

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Tuesday, July 28, 2020
Virtual Meeting Due to COVID-19 Pandemic**

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

Others present: Hollis Squier, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Heather McMahon, Howard and Debbie Buffum, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant (SBA).

Frank Sears called the meeting to order at 7:01 and welcomed everyone. Board reviewed agenda, and added 72 Snow Mountain Lane (Buffum), VTel (buried cable), new truck, sale of old one ton, Wright's Road update.

Minutes of 7/9/20 were approved as written, Michael Fallar moved, Cathy Reynolds 2nded, all voted in favor.

Highway ~

Eric Buffum reported ditching continues on Wright's Road, paving went well, hand raked driveways with gravel, received a complaint about the intersection of McNamara Road and Maple Brook Lane - road run-off water is creating a ditch, he will investigate and report back.

Stump research, none done.

Harrington Cross Road ~ Eric estimated cost of \$7,040 – not including culvert already on hand. Grant-in-Aide (\$6,100) will provide some assistance (culvert and lining ditch with stone), remainder will come out of Special Projects line. Michael expressed concern that the eastern 'Y' intersection of Harrington Cross Road and North End Road was more of a hazard/safety issue. Eric noted benefits of the western 'T' included improved safety, better site view, better drainage, and easier maintenance. After discussion, and an estimate of less then \$1,000 to do the eastern 'T' as well, Cathy moved and Frank 2nded to approve both projects. Cathy and Frank voted yes, Michael voted no. Motion carried.

Wright's Road ~ still waiting for response from Josh Carvajal (state guy).

New Tandem Truck ~ Eric is working on research for the best time to buy & delivery dates.

Old One Ton Truck ~ Board discussed options, keep on Craig's List and Facebook, keep trying to sell, minimum of \$25,000 – will the first person to offer that buy it? Does it need to be re-bid or can the Board just approve an offer? Does the Town need a policy for disposal of town equipment/property? Could it be sold on consignment? Eric agreed to remove the chloride tank.

Channel Road ~ Frank reported he had spoken with Judy Patton from VTel who advised that she was not aware it was not 30" deep, will check with installer and have him fix it if necessary. Hollis reiterated that by statute VTel has to ask for the Select Board's permission to bury any lines in the town's right of way. Board discussed fiber optic project of a few years ago, asked if this was included in that permit. SBA will research for next meeting

Others ~ 72 Snow Mountain Lane - Howard and Deb Buffum(owners) had contacted Frank as Health Officer to report a trash mess regarding tenants Pierre and Ann Cotton, due to a bear finding a mountain of trash to rummage through. Frank advised he provided the tenants a copy of the Town's Trash Ordinance and gave them a warning letter to clean it up. Board discussed enforcement of the trash ordinance, who does it, does it need a time limit to comply, can the constable enforce, etc. Does the town have any tickets, can we get them from the Judicial Bureau?

Cathy moved and Frank 2nded to designate the Rutland County Sheriff's Department, the town constable, and the Health Officer as enforcement officers for the Solid Waste Ordinance. Cathy and Frank voted yes, Michael abstained. Motion carried. Frank asked Howard and Deb to inspect to see if the tenants had cleaned up the trash as promised.

Building Committee (BC) Report ~ All three Board members attended the virtual meeting – no Select Board business was discussed. BC is progressing with salt/sand shed planning.

Financial Reports ~

Warrants Reviewed ~ Frank S. had signed FY21 payroll warrants #2 for \$1,409.92, dated 7/13/20; #3 for \$1,409.80, dated 7/20/20; and #4 for \$ 2,671.79, dated 7/27/20; and FY21 #1 accounts payable warrant for \$22,537.00 dated 7/23/20. Cathy moved, Michael 2nd, to approve, all voted in favor.

Highway Time Sheets ~ Board again discussed need to increase detail, asked SBA to discuss with road crew, check what other towns are using, create a legend at the bottom that explains work done abbreviations. Also inquired about 4 hours of overtime for EB, SBA will check.

Old Business ~

Trash and Dogs at 605 Mountain View – Frank advised he left a warning letter and a copy of the Solid Waste Ordinance on 7/28/20, will report back. There is yet again another wall of trash building up. Gail advised the dogs are not licensed.

12 Ezra Stone Road – Frank advised he has not received request to re-inspect, he assumes clean-up and repairs are being done.

New Business ~

Unlicensed Dog Warrant ~ Frank is still working on the re-write of a kinder gentler version for the next meeting.

Census ~ Board reviewed data from Vermont census staff indicating that Tinmouth folks are not filling out the census form, only 46.7% have responded. Board wondered how to encourage everyone to participate in the census.

Bears ~ Board discussed bears in the center of town, have been seen and made messes at the transfer station, and Mackey, Krantz, Jaquay, and Nauton residences. Cubs were seen on Channel Road. Michael advised he had contacted the game warden, everyone has to take action to deter the bear(s), (transfer station now has an electric fence around the dumpster), before the game warden will allow lethal force to dispose of the varmint. Michael will follow up.

Bids for Town Office Roof Over Library ~ Board opened two bids – Brice Home Improvements bid \$5,850 and Golden Brook Construction bid \$5,980. After brief discussion and comparison, Cathy moved and Michael 2nded to award the contract to Brice, all voted in favor. Work must be completed by November 1st.

Mentor Connector ~ Gail advised that this organization had made in inquiry about placing signs in the town's right of way, no further information was sent, Board took under advisement.

Food Truck – Sherry inquired when the food truck was coming to town, Gail noted no further correspondence had been received after Board's decision to allow it.

Executive Session ~ At 8:43, Cathy, based on advice of counsel, moved that the Select Board enter executive session, as premature disclosure regarding possible civil litigation with the Town of Wallingford would be detrimental to the interests of the town. Michael 2nded, all voted in favor. At 8:43 Cathy moved to enter executive session to discuss the town line dispute with Wallingford, to include Gail Fallar. Michael 2nded, all voted in favor. Everyone else signed off the virtual meeting.

Board exited executive session at 8:50. No action taken.

Next Meeting ~ August 13th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar
Select Board Assistant

DRAFT