

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, June 12, 2025
Meeting Minutes (Regular)**

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

In-person: Hollis Squier and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)
Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson and Kim Harbaugh

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

Members reviewed the **agenda** – added FY26 salary and wage rates.

Minutes of 5/8/25 – regular – corrected *out* to *over* (switching tires) and 5/8/25- special as written, Judy moved and Kevin 2nded, to approve, all voted in favor.

Citizen's Input ~ Sherry requested that participants at the upcoming tower meeting sit in a chair near the Owl speaker system to speak so that everyone can hear, including those on Zoom.

Highway ~

No road commissioner – Eric is on vacation for the month.

Equipment Fund – postponed until July, need to have a special meeting for this one topic. Cathy Reynolds is working on updating the spreadsheet with replacement schedules and anticipated costs with regards to the Board's discussion at its May meeting.

Hollis expressed concern with **culvert upsizing** requirements – recent state recommendations of increasing a 12" culvert to 60" makes no sense, as well as concern with the culvert replacement on Potter's brook a couple of years ago – it should have been longer or turned a bit. He asked for information about who to contact about these concerns. Judy volunteered to research request.

Erosion Control Inventory Contract – proposed by the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. This culvert inventory is required by the state, due in 2027, a \$4,080 state grant has been approved for it, and after brief discussion, Melody moved and Judy 2nded to approve the contract and authorized Kevin to sign it. All voted in favor.

Proposed Telecommunication (radio) Tower – Board discussed possible questions to ask at the public meeting on the 19th – Is this a line-of-sight facility? If so, how many are needed, how far apart? Who will use the radio frequency – how many businesses? Will it interfere with any other communication systems? Are there any cell phone companies ready or willing to co-locate?

Pavilion Update ~ Melody advised that work on the pavilion would begin next week, getting the piers and floor ready for raising the structure in early August.

Financial ~

Financial reports not yet ready. There will be a fund balance surplus (general and highway) – need to research who decides who it is spent, the SB or voters?

Bills and Orders ~ Board reviewed warrants. Judy moved and Melody 2nded to approve and accept all, all voted in favor. Payroll warrants #45, 46, 47, 48 and 49; and Accounts Payable warrants #33, 34, 35, and 36. Questions about health insurance – MVP covers the road crew, BCBS covers the clerk/treasurer's supplemental.

Board ratified \$61,046.22 as the correct amount of **ARPA** transfer to the General/Highway Fund to close out the account. Judy moved, Melody 2nded all voted in favor.

Waiver of Penalty for Late File Homestead Declaration – After brief discussion – SBA noted it has been the practice for many years, Melody moved and Judy 2nded to waive the late filing penalty for Homestead Declarations, all voted in favor.

FY26 Wage/Salary Increase – Board agreed by consensus to approve a 3% raise for all town employees/workers for FY26. That was the amount budgeted for FY26.

TPMP – Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project State Grant – Judy moved and Melody 2nded to accept as approved. It is a pass-through grant – state sends to town, towns passes to TPMP. All voted in favor.

Committee Vacancy – SBA advised there was a volunteer for the Equity and Inclusion Committee, Melody (as E & I Chair) noted the E & I Committee wanted to interview them.

FY26 Rutland County Sheriff's Contract – Board reviewed edited language from town manager to Select Board Chair, accepted as amended, Judy moved and Melody 2nded to approve, all voted in favor.

Liquor Licenses- Board approved by consensus applications from Corrine Best – Tinmouth Roadhouse, for liquor licenses for inside and outside consumption.

Members Concerns ~ Kevin requested payment for his son and himself when they recently had to drive the 550 truck to New Hampshire to pick up the rented crack sealer machine and the rubber for it (complicated situation). Board authorized \$15 per hour, took 7 hours over and back, they will submit time sheets.

Public Input: Pavilion - Hollis advised a ditch was to be constructed on the western side near the property line as part of the pavilion project to catch the water and divert it to the existing swale, where it ended up anyways – will help take water away from the playground and ball field as well. Board agreed by consensus.

Mail/Correspondence: SBA will forward latest email from ITW attorney regarding the tower proposal.

Next meetings: June 19th Tower Public Input; July 10, 2025 regular meeting; July 24th meeting with other committees at 6:45 (Melody moved the E & I meeting to 6:00)

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant