

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, July 11, 2024
Meeting Minutes - Regular**

Members present (in-person): Judy Gilmore, Kevin Eaton, and Melody Squier

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Chris Pritchard, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar and Robbie Leeds

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed everyone, introducing everyone present and on Zoom.

Members reviewed the **agenda**, no changes.

Minutes of 6/20/24 were approved as written, Judy moved, Kevin 2nded. All voted in favor.

Citizen's Input ~ Mr. Pritchard introduced himself as a candidate running for the Vermont House, he is visiting all the Select Boards in the District.

Highway ~

Eric reported the **crack sealer equipment** was used for 9 or 10 days, East Road, Mtn View Road and Route 140 from Northrup Road to the Gulf Road were done – 2 tons of rubber were put in the cracked pavement. It has been returned as other work needed to be done; roadside mowing and grant-in-aid work on Pent and Upper Gulf Roads. Replacing the culvert on North East Road near Patry's hopefully will take place at the end of the month – road may need to be closed for a week. Paving is scheduled for late August.

Eric asked that a SB member accompany him to a Wells SB meeting to discuss **winter road maintenance in West Tinmouth**. Board discussed possible issues, decided to put this Board's agenda for August before going to a Wells meeting.

Board discussed roadside mowing, - still underway.

Fire Alarm System - Eric reported the yearly fee for monitoring the security/fire alarm at the new town garage is \$300. CountrySide had bid \$9,665 and Royal Glass bid \$15,000 to install the system. It will ring into CountrySide and 911. VLCT-PACIF grant was discussed – might be \$2,000 to help cover the cost. Melody moved and Kevin 2nded to accept CountrySide's bid of \$9,665 for a security/fire alarm system for the new garage, and to use ARPA money. All voted in favor.

TAP Grant for Salt/Sand Shed ~ Members discussed whether a storm water permit would be needed – it appears that as the current project for just the salt/sand shed will not disturb more than an acre, it would not be required. It was reported that the town of Castleton had decided to decline proceeding with a similar project and state grant.

Melody moved to enter **Executive Session** to discuss contract issues that premature notice would disadvantage the town, Kevin 2nded, all voted in favor, entered E.S. at 7:40 pm, invited the Road Commissioner and SB Assistant to participate. Board exited E.S. at 7:50, no action taken.

Board continued discussion regarding the **proposed salt/sand shed** and the proposed amendment of the engineering contract with DuBois & King. Kevin moved and Melody 2nded, to not approve the amendment, and not move forward with the project. All voted in favor. The Town will be required to reimburse VTRANS for grant money already dispersed.

Board opened **Safety Grant Tree Removal Bid** – only one was received, four requests were sent.

McCullough Bros. bid \$5,000 per day, for 7 days of work. Kevin moved and Judy 2nded to accept McCullough's bid, all voted in favor. Contract and proof of insurance will be required. Eric advised that the road crew can help with traffic control if the work is done in October.

Financial ~

Board reviewed FY24 financial reports and Bills and Orders. Kevin moved and Judy 2nded to approve the reports and the following Warrants. All voted in favor.

Bills and Orders ~ Payroll warrants FY24 #50 dated 6/17/24 for \$3,793.97, #51 dated 6/24/24 for \$2,481.06, #52 dated 6/29/24 for \$5,489.77, and #53 dated 6/30/24 for \$6,743.7, and FY25 #1 dated 7/08/24 for \$1,593.70; and **Accounts Payable** FY24 warrants #49 dated 6/06/24 for \$13,584.47, #50 dated 6/17/24 for \$9,981.81, #51 dated 6/27/24 for \$18,084.40, and #52 dated 6/30/24 for \$16,289.23.

FY25 Wage and Salary Schedule ~ Board discussed and reviewed new rates with 3% raises. Melody moved, Judy 2nded, to approve FY25 Wage and Salary schedule as presented, all voted in favor.

Basketball Hoop Backstop Repair ~ Robbie Leeds, from the Recreation Committee, requested funds to repair the old broken basketball hoop on the tar outside the school. Melody moved and Kevin 2nded to use up to \$400 of ARPA funds for this project. All voted in favor.

Committee Reports to the Select Board Letter ~ After brief discussion, Board edited a bit, and approved correspondence to be sent to all town committees and boards.

Speed/Traffic Ordinance Review ~ Board postponed until August meeting.

Speed feedback signs/speed cart – Board decided to add this to the warning for town meeting – let voters decide.

Kevin moved and Judy 2nded to purchase **amber colored solar lights** for the 25 mph school zone signs, and a solar powered red flashing light on the stop sign at the intersection of Mtn View Rd and Route 140. Neighbors were consulted about the lights, okay as long as they don't flash toward their houses. All voted in favor.

Open Meeting Forum ~ Several members attended a recent presentation by the Vermont Secretary of State's office regarding new changes to the Open Meeting Law. One dealt with the requirement for recording by sound or video many committee meetings and posting to the town's website – currently only three are recorded. It was recommended that the videos be deleted 30 days after Minutes are approved. After discussion, Melody moved and Kevin 2nded to remove the videos from the town's website after 30 days. All voted in favor.

FY25 Town Tax Rate ~ Gail, with Treasurer hat on, walked the SB through the steps to set the town tax rate and asked that the Board set a new due date for the 1st half, as the new education tax rates for Tinmouth have not yet been set by the State. Kevin moved and Judy 2nded to set the town tax rate at \$0.5435 for FY25, all voted in favor. Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to extend the 1st half property tax deadline to 30 days after tax bills are mailed. All voted in favor.

Board decided to hold an Executive Session prior to August SB meeting for a site visit to discuss contract issues that premature public notice would disadvantage the town.

Town Clerk ~ Reminded the Board that there will be a Primary Election on August 13th, the SB as members of the BCA, will be needed to count ballots.

Feedback Forms ~ None

Members Concerns ~ Board expressed appreciation for the road crew working the crack sealing equipment in the really hot days of summer.

Correspondence ~

Next meeting is August 8, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant

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