

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, September 12, 2024
Meeting Minutes - Regular**

Members present: Kevin Eaton, Melody Squier, and Judy Gilmore

Others present: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Michael Fallar, Doug Fontein, and Gail Fallar (SBA – Select Board Assistant)

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

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:02, welcomed everyone.

Board reviewed the **agenda**, SBA asked to add resignation, Pent Road update, and hydraulic study update and asked to postpone financial reports as they were not yet completed. All agreed.

Minutes of September 3, 2024 were approved as written, Judy moved, Kevin 2nded all voted in favor. Minutes of 8/8/24 were tabled to enable SBA to edit pavilion discussion paragraph per Melody's request.

Citizen's Input: Sherry read a letter from herself and husband Kim, regarding meeting protocols for those who attend via zoom, requesting that the Select Board have speakers identify themselves, that comments be directed to the Chair, and that the SB discuss how to improve communication with Zoom attendees. SB advised they will work on it.

Highway:

Eric reported that the grant-in-aid project on Pent/Upper Gulf Road and the culvert replacement project on North East Road only needed seeding and mulching to be done. Paving on Route 140 is nearly done, Fuller Sand & Gravel will come back to work on the aprons and patches. Road crew has been grading and filling potholes. The area in front of the town garage is now mow-able as a lawn. He reported the orange truck has been towed to Allegiance in Hoosick Falls for repairs to the rear end, hopefully covered by the warranty.

West Tinmouth Winter Road Maintenance: Eric and Kevin and the SBA reported on the Wells Select Board meeting regarding whether the Town of Wells would be willing to maintain McCoy and the west end of Gulf Roads for winter plowing and sanding. As their road commissioner was not present, no decision was made. Their SB Chair will contact Eric or Kevin – added to October agenda.

Winter Salt Bid Request: Board reviewed 2023 bid document, updated to 2024. After brief discussion, Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to approve with addition of option to submit bids by email. All voted in favor. Board will revise Procurement Policy to allow electronic bidding. Bids will be emailed to unused Select Board email address.

New Tandem: Eric reported that Allegiance Trucks had purchased all International truck dealerships in Vermont and surrounding area, so it would be impossible to get 3 bids. Eric and SBA will work on a RFP to send to MAC, Freightliner, and International – using International specs.

Pent Road: Eric reported the mess was being cleaned up and made passable. No plans at the moment to upgrade it, it is in better shape than it was. He will inspect when they are done.

Recreation Committee Report: Doug read the committee's mission statement; reviewed several events the Committee worked on – ice skating rink (LaValley donated materials, volunteers built it and kept it maintained) – there will not be one this coming winter due to several complications; Town Fund Day games; and community survey of wants/needs. They are currently working on a family movie night, kid friendly, that if it goes well, may have more in the winter. They also provided a letter of support for the pavilion being proposed. Robbie noted that in the beginning, they had looked at what other communities were doing for recreation, are still working out how to help and support the town. There are liability and insurance issues with using the school climbing wall. They are still discussing the lot behind the town garage for recreation. They also thanked the Board for the ARPA money (\$400) for the back board replacement at the playground (that was not needed due to volunteers and a 'found' backboard. They are planning a softball event soon. The Board thanked them for their report.

Board voted to go into **Executive Session** at 7:55 to discuss potential contract which premature public knowledge would put the town at a disadvantage. Board exited at 8:05, no action taken.

Financial: Gail noted the end of year reports are still being worked on. Board reviewed the Warrants and Orders – Melody moved and Judy 2nded to approve them, all voted in favor. Payroll Warrants: #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10 and Accounts Payable Warrants #7, #8, and #9.

Old Business:

The **Special Meeting** for committees, commissions and boards originally scheduled for October 29th was postponed until February 25th due to the extra SB meeting for the pavilion proposal and upcoming budget work.

Citizen's Concern:

New Business:

Special Meeting for Pavilion: Holly Ross agreed to moderate discussion, coffee and refreshments will be provided. Ask for questions to be sent to the town office.

Hydraulic Study: Due to concerns expressed over water issues with the new pavilion, Board agreed by consensus to request a hydraulic study from the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

Resignations: Bob Lloyd resigned from the Tinmouth Planning Commission and as Tinmouth's representative to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission due to health concerns. Board reluctantly accepted with regrets and expressed appreciation for the many years of Bob's dedication and service.

Members Concerns: Judy reported that the state inspects culverts over 20 feet or larger, but that someone from VTRANS was agreeable to look at the big culvert on North End Road that is 108", that was installed in the early 1960's. Board agreed. She also inquired about long term planning for budgeting – SBA noted that is being done to some degree, would be good to work on a Capital Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Next meeting is October 10, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar

Select Board Assistant.