

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
October 10, 2019**

Members present: Michael Fallar, Cathy Reynolds, Frank Sears

Others present: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Paul Morris @8:05, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant.

Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Board reviewed agenda, added town garage. Minutes of 9/12/19 and 10/3/19, Michael moved to approve as written, all voted to approve. Minutes of 10/5/19; Cathy moved to approve, Michael 2nded, Frank abstained as he was not able to attend, motion approved.

Financial Reports ~ Bills and Orders ~

Board reviewed financial reports and road crew time sheets. Board discussed process, requested a monthly packet of financial reports, warrants, and road crew time sheets. Frank moved and Michael 2nded to accept September and October budget reports. All voted in favor.

Highway ~

One Ton Truck ~ Eric reported he had reviewed the bids for the one ton trucks. Board discussed options and specs (without a wing). Eric recommended the 2019 Ford 550 from Ford of Claremont, \$45,306 for the cab and chassis without a trade-in. He mentioned that they had another truck with body already on it for only \$2,000 more than the separate bids for chassis and body/frame. Board noted it was not one of the bids. Lucky's was low bid for the plow and body, and there is a 6 to 8 week wait time. Board reviewed comments from other towns road crews regarding one ton trucks – many had 550's which are used primarily for plowing. Frank moved to purchase the in stock 2019 F550 from Ford of Claremont, Cathy 2nded. Frank and Cathy voted yes, Michael voted no. Motion passed. It is anticipated that the old one ton will sell for more than the \$15,500 offered as a trade-in.

Board discussed options for the dump body and plow, Eric noted that he did not have to have a wing or central hydraulics. Viking bid \$21,950 and Lucky's bid \$17,105. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to purchase the dump body and plow from Lucky's. Frank and Cathy voted yes, Michael abstained. Motion passed.

Cathy read from the Town's "Purchasing Guidance" document regarding bidding. *The Select Board reserves the right at its sole discretion to reject any and all bids, wholly or in part, to waive any informalities or any irregularities therein, to accept any bid even though it may not be the lowest bid, to call for rebids, to negotiate with any bidder, and to make an award which in its sole and absolute judgment will best serve the Town's interest.*

Winter Salt ~ Cargill's quote was \$76 per ton and \$86 per ton for de-icer, American Rock Salt bid was \$75 per ton, and Apalachee bid \$76 per ton (was awarded the state bid as well). Frank moved and Michael 2nded to approve Apalachee, same vendor as last year, all voted in favor.

Road Commissioner ~ Eric advised that Navistar had offered to settle a class action lawsuit regarding mechanical troubles with the engine in the newest tandem truck. Frank moved and Michael 2nded to file claim to ask for a \$15,000 rebate on next truck to be purchased (scheduled for next fiscal year). All voted in favor.

Grant-In-Aide Project ~ Eric advised that the next segment of road to be worked on for this state program would be on Harrington Cross Road, starting at Rout 140 and proceeding east with stone lining ditches, a new culvert, and a new cut-out (has already been granted permission from the new landowner). He also suggested that the Y at that intersection should be converted to a T, and that he was in conversation with state AOT folks about engineering required. He will report back at the November meeting.

Process to sell the one ton ~ Board discussed best way to get the most money with a private sale – have a minimum (who determines that?) – and a bid process. Need to advertise, have time to consider as the new truck will not be ready for a month or two. Added to agenda for next meeting.

Roadside Mowing ~ Eric asked for more roadside mowing on gravel roads to enable leaves to be blown out of the way and not get caught in the grass/weeds. Board approved \$500.

Town Garage ~ Jay White prepared a new plan for the town garage; includes 20' high ceiling. Eric requested that height to be able to raise the dump body to work on it, put on chains, etc. Michael noted most town garages are 16', asked to have it quoted both ways. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to authorize Jay to get cost estimates on plan as presented. Frank and Cathy voted yes, Michael voted no. Board decided to have a special meeting on November 7th to discuss public facilities issues.

Salt/Sand Shed ~ Board discussed whether an engineer needs to sign off on design of a salt/sand shed. Quotes need to be updated – vendor needs to know that it is for purpose of bond vote, won't go out to bid until bond is approved.

Old Town Garage ~ Michael noted he is still reviewing structural report to determine what will be required to stabilize and keep it operational.

Sherry Johnson ~ Sherry noted that she was happy to have advance notice about road work on Mountain View Road, but unhappy that no notice had been posted about the recent paving project on the East Road that caused a number of folks trouble – had it been posted she and others would have had the opportunity to detour around the south end of town. She asked that Eric post something to Front Porch Forum when a project is going to happen, and offered to do it for him if would notify her. Discussion ensued – Gail had posted information about the culvert work on Mountain View Road, and notified by email as many email addresses she had for folks along the road. Board advised they would not ask the road commissioner to do it. Sherry again asked for more communication and offered again to help. Sherry also requested that meetings start no earlier than posted – the meeting on the 5th began a few minutes early, so some folks were on time, but late.

General Business ~

VTEL workshop ~ Kim and Sherry reported on the VTel workshop they attended in Wallingford – much the same information as presented at last year's town meeting in Tinmouth. Discussion of whether Tinmouth should also host a workshop – how to get people to attend. There will be one in Middletown Springs in November.

Letter to the Public Utilities Commission ~ In regards to utilities' responsibility during power outages. Board thanked Kim for his work on it, then approved and signed it.

Letter of Resignation ~ Board accepted with regret Rene Wilbur's letter of resignation from the Rutland Regional Transportation Council. Cathy read it aloud. Frank moved and Michael 2nded to accept with appreciation. All voted in favor.

Right of Way to Town Property in the Purchase ~ Concern was expressed about whether a new landowner was aware of the town's right of way over his property to reach the town cabin and the town forest beyond the end of Pent Road. SBA will contact and send copy of the r.o.w.

Old Creamery ~ Michael reported the south end had been graded, rocks removed or buried, and the Old Creamery Committee was still working on getting electricity to it.

Old Business ~

Right of Way on East Road ~ Gail advised that Attorney Gary Kupferer will respond next week.

Trash on Mountain View Road – Frank reported he is still working with the Hills. Concern was raised about the fen located to the east and protecting it from pollution.

Members Concerns ~ Michael inquired about a catch basin in the woods at the town garage, Eric advised that he has a plan for it on the Gulf Road, will keep it for now.

Wallingford Town Line ~ Gail reported that attorney Jim Carroll had advised he is in contact with Charlie Merriman (Wallingford' attorney) and Bill Meub (Taylor's attorney) in regards to payment of taxes on the disputed property and trying to keep the Taylors out of the squabble.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar ~ Select Board Assistant