

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, September 11, 2025
Meeting Minutes (Regular)**

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

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Michael Fallar, Ann Lundquist, Rep. Chris Pritchard, Sen. Terry Williams, Chris Martone – Transfer Station Manager, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

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

Judy called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed everyone. All introduced themselves.

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

Minutes of 8/14/25 - Melody moved and Judy 2nded to approve as written, both voted in favor.

Citizen's Input ~ Chris Martone thanked the Select Board for serving, noted they are doing a good job.

Highway ~

Eric noted paving is nearly done, the new cab and chassis is in the town garage – will have to wait until March for the plow and dump body to be added. Some discussion about whether the SB authorized that or wanted to wait. Board authorized Kevin to sign necessary paperwork next week, when he is available.

Winter Sand ~ After brief discussion, Judy moved and Melody 2nded to waive bid procedure for winter sand, determining that it was in the best interest of the Town to purchase sand from Pike for this winter. Both voted in favor.

Winter Maintenance Class ~ Eric advised all road crew members will attend. He is also going to attend a Pavement Management Class.

Rep. Pritchard and Senator Williams ~ Rep. Pritchard noted he serves on the House Natural Resources Committee, Sen. Williams serves on the Senate Education and Natural Resources Committees (senators serve on 2). Judy raised concerns with hydraulic studies, increased sizes of culverts being required (12" driveway to be replaced with a 60" culvert for example, and lack of grant funding to help with new requirements (more funding is going to bigger towns – little towns are being left out). No easy answers. Both Chris and Terry noted there are major stormwater requirement coming down the pike, not sure what to do or how to pay for it, or how to make it apply fairly to all. There is some movement to make all towns a storm water utility – and thus the towns would become liable for those expenses and stormwater measures. They both suggested keeping informed about legislative actions – proposed legislation and to provide input to legislative members. Gail provided an overview of the proposed 2-way radio tower – process – Melody noted it wouldn't work for the fire department. Michael expressed support for education reform. Chris and Terry noted it was the Governor's vision to improve the quality of education as well as reforming the funding and re-districting – it will take time. Michael, as a long time member of the Planning Commission, expressed concern with Montpelier (the Legislature) using cookie-cutter planning – little towns don't fit. The Board thanked Chris and Terry for attending a board meeting to get local input.

Transfer Station~ Chris Martone asked to address the Board in executive session to discuss personnel issues regarding the Transfer Station. Board entered at 7:54 and exited at 8:00. Judy moved to allow Chris to determine schedule for one attendant stepping back and another stepping up. Both voted in favor.

Financial ~

Treasurer advised that the end of year reports are still being worked on.

Bills and Orders ~ Board reviewed warrants. Judy moved and Melody 2nded to approve and accept, all voted in favor. Payroll warrants #7, 8, 9, 10 and accounts payable #4, and 5.

Gail advised that the State is now requiring training and certification for Listers beginning January 1, 2026 which will require an increase in the Listers budget.

Local Hazard Mitigation Planning ~ Current LHMP expires in April of 2026. It is required to be updated every five years, grant funding was available, now FEMA has clawed it back, the RRPC will try to find an alternative grant source.

Proposer Tower Update ~ Gail advised that the Town's responses (from the SB and PC) had been timely filed, provided the SB with a copy. Melody moved and Judy 2nded to ratify actions and responses for PUC filing 25-1679-PET. Both voted in favor.

Joint meeting with Community Center Board – SB suggested 9/29/25 at 5:30 at the Community Center to do a walk-about to review condition and repairs needed at the CC and the School. SBA will coordinate.

Members Concerns ~

Mail/Correspondence:

Next meetings: September 23, 2025 – Equipment Fund
September 29, 2025 with Community Center Board – 5:30
October 9, 2025 – Regular

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant