

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
September 12, 2019**

Members present: Michael Fallar, Frank Sears, and Cathy Reynolds

Others present: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Heather McMahon, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant. Jim Ryan, Water Quality & Road Drainage person with Department of Environmental Conservation via telephone for first portion of the meeting.

Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roads Standards ~ The Board called Mr. Ryan to discuss new road and bridge standards (he helped write them for towns to consider). He explained that much was the same as the old standards, but a number of things were added to clarify details and bring them into compliance with FEMA requirements. They now have several sections that towns can adopt or not, the old standards were one size fits all. After reviewing section by section with Mr. Ryan, Frank moved and Michael 2nded to approve as edited. All voted in favor. SBA will clean up copy and Board will sign at next meeting. That portion of the meeting ended at 7:40.

Board reviewed agenda, added trash on Mountain View Road concerns, Jonathan Gibson's request regarding the Public Utilities Commission, and new town office assistants.

Minutes of 8/8/19 were approved as written, Michael moved, Frank 2nded, all voted in favor. Financial reports were postponed to next month due to the full agenda. Cathy requested a packet be sent a week ahead of the meeting for Board to review.

Highway ~

Road Commissioner ~ Eric inquired whether Board wanted the town lot brush hogged – yes, every other year. Eric advised he would do it as a side job. Eric reported pot holes have been filled, the metal dumpster was moved at the transfer station, a culvert was replaced on Mountain View Road near the Fish farm, loader and grader have been repaired, grading has begun, winter sand has been hauled, paving will begin first week of October, and that he is working on getting a tree cut on Route 140 in Crampton Woods – it keeps popping water out of the ditch – will keep Board posted. He inquired if Board would approve moving wood chips at the school into the Wee Folk Playground, Board approved. Liquid chloride tanks have arrived, not material yet, still needs site work. Cathy thanked Eric for his report, is still working on time sheet that will allow Eric to include work done each day – Board will review those each month.

Fuel Bids ~ Board opened diesel fuel and fuel oil bids. Two bid on fuel oil only – Gecha and Johnson Fuel, bid Rutland rack plus 20 cents and rack plus 40 cents respectively. Champlain Valley Fuels bid Rutland rack plus 10 cents for both diesel and fuel oil, Marcell Oil bid Rutland rack plus 30 cents for both. Michael moved and Frank seconded to approve Champlain Valley Fuels for both contracts for FY20. All voted in favor.

New One Ton Truck ~ Michael explained the new bid specs, requesting quotes for a 550 diesel and 350 size, in gas and diesel versions. He thanked Stan Wilbur for passing along what Proctor had used. Board approved specs and decided to have bid opening at a special meeting on October 3rd.

Special Meetings ~ Board decided to have two special meetings, October 3rd for truck bids and to meet with engineer Craig Jewett regarding stormwater permitting for the new town garage and

salt/sand shed, and October 5th to meet with neighbors concerning the location of the new town garage and salt/sand shed. Board discussed meeting twice a month, could not find a common date for second one.

Town Garage ~ Michael expressed concern that Cathy had met with Jay White, architect and Eric, road commissioner regarding the town garage without telling Frank or himself about it, noting that was not appropriate. Cathy explained that she had asked Eric and Jay to meet to discuss questions from the last Board meeting, no decisions were made, but won't do it again. Board reviewed latest draft (9/11/19) town garage from Jay, door was moved from gable end to north side as the Board had turned the building. Frank moved and Michael 2nd to approve this concept. All voted in favor. Michael inquired about the plan for the old garage – Board postponed discussion to the October 3rd meeting.

General Business ~

Community Center ~ A report regarding voter accessibility noted that the front door closed too soon and the handicap ramp needed some more gravel (shurpak) at the end. Board asked Eric to add shurpak to the handicap ramp, and to fill in grooves in the driveway.

Cathy had to leave at this point due to a family emergency.

Vermont Telephone Letter ~ VTel has offered to present a workshop regarding the back-up battery system their new fiber optic system requires and that the customer is responsible to replace. Kim and Sherry volunteered to attend the one set up in Wallingford and will report back to the Board.

Public Utility Commission/Back Up Battery Concern ~ Board agreed to send a letter of support for the efforts that Shrewsbury and other towns are making to hold utilities responsible for back-up batteries for telephones when electrical power is out. Michael moved, Frank 2nd, both voted in favor. Kim offered to help with the letter.

Rutland Regional Transportation Council Letter ~ Letter from Devon Neary, Transportation Planner, advised that Tinmouth was not being represented at the monthly meetings. Board will speak to current and alternate representatives.

New Town Office Assistants ~ Gail advised that Kim Young has been hired to replace Ann Czar as bookkeeper, and as an assistant clerk, and that Pat Psholka has been hired as an office assistant as well. Gail expressed appreciation for Ann's many years of dedicated work.

Old Business ~

Trash on Mountain View Road – Complaints are ongoing, Frank is trying to work with homeowner to comply with the Health Order served. Will be meeting with them again soon.

Members Concerns ~ None

Wallingford Town Line ~ Board voted to enter executive session to discuss legal issues regarding a pending lawsuit at 9:15. Present were Michael, Frank and Gail. Board exited at 9:25. Michael moved and Frank 2nd to hire Jim Carroll, Esquire, to represent Tinmouth in the Wallingford town line dispute. Both voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar ~ Select Board Assistant