spirit.

All voices welcome!!



Everyone Is Welcome in This
Community of Worship and Faith

**TINMOUTH COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

Sunday Service – 9:00 a.m.

**Special Christmas Eve Service
Monday the 24th ~ 4:30 pm**

Congregational Carol Singing begins at 4:15

Rev. Shirley Oskamp, Pastor
Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

~ **Tinmouth Mountain School** ~



To the Tinmouth Community,

It's hard to believe that December is upon us. It seems as if the students are just settling into their daily routines. The first trimester ended mid-November and report cards went home on November 30th. The holiday break is rapidly approaching. Students will be dismissed at 3:00PM on December 19th. They will return to school on Wednesday, January 2nd.

The freezing November weather and early snowfall afforded students the opportunity to sled during recess. Snow forts and sledding! The children were delighted! The snow also allowed our second and third grade class to track a local fox to our neighbor's doorstep. The children listened attentively to stories of how this particular fox returns each evening where newly caught mice and squirrels await him.

During the first trimester, the students elected to change the school mascot to the Tinmouth falcon. Additionally, our school community (including parents) chose the icon below to represent Tinmouth Mountain School. This icon will be incorporated into a single district logo along with Shrewsbury, Clarendon, Wallingford, and Mill River School icons to represent Mill River Unified Union School District.

As part of our annual holiday tradition, please join us for caroling and hot chocolate on Wednesday morning, December 19th. We'll begin between 9:00 and 9:30 AM.

The Tinmouth staff wish all families in our community a peaceful and joyful holiday season and prosperity in the upcoming New Year!

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker
Principal, Tinmouth Mountain School



Tinmouth
Mountain School

Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!



~ **Library News** ~

By Ruth Drachman

"In today's society, a library is like a sanctuary. It is a quiet place, a place for learning, a social place, and basically a safe haven." A quote from Susan Rosenthal, a 35 year veteran of teaching.

Greetings and good wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year from the Tinmouth Library!

Our book discussion group and our Writing group will not meet in December.

There are many New books for adults, young adults and children, including Christmas books of all kinds.

Happy Reading!

Knit and Chat is held in the library on **Mondays from 3 until 5 PM**. Come and do whatever handcrafts you prefer, and be prepared to chat as well.

The library is **open** on Monday and Thursday, from 10:00 A.M. until Noon, and from 1:30 P.M. until 5:00 P.M., as well as the morning of the first Saturday of the month – **December 1st ~ 9:30 to noon**.

~ **Election Results** ~

On November 6th, 242 Tinmouth voters (60%) cast ballots for U.S. Senate, U.S. Representative, Governor, Lt. Governor, and other statewide officers. Results are posted on the window at the town office. County Senators elected were **Brian Collamore, Cheryl Hooker and Jim McNeil**. State Representatives for the Rutland 2 District will again be **David Potter** and **Tom Burditt**, and Rutland-Bennington District will again be served by **Robin Chesnut-Tangerman**. The proposed Zoning & Subdivision amendments passed easily, 157 to 63.

Justices of the Peace elected were **Michael Fallar, Nelson Jaquay, Jeanne Schmelzenbach, Marshall Squier, and Stan Wilbur**.

~ **Budget Work** ~

The Select Board and the MRUUSD School Board are working on budgets for the coming year. If you would like to have input, please attend one of their meetings in December or January. Or call a Board member – names and phone numbers available in the Tinmouth Operator's Manual annual update.





~ Winter Plowing ~

As winter is quickly approaching, (hmmm, actually it seems to have arrived!) here's a reminder about plowing your driveway. **It's actually against state law to plow across the town road.** However, if you really, really, **absolutely** have to plow across the town road, **please** make sure that you **clean the road really well.**

Thank you for your cooperation!

~ Winter Driving Tips ~

Vermont Emergency Management urges residents to travel with caution and appropriately for road conditions and offers some winter safety tips:

- Check road and weather conditions before leaving; visit www.511vt.com or call 511 for this information.
- Always allow yourself extra time to get to your destination.
- Make sure your vehicle is in good mechanical condition with snow tires and winter windshield wiper blades.
- Watch for and expect changing road conditions, black ice, blowing snow, high winds or whiteout conditions can appear when you least expect them to.
- The single most important rule is to drive at a speed that matches the prevailing visibility, traffic and road conditions. The posted speed limits are for dry, clear conditions only.
- Be sure to leave yourself plenty of extra room, extend the following distance from other vehicles ahead.

For road conditions call 511 or visit 511vt.com. For personal assistance, like heating help or other information, call 211.

211 is a service of the United Way.

~ Please Make Sure You Are Visible ~

Please wear a fluorescent yellow or orange vest when you are out walking, jogging, or enjoying the winter wonder land. It is **VERY important** that drivers can see you as they approach. With daylight hours disappearing, more caution is needed. And don't forget your dogs if they are out and about with you!

Thank you for your cooperation!

Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department Thank-You

Our 49th Game Supper was a great success thanks to some very dedicated firefighters and lots of help from town folks.

We served over 400 customers, as well as feeding around 50 volunteers and sending many leftovers to the Open Door Mission in Rutland.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! It does take the whole Tinmouth Community to put on Vermont's largest game supper.

The Tinmouth Fire Department is all volunteer, folks willing to donate their time, working, training, being willing to give up a lot, to come help you. This includes personal and family time, work, just-drop-everything to come help.

The Fire Department over the years has made a huge difference to many of Tinmouth's people: Rescuing farmers from under machinery, loggers from under trees, prying injured people and children from car accidents, and of course fighting all the chimney fires at 3:00 in the morning that can easily transition into a house fire, and all the barn and house fires we have had down through the years.

As Chief, I would like to thank all the past and present firefighters who have been and are willing to donate their time. I invite you to consider joining us. There are many non-technical jobs, out of harm's way, that need to be done at an emergency.

We could use you to relieve a trained fire fighter, to be where he or she may be more needed. Give me a call 235-2718 or join our meeting held at the Fire House on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00. You are welcome.

Your support will keep it going for many more years.

Thank a fire fighter when you see them.

Marshall Squier, Chief

TVFD Raffle Winners:

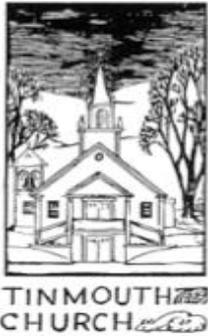
- 1st prize – Tim Taylor – Gun**
 - 2nd prize– Ray Petry \$200 ~ donated it to TVFD**
 - 3rd prize- Hans Stoneberg III ~ Hannaford Gift Card**
 - 4th prize- Mary Bills ~ Sweet Carolines's Gift Card**
 - 5th prize – Justin Savage ~ 99 Gift Card**
 - 6th prize – Matt Patry ~ Ticket to next year's supper**
 - 50/50 (\$168) – Tammy Wallace ~ donated it to TVFD**
- A big thank you to Ray and Tammy!!!*

The *Tales of Tinmouth* is on the Tinmouth website (tinmouthvt.org). Look under "About".

If you would like to read it online or someone in the house recycles it before you get a chance to read it!

There is much more information about the town on the website, take a few minutes and check it out!!

~ **Tinmouth Community Church** ~
by Shirley Oskamp, Pastor



Dear Friends,

Christmas, for me, is intertwined with living in the Northeast. Snow and cold temperatures are a part of the expected scenery. So, writing this month's letter from Florida is very strange for me. I am down here spending time with my Dad, not really missing the chilly weather yet.

I know though, as we get closer to Christmas, I will be glad to be back home enjoying the warmth of our wood stove and the frosty winter mornings.

What is it that makes Christmas, Christmas, then? I imagine that the answer is similar for most of us, involving family and friends, special foods and traditions. The thing is, when I was a child I didn't understand how people could celebrate in an environment that was different from mine. How could palm trees and tropical warmth fit into the whole picture?

Well, historically, they fit in very well. Bethlehem, Israel, where biblical accounts say Jesus was born, is in the desert, and palm trees are common there. It is also a whole lot warmer than Vermont in December, so it turns out that my Christmas associations have more to do with where I grew up and what my family did to celebrate than they do with the actual environment into which Jesus was born.

When we go chasing after our own ideas of what Christmas *should* be, it is easy to get lulled into thinking that it has to be a certain way. But "*what is essential,*" as Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's Little Prince reminds us, "*is invisible to the eye.*" Christmas is a celebration of the heart. What happens inside of a person is what is most important. As a holy day for Christians, this is a remembering of the birth of Christ, but it can easily be expanded to a broader promise of the birth of hope and light for all people.

We can certainly use some hope in this world that so often dashes hopes more than it raises them. We can use more light as well, light that is brave enough to shine into the dark corners into which none of us is comfortable venturing. In fact, we need to look for ways to *be hope* for the world in which we live. We need to *be the light* or at least to *shine* the light into those places of difficult truth and even of embarrassment that our society would prefer were left in the dark.

This Christmas, this season of light, perhaps the best way to celebrate is by asking ourselves, how will we birth hope and light into the world? If the Christian story is our own, then we might ask ourselves the further question of how does the birth of Christ matter in our lives, and how will we bring the light and hope of Christ

into the world in ways that matter? I pray that we will each ponder this and see what our hearts long to do in making a difference for good and for all.

May you have a blessed Christmas,
Shirley

P.S. Please join us at the Tinmouth Community Church for Christmas Eve (Monday the 24th) worship at **4:30 pm**.

All are welcome as we celebrate with candlelight, joyful music and beloved stories.

Carol singing will begin at **4:15 pm** so come early and enjoy getting in the spirit together!

~ **Marion's Musings for December** ~

By Marion Hambly

With thanks to my cousin-in-law Lydia Terrier . . .

May your path
Be strewn with flowers,
Memories, friends
And happy hours.
May blessings come
From heaven above,
To fill your life
With peace and love.
. . . An English Blessing

~ **Community News** ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Marion Hambly, Nancy Noble, Betty Fallar, Rod Start, Pat Jaquith, Kevin Ruane, Carolyn Feury, Danny Roderick, Charlie Wrobel, Howard Buffum, Gregg Lund, Amy Martone,** and **everyone suffering from colds and the flu.**

Heartfelt Sympathies are sent to family and friends of **Josh Ruane;** to **Carleen Eaton and family** for the loss of her father; and to **Terry Williams and family** for the loss of his granddaughter. Please keep them in your prayers.

Thank you to **Cris Carabeau and Crew** for the great cornstalks at the town office and library. On Thanksgiving Day, a deer or two joined the birds to enjoy a snack of corn on the cob!!

Kudos to **Rod Start,** if you get a chance, stop and chat with him about the guiding service he provided to Vice President Mike Pence when he visited Vermont in September. Great story and experience!!

~ **Nature Notes** ~

Holy Cow!! Winter arrived early! Snow by mid-November, ice skaters getting a head start. Nearly a foot of snow on the 28th! A number of folks didn't even get a chance to plant their garlic as October was so cold and wet! Bah, humbug!



Tinmouth Contra Dance
Dance to
Don Stratton calling to the tunes of the
Lone Prairie String Band
Friday, December 21 at 8:00 pm
Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Route 140

Our annual Snowflake Contra Dance is on the Solstice this year! Dance to the splendid tunes of the Lone Prairie String Band with Don Stratton calling, **Friday December 21 from 8 pm – 11 pm** at the Tinmouth Community Center. All dances are taught, and you do not need a partner. If you are a beginner, come right at 8:00 for a beginner's lesson to learn the moves. There will be live music, enthusiastic swinging and dancing, refreshments and a fun night for all. Bring your friends and family.

The dance takes place in the Tinmouth Community Center on the third Friday of the month at the Community Center is on Rte. 140 in the center of Tinmouth, Vermont 5 miles west of Wallingford. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes. Admission is \$10-\$12, \$8 for teens and free for children 12 and under.

More info at tinmouthcontradance.org. Like us on Facebook at Tinmouth Contra Dance. Shine up those dancing shoes and bring a couple of friends to dance with! Our email is tinmouthdance@gmail.org. Phone 802-881-6775. See you in Tinmouth!

Mark your calendars for our January 18 Dance ~ Cloud Ten with Mary Wesley calling!

~ **Helpful Items for Loan** ~

Someone getting a new hip or knee? Or just needs some help getting around? The Town Office has walkers, crutches, a potty seat, a potty chair (commode), and a wheel chair to loan. No charge.

Please call 446-2498 to make arrangements.

~ **Front Porch Forum** ~

Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors

Have you checked out Front Porch Forum yet? To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>. Or stop by the town office to sign up!! 200+ households have signed to date! Good way to discuss community issues, sell a canoe, give away a kitten, etc., If you are a second home owner you can use your 911 address.

Meetings and agendas are announced here as well.



Recipe Corner

Kruesi Fruit Cake

3 cups whole pecans
1 lb. dates (whole)
1 cup + whole cranberries
¾ cup whole wheat flour
¾ cup sugar
½ teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
3 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla

Mix like a normal cake. Bake at 300 degrees 1 hour and 45 minutes

Line loaf pan with waxed paper. Grease pan and paper.

Kate Kruesi shared this family recipe years ago.

A great option for those that dislike citron fruit cakes!

Got a favorite recipe you are willing to share? Please send it/them to Shirley Bucceri at smhb@vermontel.net or 49 North End Road, Tinmouth, VT 05773. Thanks!

~ **Town Meeting 2019** ~

Thinking about serving your community? Town Meeting will find voters choosing the following officers:

Moderator - Town - 1 year term
Select Board Member - 3 year term
Lister - 3 year term
Auditor - 3 year term
1st Constable - 2 year term
Town Agent - 1 year term
Grand Juror - 1 year term
Tax Collector (Delinquent) - 1 year term

Town Meeting is **Saturday, March 2nd** this year. Public questions and budgets will be voted from the floor at the Community Center. Officers will be chosen on **Tuesday, March 5th** via Australian balloting, or you may cast an early/absentee ballot for that election. The Select Board is working on having information for financing a new town garage on the 2nd as well.

If you wish to run for office, you must file a petition with the town clerk with **five** voter's signatures by 5:00 PM Monday, **January 28th**. Petitions are available at the town office. Candidates must also sign a consent form.

Petitions for Articles to be placed on the warning are due by 5:00 pm **Monday, January 21st**. 5% of voters (20) must sign the petition. Voters must be registered to vote in Tinmouth.

~ Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department News ~

By Sherry Johnson



Need Help with your Holiday Shopping?

Need a special present from Tinmouth? The Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department is selling red tee shirts with Tinmouth's logo on the front and an awesome skull wearing a fire fighter hat on the back. These shirts are the same as the fire fighter's tee shirts, only they are red instead of blue.

At the Game Supper several people expressed interest in purchasing these shirts. Sizes available are small, medium, large and 2XL.

The shirts are \$20 each. Youth tee shirts can be ordered and they are \$15 each.

If you are interested, call Sherry Johnson at 446-3307 or email her at vtsjohnson@icloud.com.



~Wallingford Rescue News ~

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A huge thank you goes out to all of the local people who donated to the Wallingford Rescue Food Drive on Saturday, November 3rd. The weather did not cooperate but that did not matter. A grand total of 31 boxes of a wide variety of merchandise was collected!!!!

It was just amazing to see all of the people come out for such a worthy cause. Anything from 2 cans to bags full of items were donated. Every bit of it was greatly appreciated. All boxes have been delivered to the food shelves in Wallingford and Tinmouth. Wallingford Rescue is so grateful to see neighbors helping neighbors.

THANK YOU AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!!!



~ Wallingford Town Hall Concert Series ~

Bells of Joy directed by Karen James will present a wonderful holiday concert that is sure to lift your heart and spirit as a fundraiser at Wallingford Town Hall on **Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.** The concert will feature traditional Christmas music as well as selections inspired by the Lessons and Carols Service from Kings College, Cambridge in England arranged specially for this unique instrument comprised of 5 octaves of bronze handbells and 5 octaves of lovely hand chimes.

Come early to get a good seat as seating will be limited to 125. Suggested donations of \$10 to \$15 per person at the door with all proceeds going as a fundraiser to Bells of Joy, less 10% to the Town of Wallingford. Wallingford Historical Society will sponsor a bake sale.

Wallingford Town Hall is accessible to all abilities. Elevator entrance is on the east side of the building off Taft Terrace. For more information, contact the Town Administrator at (802)446-2872.

This concert is being presented as part of the Wallingford Town Hall Concert Series.



May 2008 photo of Tinmouth Channel by C.J. Frankiewicz

Meeting Highlights~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

Select Board ~ 11/8/18 ~ Regular Meeting

Present were members Michael Fallar, Frank Sears, and Cathy Reynolds, as well as Chuck Bronk, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Jo Reynolds, Grant Reynolds, Dave and Carleen Eaton, Vito Macaluso, Kim Harbaugh, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Asst.

Frank called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. Board met early to discuss and work on draft procurement policy.

Procurement Policy ~ After brief discussion, board voted to table the procurement policy. Board then decided it would make more sense to have a ‘practice’ as opposed to a ‘policy’, worked on refining the bid process, guidance for bidding/purchasing, cover sheet with clear specs, and review of specs by the Select Board. Cathy will provide a clean copy for the December meeting.

Board then proceeded with regular meeting.

Highway ~ Eric advised all is good. He inquired about purchasing another set of wheels (rims and tires) for the new truck to be able to have a summer set and a winter set, estimated cost of \$5,000-\$6,000. After brief discussion, Board advised that Eric is responsible for the highway budget, that it was his decision.

McCoy Road culvert projects ~ Eric and Gail have recently met with Josh Carvajal (ANR/DEC) and will be getting new specs together soon for Board to review.

Chloride ~ Eric advised that \$12,000 would be needed for the chloride program and that does not include winter use.

Practice regarding when to plow, when to sand, when to salt, was tabled.

East Road Speed Study ~ Frank presented information from the Rutland County Sheriff’s Department regarding the speed cart when it was on the East Road in 2017. It showed that the current speed limit is correct for the traffic flow, nearly 10,000 vehicles passed it from October 19 thru November 6th last year. More enforcement would be the first step to take, Frank will contact RCSD to set that up, will also request speed cart for the area near Regimbalds. Board will consider applying for a VLCT PACIF safety grant for speed cart – cost is \$8,000. Kim raised concern with the recent crash that took out a number of mail boxes due to icy roads.

Performance Review ~ Required by the new Personnel Policy, Board scheduled a special meeting on October 12th, Cathy noting it was a good process to undertake.

Others ~ Dave inquired about the **Master Plan** for the **town garage**, etc. Frank advised that the Board had taken a step back to look at cost, etc. Cathy advised that the Board was meeting with an architect on the 15th hoping to have a plan for a vote at town meeting in March. The previous Board had agreed to not use the current town garage with additions, and after the structural engineer’s

report at the last meeting, this Board also decided that as well. So now the Board is moving forward with planning for a new town garage, salt/sand shed (most likely a really big fabric structure) and moving the transfer station. Dave expressed concern with the proposed new location of the transfer station - Board advised that it needs to move out of the center of the highway department facilities. Dave also expressed concern with all the stuff now being stored in his view.

Vito requested the Board consider adding funding for the *Tales of Tinnmouth* to help cover costs of paper, printing and postage as it is very important to keep citizens informed, and all labor is volunteer. Board discussed whether to add to budget or create an article for the town meeting warning. No decision made in that regards.

Old Business ~

* Trash on Mountain View Road – there was a request to use town truck/equipment. Board denied, noting it may have to issue health order for the owner to clean it up.

* Pig situation at the Baker farm – pigs were recently out, rooting up neighbor’s lawns and causing havoc. Frank is scheduled to visit with the animal control officer on Friday.

* VTel is removing old copper line pedestals.

* Beware of dog signs have been posted.

* Brush and tree removal on Gulf Road is on track, need to know if landowner wants the wood.

New Business ~

* Board ratified Frank signing grant application for Erosion Control Inventory.

* Board voted to waive late filer penalty (re: homestead declaration).

* Worked on FY20 highway budget – Eric is trying different materials for winter sand, cost more than sand from Holcomb’s; he also advised he will need \$6,000 more for winter chloride (Wells, Danby, and Clarendon are trying the new chloride use advice from Vermont Local Roads – hoping to keep the gravel in place in summer, using less salt in winter, etc.).

Select Board ~ 11/12/18 ~ Special Meeting

Present were members Michael Fallar, Cathy Reynolds, and Frank Sears via telephone, as well as Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, and Gail Fallar.

Frank called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. The purpose of the meeting was to follow the new Personnel Policy regarding annual employee reviews.

Board voted to enter executive session for the purpose of personnel issues. Board retreated to the upstairs meeting room with Eric. At 2:20 Board took a pause to allow Frank to deal with issues at his end of the phone, Eric departed.

At 2:30 Board un-paused, had a discussion with Gail, and exited executive session at 3:15.

Board decided that they have no authority to review elected officials and that Eric, as road commissioner, should evaluate the road crew member. They did feel it was worthwhile for the Board and employees, elected and/or hired, to have a general discussion about duties and job performance, and to set goals for the coming year.

Select Board ~ 11/15/18 ~ Special Meeting

Present were members Frank Sears, Michael Fallar and Cathy Reynolds, as well as Jay White-architect, David and Carleen Eaton, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Chuck Bronk, Scott Lepley-architect, and Gail Fallar.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss design of a new town garage.

Frank advised that the Select Board is working on a suitable facility at a palatable cost to the town with the goal of presenting it for a bond vote at the March 2019 town meeting. To that end, the Board wishes to procure the assistance of an architect.

Jay noted that he and the firm he works for NBF, have done many town garages, including Shrewsbury, Rutland Town, and Shaftsbury to name a few. He advised that he can provide architectural services, but that the town would need to also engage a civil engineer for certain aspects – floor drain, septic design, site work estimates, permitting, etc. He did mention that towns had addressed floor drains differently – some slope the floor to drain outside (allowed by the state) so there is no drain; some have a drain that runs through an oil separator and then to daylight; some run the drain to a holding tank (which could be really expensive to pump).

Jay had questions for the Board:

Is the **bond for just the town garage** or will it include more? Will it be bigger than 5000 square feet? If so, then it would need to have sprinklers.

Roof pitch? Standard is 4 on 12, may need an extension over front so the snow doesn't dump in front of the doors.

Construction type? Wood (better for heating) or steel (ie Morton) better for unheated spaces.

Number of bays needed, depth of bays? Size of doors?

He advised against radiant floors, doesn't work with trucks in and out. Board noted that space for an office, restroom and mechanical room needed to be included.

He offered a proposal for pre-bond work (\$3,000) and post bond work (\$29,000).

Scott noted that the 60' x 80' design he had prepared a couple of years ago (volunteering his services) for the Select Board at that time had a flat roof that didn't go with Tinmouth's character, but that was what the Board at the time had requested. He questioned the cost per square foot being used, he is from New Jersey and the rates down there are much lower. (He also has a house on Tinmouth Pond.)

Eric advised that the 60'x80' was what was needed today, but not forward thinking. He encouraged the Board to think bigger, trucks are now 40' long and there needs to be room around them for wings, plows, work space.

Shrewsbury's town garage is 48'x 83', has four bays and an office, with 14' doors. Rutland Town has 16' doors.

Board discussed time frame, can the estimates be ready by mid-January in order to vote on the bond in March? Jay replied yes; Scott said no, as he is in New Jersey most of the time in the next couple of months. He again questioned the cost per square foot for this type of construction. The Board thanked Scott for his previous assistance and current advice.

Board discussed site plan, Option C has the town garage located at the back and the salt/sand shed where the current sand pile is, with the transfer station out front by the road. Cathy noted that the Board previous to Michael joining in March had agreed to that. Gail advised that there was discussion about "D", which moved the salt/sand shed to the back (only used a few months of the year) and that the town garage would be built near where the current sand pile sits. It was discussed, but no one has drawn it on a map – Gail will work on it for the next meeting.

Cathy asked Dave and Carleen, as the closest neighbors, if they preferred the transfer station or the town garage in their front yard? Both expressed concern with the proposed locations, would prefer that the transfer station stay where it is and the town garage be moved to the back. They also raised concern for the increase in the amount of storage of equipment/materials directly adjacent to their property.

Discussion about moving the transfer station ensued, compactors will need adaptors as there is no 3-phase power, cost of solid waste disposal/recycling will increase, does the town have to provide that service, safety issues with highway crew and folks using the transfer station. Carleen noted that the biggest safety issue she has observed is the speed of vehicles coming and going, that the highway crew is not there most of the time the transfer station is open. Dave noted that he was the transfer station manager for over three years, and there had not been a safety issue during that time. Eric advised that he has concerns when big equipment and the public mix.

Michael noted the cost of moving the transfer station and the increase in cost for solid waste/recycling disposal and the proposed salt/sand shed also needed to be considered. Frank added that the Board needs to figure out where everything is going, and a time line for it. Cathy reminded everyone there are two parts to the building fund, one is highway and one is general. The general share could cover the cost of the compactors and moving the transfer station, the highway share could be

used to cover some of the cost and the bonding would be for the remainder of that. There is over \$450,000 currently in the fund, of which \$350,000 is allocated for highway use.

Board agreed to keep the size of the town garage under 5000 square feet. Cathy and Frank agreed on 60'x80', Michael did not.

Cathy moved and Michael 2nded to accept Jay's proposal for architectural services. All voted in favor.

Board then discussed need for civil engineer – instructed Gail to contact a few to see if they could attend the special meeting on the 29th. Jay will bring preliminary drawings for the town garage to that meeting.

Board set another special meeting for November 29th at 7:00 pm.

Select Board ~ 11/29/18 ~ Special Meeting

Minutes not available as Tales goes to print. Please check the town's website in early December.

Conservation Commission ~ 11/19/18

With thanks to Chuck Bronk, Secretary

Present were members Doug Fontein, Rainbow Squier, Jo Reynolds, Nelson Jaquay, Jeff Ams, Robbie Leeds, and Chuck Bronk, as well as Gail Fallar.

Agenda additions: Doug added Conservation Fund

New Business:

Doug encouraged members to consider new projects beyond our current ones and to bring them to the next meeting.

Doug has not had a response to an email to the property owner of the Ridge Trail and VLT (Vermont Land Trust) regarding the potential need for switchbacks at the steepest part of the trail. He mentioned the possibility of erosion at this location due to foot traffic. It is not clear if the existing 30' right of way would allow for the creation of switchbacks. The matter was tabled to a future meeting following a response from the property owner and VLT.

Doug reported back on his attendance of the AVCC Annual Summit. He attended several workshops and noted that not that many towns have Conservation Commissions, perhaps 75 out of 251. About 100 people attended the event. Of particular interest was a workshop on Land Owner Permission.

Robbie reported that he has joined the All Trails.com site and created a draft posting for the Tinmouth Mountain Ridge Trail. His posting is under review and may be made public in the next two weeks. The site offers an app to allow for the walking creation of a trail map. It was suggested that Tinmouth's posting should also include the Purchase Loop.

Members discussed the request from the Tinmouth Mountain School for support of a proposed Trout in Our

Schools program. Nelson described his grandchildren's participation in a similar program in Seattle with Salmon, as a recommendation for the program. After discussion the Tinmouth Conservation Commission (TCC) voted to contribute \$150 of current \$250 budget for this year to the program. It was also suggested that TCC might wish to consider other ways to raise funds for this program. Doug suggested that members make suggestions at the next meeting. It was also the consensus of the group that Doug should petition the Select Board to raise the TCC budget back to \$500 for the coming year.

Doug reported that a number of towns have Conservation Funds which are not just yearly budget lines but carry over from year to year and allow for the accumulation of funds. Jeff Ams agreed to work with Doug to explore how this is done in other towns. Gail advised that this would require an agreement from Select Board and the approval of the voters at Town Meeting. TCC voted to make such a request to the Select Board.

Old Business:

Chuck presented a draft tri-fold brochure describing the Tinmouth Mountain Ridge Trail, which could be made available at the trail kiosk. The brochure has essentially the same material and map that is posted on the kiosk, but also includes specifications of the distance and climb between the various trail waypoints. While the brochure could be commercially printed on heavier stock, it was the consensus of the group that the less costly version printed on copy paper would suffice. Signage on the box will suggest that brochures be returned to the box for multiple uses. Chuck will print and fold an initial stock and monitor the usage for possible restocking.

Jeff reported that the Bog Bridge work day completed all the required bridges on the lower portion of the trail. Some materials were left over and once the weather clears they need to be returned to the Creamery. Left over 8" x 8" cribbing from the Creamery has been offered to the TCC for future bog bridges, perhaps on the Purchase Loop. Jeff offered to store the materials, and a work party was planned.

Regarding the Drachman trails, Doug and Nelson walked the trails. They propose a discussion with Peter Drachman at some point over the Christmas holidays. Ruth Drachman would like to see the trails used by townspeople. There is a possible access from Crow Hill Road that would allow users to avoid parking in Ruth's driveway. There are two loops, a lower easy loop and a higher steeper loop. Both are currently overgrown.

Next TCC meeting set for Jan 21, 2019

Planning Commission ~ 11/29/18

Minutes not available as Tales goes to print. Please check the town's website in early December.

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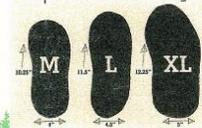


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 for a very special Candlelight
 Christmas Eve Service on
 Monday, December 24th
 beginning at 4:30 pm.

Christmas Carol singing starting
 at 4:15, so come early to enjoy
 the festive pre-service music!

**Food Drive For
 Tinmouth Community Christmas
 Food Baskets**

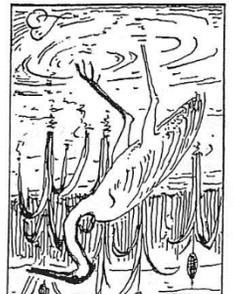
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**in the basement of the
 Tinmouth Community Church**

These items will be used to fill 25 or so food baskets for less fortunate families in town, who really appreciate your generosity. Or you can drop things off at the Town Office anytime between now and then. The Mill River Union High School National Honor Society is helping with this effort; they will be providing turkeys and all the fixings (having organized food drives in all the schools in the district and done fund raising to purchase turkeys). We will then add to those baskets with more food and other items. *Thank you for your help!!!*

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