

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board – Special Meeting
Thursday, July 24, 2025
Minutes**

Select Board members present: Melody Squier, Kevin Eaton, and Judy Gilmore

Others: present in-person: Todd Dennis – President of the Tinmouth Community Fund (TCF) and Chair of the Energy Committee, Sandy Goyette, Chair of the Board of Auditors, Gail Fallar Select Board Assistant

And via Zoom: Zach Bronzo, Chair of the Website Committee, and Kim Harbough and Sherry Johnson

Kevin called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm noting that one purpose of the meeting was to meet with various town committee and boards.

Sandy, Chair of the Board of Auditors, reviewed what the Auditors' duties are and how they do it – review payables, receivables, reports, etc. and noted that the Auditors should report their findings to the SB. She advised the SB that the Gail needed to hire more help - there needs to be a separation of duties (noting that she as an auditor, is reconciling the general fund bank statements), and that there should be a procedure manual of everything Gail does. Gail advised that there are components of that for bookkeeping - payroll and paying invoices, etc. The SB thanked her the other auditors for their work.

Todd reviewed what the TCF does – provides grants and scholarships for town residents to enhance a sense of community, with funds raised by the Plant Sale and through donations. Their Executive Board meets a few times a year – once to review applications. 2025 saw only two post high school scholarships, but a big increase in camp scholarships for K-12 kids. It was noted that this year the TCF also had a special project regarding the pavilion for the community center/play ground – covering expenses with its reserve fund pending receipt of a state grant to cover part of the cost.

Todd as Energy Committee Chair reported that they had not met in years. He was advised that two new members had been appointed and that by state statute the Town was required to have an Energy Committee and Coordinator. He advised they will try to have a meeting in the fall.

Zach Bronzo, Chair of the Website Committee, reported on activities regarding security of the Town's website (keeping bad actors from accessing it), thanked the Board for adding two new members, and noted that the website switched from a .org to a .gov. SB had a brief discussion regarding whether it needed an overhaul – Zach advised it would cost \$30K or so, advised against that as it's not needed. Brief discussion about citizens being able to register their dogs or pay taxes online – lots to consider.

The Community Center Board was discussed – the SBA advised that the SB and the CCB needed to have a joint meeting to discuss whether the CCB was needed – it was created when the community center was created (and owned by the town) and the school was owned by the Tinmouth school district. The Town now owns all the buildings and there is no more Tinmouth School District as the school is now part of the Mill River Unified Union School District. It was also noted that there needed to be a meeting to discuss guidelines for use of the new pavilion – reserve use through the Community Center Building Use Coordinator? If one rents the

community center is the pavilion included, what kind of events would require someone using the pavilion to rent the community center, etc.

Kevin inquired about getting a compactor for the transfer station as the bear has been wreaking havoc with the dumpster and compost bin. Gail advised that a small shed was being built for the compost bin, and that the last time it was suggested, 3 phase power was needed to run the compactor which would be very expensive. After brief discussion, it was suggested that the dumpster be pulled when half full so that the bear could not get into it.

Back to the list of committees and boards the SB wished to speak with, the SBA will try to have one or two at regular meetings to finish up for this year.

Town Tax Rate: The Treasurer advised that the tax rate be set at \$0.5354 and the local agreement tax rate (exemptions from taxes voted by the town) be set at \$0.0051 for a total of \$0.5394 – less than 2024. Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to the tax rates as advised. All voted in favor.

Town Plan Update: Judy noted that the Select Board may need to hold a special meeting regarding the process for hearings and adoption of the updated Town Plan to help move it along. The EEP will be updated and adopted at a later date. Board agreed.

Tower: Judy advised that the Rutland Regional Planning Commission had voted to send a second letter of support for the Town's opposition regarding the proposed radio tower.

Conservation Commission Resignation: The SB accepted with regrets, Chuck Bronk's resignation from the Conservation Commission, thanking him for his many years of hard work and dedication.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant