

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
November 9, 2017
Minutes**

Members present: Matt Patry, Frank Sears, and Cathy Reynolds

Others present: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Kim Harbaugh, Sherry Johnson, David Eaton, Heather McMahon, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Doug Fontein, Larry & Cris Carabeau, Jan Krantz, Sunny Hance and daughter Samantha, and Gail Fallar-Board Assistant

Frank called the meeting to order at 7:05. Agenda was reviewed, Cathy asked to add the Community Thanksgiving Service and to change the regular December Board meeting, Gail asked to add donation to Front Porch Forum and addressing the LEOP (Local Emergency Operation Plan). Board approved revised agenda. Minutes of 10/12/17 and 10/26/17 were approved as written, Matt moved, Cathy 2nded and all voted in favor.

Eric reported the road crew is ready for winter; shouldering newly paved road with gravel started, but Fuller's machine broke, they'll be back next week. He requested approval to purchase a used sander (all stainless with a gas engine) for the one ton truck noting it would be very useful for smaller roads, for salting areas like bridges in certain storms and in case one of the big trucks has a breakdown. After discussion of pros and cons, Cathy moved to authorize Eric to buy it upon a close inspection, Matt 2nded, all voted in favor.

Board discussed progress on the Master Plan. Following the special meeting on October 26 where it was suggested to look for an alternate site, Board noted that zoning would require five acres even though the operation would only need about half of that, and that the Carabeaus owned a couple of places that might fit, but there was concern for loss of farm land. Larry had questions, was not ready to make a commitment - except that the Ballou farm was not to be considered.

Eric raised concerns with separating equipment (old garage would still be used for cold storage, etc.) It was also noted that the size of the building might trigger a sprinkler system.

Grant expressed concern noting the town plan was opposed to industrial type development in the area of the intersection of East Road and Route 140, and that more engineering expenses would be incurred if the site were to be changed. Concern was expressed to keep the new facility in the town center, on land the town already owns. As well as keeping a future access for the back side of the property.

Jan expressed concern for the run-off from the current sand pile, which does contain some salt to keep it from freezing. It has been finding its way to their property for a number of years. Board advised there is a storm water retention pond in the plan and once the shed has been constructed for the salted sand, the problem should be solved.

Cathy noted there is a time line challenge to get all information needed prior to a vote at town meeting.

David advised he is opposed to moving the transfer station to the front of the parcel – near Route 140. It would be clearly in his line of site and he expressed concern for flies, rats and smell. It was advised that moving the operation to the front would involve using (renting or buying) compactors which should cut down on flies and smell.

After much discussion on Option B versus Option C, and how to proceed, Cathy moved to move forward with Option C (and working with the Eaton family to mitigate their concerns) to locate elements (highway and transfer station) in the most efficient manner at the town site. Frank 2nded. Frank and Cathy voted in favor, Matt voted against noting he wanted further consideration of relocation of either the town garage or transfer station. Frank noted the Select Board will need to work with the engineers to create a final plan.

A question was asked inquiring whether the town had to provide a transfer station, research needs to be done in that regards.

Board requested a draft budget with an update to the Equipment Fund schedule for its December meeting.

Board approved applying for a Better Road grant for replacing two culverts on McCoy Road. Frank moved, Cathy 2nded, all voted in favor.

Gail advised that the attorney for the affordable housing question was not available until next week.

Gail also advised that there was no contact from Howard and Marie Regimbald regarding curtailing their use of the town's right of way on East Road. Cathy moved to have the Select Board Assistant draft a letter for the Board Chair to review and sign. Matt 2nded, all voted in favor. Gail noted she had recently attended a Zoning and Planning Forum where a representative from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation presented information regarding state enforcement of salvage/junk yards. The Regimbalds cannot meet the state's requirements to obtain a state permit for a salvage yard. The letter will include information to that effect as well as the town's concern for safety, etc.

VLCT has not yet responded to the latest town inquiry regarding the Board's proposed Personnel Policy. Cathy volunteered to be the Board's liaison with them to work out concerns.

Risk Assessment - Eric reported almost being done with the concerns he could correct (water and septic being the exception).

Cathy reported on the Rutland County Sheriff's Department proposal to create a four town group with a 4 month trial period. Tinmouth, Middletown Springs, Danby and Ira Select Board members meet recently to hear details. This will enable RCSD to appoint one deputy to these four towns for 40 hours per week combined. There were several benefits cited, currently these four towns have 26 hours budgeted, the RCSD will pay for the others with grant funds for the trial period. Board will need to think about adding more coverage hours during budget time. Tinmouth budgets 7 hours per week now. Frank volunteered to be the Board member of the Advisory Committee to be created. Matt moved and Cathy 2nded to participate in the trial project. All voted in favor.

Lt. David Fox is the coordinating contact at RCSD, he will attend the December Board meeting to discuss traffic speed on the East Road. The speed cart recently parked there has recorded

speed and time of day of all vehicles passing by it.

Board changed its December meeting to Monday the 4th due to conflicts with member schedules.

Front Porch Forum donation was placed on agenda for discussion at budget time regarding annual allotments.

Frank volunteered to represent the Select Board at the Community Thanksgiving Service to welcome folks to the event.

Gail advised that Mary Lamson, RRPC, is willing to attend a Board meeting to review the LEOP, tentatively scheduled for the Board's February meeting.

Recent power outage was discussed, there were many folks who did not have access to emergency services as the back-up batteries provided by VTEL's fiber optic system only lasted five hours. Many folks were out of power for several days.

VTEL also had trouble with Tinmouth and Wallingford phones on a recent night - no telephone, Internet or TV service for anyone for several hours.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Board Assistant
Select Board Assistant