

# TALES OF TINMOUTH

October 2020  
Vol. 34 Number 10

Tinmouth  
Vermont

*Take a moment or two to enjoy the splendor of this season, it will soon be gone.*

Again, many, many thanks for all recent donations and kind words of encouragement. All are appreciated!

The deadline for submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net) or drop it off at the Town Office. *Stay Safe.*

*Pat Psholka, Helen Mango & Gail Fallar, Editors*

## ~ November 3<sup>rd</sup> General Election ~

General Election ballots have been mailed by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office to all active voters. If you have not received one, please call the town office. The Post Office was instructed to only deliver the ballots to addresses that were totally correct. So there are quite a few that ended up returned to the town office. Those that could be, have been mailed out with the correct address.

To return your ballot, you can mail it to the town office (a prepaid postage envelope was included); drop it into the special ballot boxes inside the town office; or bring it with you to vote in person on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Voting that day will be at the Old Fire House, located next to the Town Office.

Voting is a right, but it's also a responsibility. *Your vote is your voice, make sure you are heard!*

**Please see page 3 for a note from ye olde town clerk.**

## ~ FREE Face Coverings ~

Tinmouth has received cloth face coverings (masks) to distribute to residents. Please stop by the town office to pick them up. They are washable. The town office is normally open Monday and Thursday 9-12 and 1-4:30 and most Saturday mornings. If ye olde clerk's car is there in between times, please feel free to stop in. Or call 446-2498 and we can make other arrangements. **THEY ARE FREE!**

We would like to pass these along as soon as possible. They are provided courtesy of the State of Vermont and SWANA (the Solid Waste Association of North America - they offered and we said yes).

*Kindness, Patience, Love, Enthusiasm,  
and a Positive Attitude . . .*

*Don't wait to catch it from others,  
Be the Carrier!*



**Miss Ruth and Miss Ruth's Little Free Library**

~ **Tinmouth Little Free Library** ~

*By Jan Krantz*

The Tinmouth Library Board is pleased to announce that there is a **Little Free Library** now open, in Tinmouth! **The Little Free Library or LFL is a small brightly painted structure in the center of town,** funded by a grant from the Tinmouth Community Fund. Thank you to TCF for making this possible! The structure itself, was built by Ken Krantz, and sits on a movable base, to allow for flexibility in its location. Current location is on the porch of the Town Office. Nelson and Betti Jaquay provided the wonderful finishing touches drawing on their creative painting expertise.

Please know the Tinmouth Library is still open to Tinmouth residents, and as always, is free. To access our special town library, just check with Gail at the Town Office. To clarify, the goal of a Little Free Library is different than a conventional library, in that it is open anytime, is a small structure, and is set up encourage people to take a book and/or leave a book. You may have seen them in neighborhoods or public places in other communities.

Little Free Library structures are located all over the U.S. and beyond. We are in the process of registering the Tinmouth LFL on this site, which will put it on the official map. You can check out their website at [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org).

**Please note, we request that if do you wish to donate a book or books for the LFL, you carefully select a favorite one(s).** We do not want donations of boxes of books, **only single items that are appropriate,** and no text books, encyclopedias, Reader's Digest, etc. *Thanks!*

~ October 2020 Calendar of Events ~  
*All non-essential meetings continue to be postponed.*

Fire Dept.	Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup>	6:30	Fire House -Outside
Select Board	Thursday	8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Teleconference
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>		Don't Miss It!
Select Board	Tuesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Teleconference
Halloween	Saturday	31 <sup>st</sup>		Celebrate Carefully
Planning Commission	No Meeting Scheduled at this time.			

~ November 2020 Calendar of Events ~

General Election	Tuesday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM	Old Fire House
Fire Dept.	Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	6:30	Fire House - Outside
Select Board	Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Teleconference
Conservation Commission ??	Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	7:30	Teleconference
2nd Half Property Taxes Due	Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	4:00	Town Office
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>		Don't Miss It!
Select Board	Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Teleconference

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

~ Sunday Church Service ~ Library Hours ~ Volleyball ~ Pickleball ~ Knit, Craft or Chat ~ Bone Builders ~  
 Are All Suspended Until Further Notice Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**A few reminders from the  
 Tinmouth Volunteer Fire  
 Department**



- **Clean Your Chimney**

Before it gets too cold, now is the time to clean your chimney. Remember a chimney fire can become a house fire in no time.

- **Do Not Burn Cardboard**

Please do not burn cardboard in your stove, fireplace or outside. If you burn cardboard, the cardboard can lodge itself in your chimney. Also, if you burn cardboard outside it can contribute to a brush fire. Cardboard can be recycled for free at the transfer station.

- **Change the batteries in your smoke detector**

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, when you change your clocks back an hour, remember to change the batteries in your smoke detector too.

**Chicken Parmesan Take-Out Dinner  
 October 24, 2020  
 Tinmouth Community Church**

**Menu:**

Chicken Parmesan served over Spaghetti  
 with Homemade sauce  
 Roll  
 Brownie Dessert  
 Cost \$10 per meal

Pre-orders suggested but not required  
 Call Bob at 802-989-9794 or John at 802-282-7532  
 or email John at [hzfam@hotmail.com](mailto:hzfam@hotmail.com)

**Meals can be picked up from 4:30 - 6:30 pm  
 Take Out Only**

*Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!*

~ A Note from Ye Olde Clerk ~

Election day is fast approaching. 25% of voters in the Rutland-2 and 20% of voters in the Rutland-Bennington Districts have cast their ballots!

Early/Absentee Ballots were mailed by the State to every active Vermont voter (who was registered before September 3<sup>rd</sup>). If you registered after this, you will get a ballot directly from the town office. The ballots were mailed 9/30. If for some reason you did not yet receive a ballot, please call me at (802) 446-2498.

If you are unsure if you are registered to vote or have any questions about your voter information (for example, you aren't sure your address is correct) you can check your "my voter page" at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. This site allows you to submit changes and register to vote online. Many folks have a default date of birth of 1/1/1900 and can't access the system. If you encounter difficulties, please call the town office for help.

You can also check if you are registered to vote by reading one of the notices posted at the Town Office, Community Church, and Community Center. The notices have the election warning, voter checklists, and a sample ballot for the general election and justices of the peace.

**It is highly recommended that you vote early/absentee rather than in person on election day** as we want to keep Tinmouth as safe and healthy as possible in lieu of Covid-19. However, we will be at the polls (Old Fire House – next to the Town Office) and you may bring your early/absentee ballot in to drop off or fill it out in person. We will also have ballots available if you forget to bring yours (you will have to sign an affidavit saying it was lost). You can also register to vote that same day.

If you are worried about mailing your ballot, you can drop your ballot off at the Town Office during regular hours (9am - noon & 1-4pm, Monday and Thursday, and most Saturday mornings from 9-noon). I have a special Ballot Box for each District.

Finally, **PLEASE remember to READ THE INSTRUCTIONS** that are with your ballot. The number one reason ballots don't get counted is because the voter forgets to sign the envelope. This is easily avoided if you take the time to read the instructions carefully.

*To recap:*

1. Every active registered voter will receive an absentee ballot
2. Check your my voter page <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>
3. Read the instructions
4. Send or drop off your ballot as soon as possible

Please feel free to email me at [tinmouthtown@vermontel.net](mailto:tinmouthtown@vermontel.net) or call the office at (802) 446-2498.

**Thank you for voting,**  
*Gail Fallar*



TINMOUTH  
CHURCH

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~

Change is in the air. Change is underway. Fall tells us so, as she transitions us into a new season of life and, perhaps, the prelude to a new humanity and global community.

Change has been the byword of social activism this Spring and Summer, as changes in systems of injustice - their ethos, protocols and practices - have been passionately pursued. Not surprisingly, fundamental changes in power structures have been resisted, at times initiating the very violence decried. Seemingly lacking in the enforcement of Order has been the need to carefully and caringly listening to one another in a mutual search for a better society. Meanwhile, our nation's and the world's way of life has been substantially changed by the Covid pandemic, which is still just as viral, just as deadly. More than leaves are falling.

The extended forecast projects long-term upheaval, nationally and globally, as social, political, economic and environmental fires keep erupting. We are experiencing a whirlwind of change on a global scale that cannot be spun away. Which direction the spirit blows within us will determine more than the next four years; our responses will affect the coming decades and beyond.

Warning after warning, crisis after crisis keep coming, trying to break through our denials and intransigence, and break open our hearts to the compassion that lays deep within. When we resist such change of heart, suffering endeavors to change us, for we are made for Goodness and made for Love, and we cannot be well on any level without being true to our true selves.

"If My people ..... will humble themselves and pray, and seek Me, and turn from their loveless ways, then I will hear them, and forgive them, and heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14). Honesty and repentance are what are in order.

Change is in the air. Change is underway. And because God is in it, this Fall and the inevitable fall of powers that deceive and oppress, is the prelude to a new humanity and global community wherein compassion takes precedence, truth liberates and justice becomes our way of life.

*Pastor John*

Sunday Services online at [www.tinmouthchurch.org](http://www.tinmouthchurch.org)  
Evening Prayer, Tuesdays and Thursdays, on Tinmouth Community Church Facebook page

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman  
(802) 282-7532 (cell, preferred)  
(802) 884-8249 (parsonage)  
[hzfam@hotmail.com](mailto:hzfam@hotmail.com)



October 1, 2020

To the Tinmouth Community,

Fall has arrived and the school remains dormant; hopefully, not for long. There have been minimal outbreaks within Vermont schools of the Covid virus. The Agency of Education is encouraging the return to in-person attendance for students across Vermont with specific safety protocols in place.

When the school reopens in the near future, there will be a new "normal" which includes wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. Students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms and specials teachers will bring lessons to the classrooms rather than have children relocate to another room in the building.. Outdoor classrooms will provide students with the ability to move beyond their classrooms as these open-air havens are the safest location for learning. Each child's temperature will be taken every morning before entering the school building and they will be surveyed daily with a series of health questions. A ventilated isolation room has been designated across from the basement stairwell in case students exhibit symptoms during school hours. This precaution has been mandated by the Agency of Education along with the State Department of Health. School will run from 7:45AM to 2:00 PM.

Curriculum will continue to be presented in modules as students work online within their classroom. Screen time will be balanced with lessons held in outdoor classrooms. Aside from 2:00 dismissal time, one of the biggest changes is that Round-up will be on Wednesday mornings via Zoom (an online live computer session).

We are very grateful to Betti and Nelson Jaquay for keeping our Round-up going during distant learning. Each week I received a video from Jaquay Production (a phone recording of Nelson playing and sharing stories) which teachers posted to their online learning sights. Honestly, this meant the world to our students and created a sense of community during these challenging times.  
*Thank you, Betti and Nelson!*

Overall, this fall's remote learning session has been well planned and executed. Students were diligent in completing and returning assignments. Teachers held live sessions daily. Parents knew what to expect and were on-board with getting children to live teaching sessions and ensuring work was completed and turned in. It was a

collaborative effort that succeeded as well as can be expected.

It has been a challenge for teachers, parents and students in spite of our success. I believe we are all excited to know that students will be returning to school in the near future!

Thank you for your ongoing support during this pandemic!

***Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker***  
***Principal***  
***Tinmouth Mountain School***

~ **Front Porch Forum** ~  
**Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors**

Have you checked out Front Porch Forum yet? To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>.

200+ households have signed to date! Good way to keep track of events dealing with the coronavirus, discuss community issues, sell a canoe, give away a kitten, etc..

If you are a second home owner you can use your 911 address. All property owners and folks living in Tinmouth can join Tinmouth's Front Porch Forum. It's free, you don't have to respond, but can read it to keep track of events, concerns, and more.

~ **Library News** ~  
*By Ruth Drachman, Librarian*

The Library is still closed, but we hope it will be open soon, when it is safe to do so.

Meanwhile, the librarian stops in for a bit on most Thursdays to check on things, re-shelve the books you have returned, and breathe the air of a roomful of books.

She is buying new books and you will find them on the counter for self-serve, meaning you call the town office (446-2498) to arrange to have the back door unlocked so you may enter. Just remember to fill out the sign-in-out sheet for her so she will know what you have. OR you can call her to arrange some other way of getting books.

~ **Community News** ~

*Congratulations and a belated Happy Birthday* are sent to **Rose Napolitano**, who recently celebrated her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday!!

*Heartfelt sympathies* are sent to **Tim Smith** and family for the loss of his *Grandmother*, and to **Beth Carroll** and family for the loss of her *Mom*.

~ From the Community Center Board ~

On behalf of the Community Center Board, I would like to acknowledge our gratitude for the community's continued understanding and support as the Community Center building remains closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have extended our thoughtful decision to keep the TCC closed and will be meeting on December 8th to re-evaluate. We understand the importance of what our town buildings facilitate, whether it is dancing together, experiencing music and theater together, a place to gather with friends and family and celebrate important events with our loved ones, a place for community to connect, for recreation, worship, sharing meals and so much more.

As we pause from these activities, we would like to hear from you! What do our town buildings mean to you? How have our shared spaces influenced your connection with our sweet little town? If you feel inspired to reflect and write something to share with us, please email me at [r.squiert@gmail.com](mailto:r.squiert@gmail.com) with the title "Community". We will share excerpts of your responses in the Thanksgiving *Tales of Tinnmouth*.

Wishing health and wellness to all,  
**Rainbow Squier**, TCC Building Coordinator

~ Nature Notes ~

Moon beams were seen streaming from an almost full moon in a foggy mist, behind a nearly naked maple tree.

Fall colors have been glorious, some leaves falling like snow with the mere wisp of a breeze . . .

In the Springtime, green leaves slowly creep up the mountainside. In the Fall, we watch as leaves of many colors drop slowly as the mountains undress from the top down.

~ Please Be Visible ~

*Please wear a fluorescent yellow or orange vest* when you are out walking, running, or biking. It is **VERY important** that drivers can see you as they approach. Shade or shadows from roadside trees can hide you until a vehicle is rather close to you! And don't forget something bright for your dogs!

*Thank you for your cooperation!*



David and Ken are running in the Rutland-2 District, which in Tinnmouth are the voters that are east of the East Road.

They both indicate that they will keep all of Tinnmouth in their thoughts if elected.

**RE-ELECT**

**DAVE POTTER**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
LISTENS ~ SERVES



**Experienced  
Proven  
Thoughtful Leadership  
Hard Working**

*I have been honored to serve you and will continue to keep working for you in Montpelier.*

Paid for by Dave Potter Campaign  
East Tinnmouth Road  
West Rutland, VT 05777

**VOTE TUESDAY NOV 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*Paid Political Advertisement*

*VOTE*

**KEN FREDETTE**

State Representative

**LOCAL LEADER  
VERMONT VALUES  
VALUES VERMONT**

*I would appreciate your vote on  
Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

To learn more about my positions on issues,  
please visit [kenfredetteforvermont.com](http://kenfredetteforvermont.com)

Paid for by Ken Fredette for Rep., Ed Hemmer, Treasurer  
369 Creek Road  
Wallingford, VT 05773

*Paid Political Advertisement*

**~ Meeting Highlights~**

*(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)*

*All meetings are virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

**Select Board ~ 9/10/20**

Present were members Michael Fallar, Cathy Reynolds, and Frank Sears as well as Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Bart Eaton, Grant Reynolds, Howard and Deb Buffum, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant.

**Building Committee (BC) Report ~**

Bart, as a member of the BC, reviewed work done by the Building Committee to date. They've had eight meetings, SB asked the BC to start with the salt and sand shed, so they did. He volunteered to research salt and sand structures, three vendors out of five responded. It was determined that a fabric roof was better than a metal one. He advised that at the time of the original cost estimates waste blocks were allowed as the foundation – many towns have built them that way, but now the state is requiring engineer stamped blocks – cost went from \$65 each to \$315 each adding substantially to the project costs. He thanked Theresa Butts (also Co-Chair) for writing complete minutes for the BC.

He then presented a comparison chart regarding three salt/sand sheds proposals.

- 1). 85' x 100' (8,500 square feet with 36' interior height) from ClearSpan was \$204,831;
- 2). 85' x 120' (10,200 square feet with 36' interior height) from ClearSpan was \$229,465;
- 3). 72' x 88' (5,650 square feet with 29' interior height) from Greystone was \$237,900.

These prices do not include paving the floor, site prep, or electrical costs. Board asked questions, Bart noted that a Greystone representative would be in the area in early October, it might be good to speak with him in person. Board took under advisement.

Then Bart, on a personal note, advised that the BC process has been extremely frustrating, that the SB had difficulty making decisions, and that an 11 member committee was too big. He made three recommendations:

- 1) The Select Board should hire a project manager or clerk of the works;
- 2) The Select Board should name one SB member to work with the project manager; and
- 3) The Select Board should disband the Building Committee.

He also advised that the site work should be done as soon as the state permit is received.

Frank advised that the Building Committee was appointed to allow input from citizens; this is a big project, and the SB wanted the BC to provide options for the SB to consider. The SB was not passing the buck, and greatly appreciates the time and effort the BC has put forth.

Michael noted that those are Bart's personal views, not the views of the BC. He suggested that the SB have a discussion about a project manager, face to face, about only this issue.

After discussion, Board agreed to meet under the porch of the old creamery on Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 for a special meeting to talk about a project manager.

There was discussion about the Building Committee – they have a meeting scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> – Cathy will contact Theresa (they are co-chairs) to advise about the SB meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Highway ~**

Eric reported he is spot grading and hauling sand. Ronnie is out west fighting forest fires.

He noted that Poultney built is roller-compactor – he sent photos to the SB. He thinks he can build one, using his time as the in-kind for the grant - \$7,500 total. He explained that the roller-compactor helps consolidate and pack material behind the grader on gravel roads. Other towns have noted saving at least one grading per year. There is another option, purchasing a vibrator for the front end of the skid steere – cost is \$7,500 to \$10,000, but not grant eligible. Michael inquired about town liability if it is town made – Eric will check with Stu Johnson, Vermont Local Roads guy who is encouraging this. Frank inquired about the hydraulics to run it; Eric advised there is already a piston there for the wing. Eric noted he is waiting for specs from Stu.

**Letter of Intent for the Grant in Aide Equipment Grant** – Board voted to ratify action of the Select Board Assistant in signing the letter of intent (for the roller-compactor), as the deadline did not match the SB's schedule.

**Maple Brook Lane ~** Frank reported he had taken a look, does not look like a town issue. Property owner has taken steps that has resolved the problem. No action needed by the town.

**Channel Road ~** Hollis sent word that he is still waiting to hear from the sub-contractor.

**Storm Water Permit for the Town Garage/Sand & Salt Shed ~** Gail advised that it has been received at long last.

**New Tandem Truck Bid Specs ~** Eric discussed the specs provided by Clark's Truck, part of state contract, and noted that Clark would be able to have the dump and plow installed by this winter.

SB wondered if the state had bid already did the town need to do it as well? Answer is yes as the town's bid process needs to allow for trade-in, delivery date, and warranty. Board asked Eric to finalize specs (some pages were missing) for its next meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Stripe Painting ~** Sherry thanked Eric for getting the middle of the road stripes painted on the East Road. Eric said thanks but it wasn't him. Cathy explained that the paving last fall was too late to catch the state line striping

contractor, that it's the state's responsibility to paint, and that it just happened to work out right this year.

**Old One Ton** ~ Eric reported it was sold, Gail added the \$20,000 was already in the Equipment Fund.

**Old Business** ~

*Trash and Dogs at 605 Mountain View* – Frank advised some trash has been removed, but he is waiting to hear if the notice had been served by the County Sheriff's Department before proceeding.

*72 Snow Mountain Lane* – Frank advised that the warning notice sent about the trash was ignored, next step in the Solid Waste Ordinance is to issue a ticket and assess a fine. There was brief discussion about whether the tenants were going to move by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Board decided to move forward with enforcement in any event.

**Financial** ~

**Financial Report** ~ It was noted they were not in their normal format, and that no revenues had been entered. Board voted to approve as presented.

**Warrants** ~ Payroll Warrants #9 dated 8/31/20 for \$1,409.92 and #10 dated 9/8/20 for \$4,258.56 and Accounts Payable Warrants #3 dated 9/4/10 for \$48,988.87 and #4 dated 9/4/20 for \$5,240.54 were approved by the Board.

**New Business** ~

**Constable Duties** ~ Gail reported she is still working on clarifying what the town constable can do – law enforcement is not allowed – sheriff's department now does that.

**VLCT Voting Delegate** ~ Board voted to appoint Gail Fallar as Tinnmouth's Voting Delegate to the annual meeting of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.

**Members Concerns** ~ Cathy reminded everyone that the Covid-19 protocols for using town buildings adopted by the Board requires wearing of masks, and had concerns about the meeting on the 17th. Michael noted that as it would be an outdoor meeting and social distancing would be maintained, that he would not wear a mask.

**Executive Session** ~ At 8:43, Board voted that the Select Board enter executive session to discuss personnel issues. Board exited executive session at 9:09. No action taken.

**Select Board ~ Special Meeting ~ 9/17/20**

Present were members Michael Fallar, Cathy Reynolds, and Frank Sears, as well as Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Stan Wilbur, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant.

Frank noted that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the need for a project manager for the public works facilities upgrades – town garage and salt/sand shed. He set ground rules for participation to avoid interruptions and speaking over one another. A speaker needs to identify themselves, no one else will be allowed

to speak until the first speaker says, 'thank you I'm done'. There could be questions asked of the first speaker and when that is finished, the next speaker could introduce themselves.

Frank then noted the first item was to formulate a job description for a project manager – he had prepared a draft and asked for comments.

Cathy noted she preferred to hear from Stan Wilbur first, given his experience, to get his perspective. Frank and Michael concurred.

Stan advised that he had wanted to listen first, to determine where the town was regarding the public works upgrades. He outlined his expectations: 1) make sure everyone was in line with the scope of the project; 2) complete the project within the scope/budget/time; and 3) look at what's been done, who the players are – NBF-architect: Otter Creek Engineering; and interface with all vendors. He noted that the Select Board makes all the decisions, the project manager implements what the SB wants done. He added that specs should be kept simple so that the buildings were biddable and buildable. There needs to be developed a set of plans that all can agree upon, maintain a schedule, meet budget and permitting requirements, keep it rolling and moving.

Board members commented: that the scope of work has not been finalized; that the Building Committee has many threads that need to be woven together; that there are a number of decisions still up in the air – 3 bay or 2 bay garage for instance; that cost estimates from 2019 may not hold for 2021 given the current economy; that design/build perhaps should be considered; that the amount of site work the road crew can/should do needs to be determined, etc.

Everyone then discussed how to define the scope of work, the amount of information available to compile, who should/could do that. Building Committee members have visited a number of other towns and have information/recommendations from them.

Stan noted it appeared the town was not quite ready for a project manager. He volunteered to take a look at everything done to date and report to the Board with suggestions to move forward.

The Building Committee was discussed, it was noted that they are in the process of compiling town garage information, could be helpful with discussions and gathering more data if needed.

Compensation for Stan was discussed. Stan advised that he did not want to be paid, his services would be his contribution to the project. Board thanked him for his willingness to provide guidance.

Board voted to bring Stan Wilbur on as project manager for the public works facilities upgrades. First order of business will be to determine and define the scope of work to be done.

Stan requested permission to speak with NBF, Otter Creek Engineering, Bart Eaton (who has done salt/sand shed research as a member of the Building Committee), ClearSpan, etc. Frank as SB Chair, advised that Stan could speak with whomever he deemed necessary. Stan advised he will check with Frank before speaking to anyone. He will report to the Board at its October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Cathy raised a member's concern that can't wait until the Board meets next week on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. A member of the road crew has been out west fighting forest fires – what will be the Covid guidelines when he returns? Board decided he will not be able to return to work until it considers and issues guidance on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The matter was added to the agenda for the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Select Board ~ 9/22/20**

Present were members Michael Fallar, Cathy Reynolds, and Frank Sears, as well as Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Grant Reynolds, Stan Wilbur – Project Manager, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant (SBA).

Minutes of 9/17/20 were approved with correction to the paragraph that begins “Board members commented: replaced ‘there is no defined scope of work’ with ‘*that the scope of work has not been finalized*’.

### **Highway ~**

Eric reported he'd been busy cutting brush and hauling winter sand. Board inquired whether he needed help as Ron Crossman, the other road crew man, is still out west fighting forest fires, and Eric advised he'd found enough stuff to keep busy by himself.

**Highway Equipment Fund ~** Spreadsheet will be distributed for the next meeting. Cathy advised that the 2013 (orange) truck was scheduled to be replaced in FY21 (current year) and replacing the loader was in-line to be replaced in FY23, however the estimated cost was only \$107,000. Eric will investigate replacement costs for the next meeting.

**New Tandem Truck Specs ~** Board did not receive until late this afternoon. Eric noted the only changes were to the equipment specs (camera and sander). Board reviewed and edited the cover letter requesting bids. They also discussed the truck specs. Michael moved to hold going out to bid until Ronnie has a chance to review them (as he will be the person driving it for the next seven or so years), motion died for lack of a second. Board discussed: the need to start the process earlier so that the town is not in a position of having to buy something just before winter; one truck dealer has trucks that will be built before winter; others may have to get in line to get the equipment built; trade-in value versus availability may be a factor the Board will have to consider; whether the orange truck would make it through the winter (Eric advised it is fine

shape, as far as he knows); and a process to give Ron a chance to review the specs. Board voted to approve the cover letter and 9/22/20 truck and equipment bid specs pending Ron's review and acceptance, to go out to bid for SB's October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Covid-19 Protocol ~**

Ron is expected to arrive back in town on Wednesday. While where he was is not a virus hot spot, the fact that he was on an airplane may require that he quarantine. Cathy's research found that he would have to quarantine for 14 days (or 7 days and have a negative covid test), Frank's research indicated that people traveling for work were not required to do that. Much discussion. Board asked Eric if the road crew could work separately, he advised no and that the law should be followed. SBA was asked to inquire from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns what was required. A phone call was placed to Ron who advised he was planning on the 7 day quarantine and getting the test (negative) protocol.

**Public Works Facilities ~** Stan advised that he is gathering information, talking with vendors, engineers, etc. He advised the Building Committee could be a good source of information as he proceeds in defining the scope of work, etc. He will work on a report for the SB meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Select Board Liaison to the Project Manager ~** Stan further advised he would like one person from the Select Board to consult with and have that person relay information to the SB. Michael and Cathy both expressed enthusiasm to do it. After brief discussion, Frank moved and Michael seconded to appoint Michael to be the liaison with Stan. Frank and Michael voted yes, Cathy voted no. Motion passed.

### **Financial Reports ~**

Board reviewed and discussed the Financial Management Report (FMR) – inquired about use of signature stamp for checks (town does not have a stamp like that), only stamps are “to be deposited” for the town's general checking account and the community fund checking account. Board asked if there was a written policy/procedure for the accounting. Gail advised it's been on her to-do list for quite some time. Board requested that it be done.

**Warrants Reviewed ~** Board approved payroll warrants #11 for \$1,409.92, dated 9/14/20 and #12 for \$2,576.53 dated 9/21/20 and accounts payable warrant #5 for \$13,478.84 dated 9/16/20 .

### **Old Business ~**

*Trash and Dogs at 605 Mountain View and Trash at 72 Snow Mountain Lane –*

Frank advised nothing had been done on either in the past two weeks, and that he will meet with Gail on Thursday to discuss moving forward with ticketing.

## Building Committee ~ 9/14/20

With thanks to Theresa Butts, Co-Chair

Present were members Michael Fallar, Bart Eaton, Theresa Butts, Hollis Squier, Lothar Schmelzenbach, and Cathy Reynolds.

Members absent: Eric Buffum, David Birdsall, Harold Hunter, Andy McCullough, and Ron Crossman.

Public present: Gail Fallar, Kim Harbaugh, and Sherry Johnson.

### Town Garage:

Harold was not present, but had sent Theresa an email to say that he was unable to get in touch with the design-build contractors due to personal issues.

### Other Business:

Select Board Meeting 09/10/2020 - Bart said he believes that the email (sent to members by Gail) thoroughly covered what the meeting was about. Michael took offense to Bart's offered opinion from the SB meeting on 09/10/2020, Michael believes we need to continue on with our research because that's why the BC was formed, said Bart should have consulted the BC before offering his personal opinion to the SB, but noted that Bart had the right too. Michael said we are still gathering information and that at the SB meeting on 09/10, he sees the value of the BC as a SB member, and as an 11 member committee, we/they should find stuff very valuable. Theresa read the email aloud.

Cathy questioned if the committee is valuable and gave her personal opinion. Cathy then announced that Stan Wilbur would fulfill the role of project manager. Michael said that as of now no names had been discussed by the SB. Cathy stated that the role needs to be filled and that Stan would be helpful.

Bart noted that him and Michael are on opposite sides of the spectrum, and reiterated that he gave his own personal opinion, not the opinion of the BC (at the SB meeting on 09/10). Cathy agreed with Bart - he was very clear that it was a personal opinion (at that meeting).

Theresa stated there's value in the committee, but a project manager would be a good idea at this point.

Hollis stated that a project manager is a good idea-the budget is over our heads.

Gail reported that the storm water permit finally came in (YAY!) Cathy and Gail discussed the storm water permit.

Michael asked what do we (the BC) want in a town garage? Suggested that we've asked at the site visits (what are likes/dislikes/do differently); these are the elements we're looking at. Believes we're jumping ahead and that the BC can still be useful.

Bart and Michael bickered about compiling likes/dislikes. Michael stated that it should be done as a group effort.

It was decided we would keep the next meeting - unless at the Special Select Board Meeting, it was decided that the BC would disband.

Special Select Board Meeting 09/17/2020; it could affect the BC and could determine that it may/may not be disbanded. Members were encouraged to virtually attend.

Building Committee Next Meeting: 09/28/2020 at 7 pm unless at the 09/17/2020 meeting the Select Board decides to disband the BC and if that was the case the meeting would be cancelled via email notice.

## Building Committee ~ 9/28/20

Present were members Michael Fallar, Theresa Butts, Ronnie Crossman, Lothar Schmelzenbach, Cathy Reynolds, Eric Buffum, Harold Hunter and Hollis Squier, as well as Stan Wilbur and Gail Fallar.

Members discussed likes and dislikes for a town garage. *Likes* included high doors on gable ends, overhang to keep snow away from the doors, southern orientation, 18' - 20' ceiling height, ability to add on in future, floor drains, flat floor, wash bay, outside faucet to wash equipment. *Dislikes* included radiant heat in the floor, floor drains, and sloped floors.

Cathy advised that the Select Board had appointed Stan to be project manager. Stan noted he would like to consult with the Committee as the project progresses.

## Planning Commission ~ No meeting in August



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