

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, April 10, 2025
Meeting Minutes (Regular)**

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

In-person: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Ray Pratt – Emergency Management Director, Larry Carabeau, Doug Fontein, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom and phone: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed everyone.

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

Minutes of 3/13/25 and 3/24/25 - Judy moved, Melody 2nded, to approve both, all voted in favor.

Citizen's Input ~ None

Highway ~

Eric reported the road crew is busy cutting brush and filling pot holes. He advised that the driveway at **282 Mountain View needs a culvert replacement**, but the culvert is outside the Town's right of way by about 17 feet. Estimated cost is \$2130 for a 30" culvert, a small stream passes through it on its way to a larger culvert under Mountain View Road, though there have been times when the water runs over the driveway. He is waiting to meet with the State's Stream Alteration Specialist for size determination. Board requested more information.

Eric also reported he had ordered more **winter salt**, inquired whether to fill the salt shed before the end of the year (June 30th), no decision was made. He also discussed **crack sealing**. Board agreed by consensus to rent the crack sealer for a month and order the rubber for it to get that work done in May – while the weather is cooler.

Paving Bid Request – Board reviewed draft, edited it a bit, added milling old pavement off the bridge near the Jaquay's, agreed by consensus to have it sent to three paving companies.

Peterbilt Truck – Final contract totaled \$177,181 due to addition of more features (approved as \$174,100 last month) – Kevin and Eric signed the contract to get it ordered on time. Melody moved and Judy 2nded to accept the action and changes, all voted in favor.

Equipment Fund – Treasurer noted that the Equipment Fund would be depleted by the purchase of this truck (keeping the old one as a spare). Board agreed to discussion of equipment replacement and funding at a future meeting. Eric suggested charging equipment use time to be paid to the Equipment Fund – savings from changing West Tinmouth winter maintenance and roadside mowing. Board took under advisement. Set a special meeting for May 13th to start that discussion.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission requested to meet with the Board to discuss Act 181 – changes to Vermont's planning laws. Board set date of **5:00 on May 8th**, their next regular meeting.

Ray, as EMD, advised that emergency management has grown in its responsibilities. He reviewed the **Mutual Aide Agreement** with other county towns through the RRPC. After discussion and an edit or two, Melody moved and Kevin 2nded to approve, and authorize Kevin to sign, all voted in favor. He then reviewed the annual LEMP (Local Emergency Management Plan) with the Board, several additions and corrections were made. Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to approve as

corrected, all voted in favor, Kevin signed. Ray also advised that there will be a training event (big storm) in the fall and that Tinmouth will participate.

Proposed Radio Tower on Route 140 ~ Board reviewed draft letter to IWT requesting a balloon test at the proposed site and a public meeting, agreed by consensus and all signed.

Financial ~

Bills and Orders ~ Board reviewed financial reports and warrants. Kevin moved and Melody 2nded to approve and accept all, all voted in favor. Payroll warrants #37, 38, 39, and 40; and Accounts Payable warrants #26, 27, 28, and 29.

Pavilion Update ~ Melody advised that it will be arriving on August 1st. Kevin had been given authority to negotiate up to \$40,000 – the Pavilion Project did that in the end with David Hooke from TimberHomeVT – \$40K was offered, end cost of the frame ended up at \$38K. Kevin, Melody, Cathy Reynolds, Doug Fontein and Gail Fallar zoomed into the Marshfield Select Board meeting to complete the deal. Contract will be sent around for all to sign. Melody requested authorization to sign agreements/contracts for the remaining contractor work to raise the structure. After discussion, Kevin moved and Judy 2nded to grant that authorization, all voted in favor. Doug advised that David Hooke from TimberHomeVT is very thorough.

Traffic Ordinance ~ Gail advised that she had not properly warned the adoption of the ordinance and asked the Board to re-adopt so that the option for voters to petition for a vote was made public. Kevin moved and Melody 2nded to re-adopt the Traffic Ordinance, all voted in favor.

Kevin advised that the **Speed Limit Committee** had done its job and was no longer needed. Judy moved and Melody 2nded, to disband it, all voted in favor.

Website Committee ~ Judy advised that the Committee voted to ask the Select Board to increase the size of the committee to 7 members and to appoint Cathy Reynolds as a member. Board agreed by consensus.

Forest Fire Warden ~ Board voted to re-appoint Glenn D. Merrill as Forest Fire Warden.

Board reviewed **Annual Appointments** – see attached – and appointed those willing to serve, thanked those who stepped down.

Grant Policy ~ Board agreed to the amendment with edit of taking out the \$1200 limit. All voted in favor of the amendment and signed the new Policy.

Town Office Closing ~ Gail, as Clerk, advised that the Town Office would be closed from April 25 until May 4th.

Larry noted that the crack sealing really helped maintain paved roads.

Mail/Correspondence: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant