

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Tuesday, May 24, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Members present in-person: Kevin Eaton, Cathy Reynolds, and Meadow Squier

Others present:

Via Zoom Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Stan Wilbur – Project Manager, Rick Smyrski – Morton Buildings, Rick Fallar, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, and Pat Psholka

In-person- Michael Fallar, David Birdsall, Nancy Gucker Birdsall, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:02 and reminded everyone of the rules and procedures adopted by the Select Board for meetings.

Board reviewed agenda, added announcements and correspondence.

Minutes: Minutes of 5/12/2022– Meadow moved, Kevin 2nded, to approve as written. All voted in favor.

Citizen Input: Sherry spoke about the importance of following the rules and procedures and no one speaking for more than 3 minutes.

Nancy expressed concern with lack of civil discourse; support of the 3 minute rule; and encouraged more direct communication. **Michael** also supported the rules and procedure and noted it applied to the Board as well as the public, expressed concern that citizens had to provide input on agenda items without hearing the Board discuss them first, and was appreciative of the opportunity to speak.

Public Works Facilities Update: Stan deferred to Rick from Morton. Rick reported the foundation is on track, as Eric has it roughed in. Progress is slower than hoped, the goal is to have it constructed before winter of 2022. He has the electrical plans, but has to re-solicit the plumbing and heating work – that is causing the delay, hopes to have it fixed by the end of the month. Stan noted the town needs the electrical, plumbing and heating mechanicals so it can apply for the state’s Fire and Safety Permit, asked how soon the town could expect to receive them. Rick advised he needed to do more research – suggested doctoring the plans for the permit – submit the engineering after. Stan advised he would send the permit application to Cathy to re-sign and suggested including a cover letter.

Board inquired about start time, they had been advised it would be June. Rick advised the building would be delivered the third week in August and it would be complete by the end of September.

Concrete cannot be poured until the plumbing and heating details are worked out – pipes need to go under the slab. Electrical connection was then discussed – Rick advised it was not Morton’s responsibility to call GMP. Board wanted options regarding new service (two meters) or running the power from the old town garage. Who is the electrical contractor – will the town have one and Morton have another? No answer.

Board discussed VLCT PACIF’s (town’s insurance company) review of the Morton contract, with regards to construction insurance. They suggested asking Morton to name and include the Town on their policy. Stan noted that his read of the contract means that Morton owns the building until they turn it over to the town, and so the town is protected, it would be prudent to get a quote for the town for construction insurance and ask Morton to be added.

Conditional Use Zoning Permit: Cathy reported the Zoning Board of Adjustment had issued a permit for the town garage conditioned on the Select Board working with the Eaton family to resolve operational issues. Board then tried to find a date for an in-person meeting with the Eatons, the Select Board and the Road Commissioner – none was arrived at, will wait for the appeal period and for vacations to end before trying to schedule another meeting.

Speed Limit Reduction: Board discussed speed study on Route 140 – should it be reduced to 45 miles per hour? Cathy moved and Meadow 2nded to instruct SBA to request formal speed study from the Rutland County Sheriff's Department. All voted in favor.

Highway ~

Eric reviewed 'to-do' list for road crew while he is on vacation, have already started one of the projects. Most projects are working on the stormwater segments required to be brought into conformance per the state MRGP permit. He noted the app for tracking that work is really cool, invited SB members to try it. Cathy inquired about operations while Eric is away, who is in charge, etc. Eric noted he will be staying in town and available if the road crew needs him – he advised that between Ron and Glenn they have 3 times more experience than he has, and that they can handle whatever comes along.

Old Town Garage: Eric asked the Board to review the 2018 construction engineer's report regarding the old town garage. The SB needs to figure out what needs to be done before a request for proposals can be written, brief discussion of basic needs, use of the building once the new garage is constructed, the need to keep covered space (too expensive to replace a 40' x 60'). Board will read report and discuss further at its June 9th meeting.

Paving Bids: Board revisited 5/12/22 decision to spend only \$100,000 this year. Board discussed spreading the grant over two years, no good answer to what the price would be next year. Cathy moved and Meadow 2nded to increase spending for paving to \$300,000 for FY23. All voted in favor.

Eric requested permission to order the **septic holding tank**, still needs to check with OCE regarding specs – cost of regular is \$1,500, with more specs it's \$2,200. Board agreed by consensus to authorize Eric to order the standard tank.

Old Town Back Hoe: Board reviewed request for bids, edited a bit, then approved.

SB wished Eric a Happy Vacation.

New Business ~

Gail, as Treasurer, requested the Board again **grant** waivers for late filed homestead declaration penalties. After brief discussion, Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to approve, all voted in favor.

Nelson Jaquay resigned from the Conservation Commission. SB thanked him for his service, will post notice of **vacancy**, appoint someone on June 9th.

Old Cemetery Mowing: Gail advised that long time lawn mower John Squier would no longer be able to mow the Crampton or Sawyer cemeteries, will seek someone else.

Girls on the Run: SBA advised that the School's Girls on the Run group has volunteered to clean up the Sawyer cemetery. SB thanked them for their efforts.

Feedback Form: None received.

Member's Concern: Speed cart locations were discussed, as well as the need to advise the public that the Select Board had asked the County Sheriff's Department for speed studies – Cathy will write something for *Tales* and FPF. Other roads were discussed, Kevin expressed concern with the speed limit going past the town garage/transfer station.

Mail/Correspondence: Gail shared a *Tales* Letter to the Editor from Paula Bonazinga regarding the ARPA money, and an email from Judy Gilmore regarding a transportation grant opportunity.

Executive Session: Board moved into Executive Session at 8:29 to discuss a personnel issue. Board exited at 8:38, no action taken.

Next Meetings Schedule ~ Thursday, June 9th and Tuesday, June 28th

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant

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