

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
January 10, 2019
Regular Meeting**

Members present: Michael Fallar, Frank Sears, and Cathy Reynolds

Others present: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Chuck Bronk, Matt Patry, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Michael Fannin and Gail Fallar – Select Board Asst.

Frank called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Board reviewed the agenda, added climate change resolution request and an email about road conditions.

Minutes – 12/13/18 - Cathy moved and Michael 2nded to approve as revised to clarify which roads were mentioned, all voted in favor.

Financial Report – Board reviewed, Cathy moved and Michael 2nded to accept the report to date for FY19. All voted in favor.

Highway – Eric advised all is good, has been installing the safety cameras on all the trucks and equipment.

Michael Fannin, as Emergency Management Coordinator, advised that VTRANS has emergency funds if a town needs it when emergency costs exceed 10% of its annual highway budget.

Frank read an **email from Shannon Zandy** regarding road conditions on Harrington Cross Road and the area at the end of North End Road and Route 140 when she is trying to get her children to the bus stop. Eric will take care of it.

Matt expressed concern with the condition of the North East Road from his house south to the top of the hill. It needs more sand. A number of folks have or almost slid off the road.

Highway Draft FY20 Budget ~ Board discussed request for \$10,000 for part time help, decided to try \$5,000 for the purpose of filling in when one road crew member is on vacation or perhaps when there is a major snow storm. Eric advised that some state highways workers may be available for part time summer work, they have CDL's, experience driving big trucks, etc.

Chloride program ~ Eric noted it helps keep the gravel on the road and provides dust control as a side benefit. Michael expressed concern about side effects of the chloride, would prefer to see ditching and shoulder work done first. Matt also expressed concern with the proposed chloride project. Some forms of the chloride are very harmful to amphibians and wood frogs, of which there are many near his property. He suggested using calcium chloride, the lesser of evils, noting chloride with magnesium is very nasty. He gave Eric data from Canada about it.

Cathy noted that the state is advising towns to use it this way, as a Best Management Practice. She is willing to try it for three years. Michael Fannin noted he was in favor of it for dust control, he has been begging for years for relief from the dust near his house.

Eric also noted that the state prefers the chloride to the gravel run off when roads wash out. This proposal is for summer use. Frank moved to add the \$12,000 for chloride to the budget, Cathy 2nded. They both voted in favor, Michael voted no.

Civil Engineering – Civil Engineer has been having health problems. Tabled until special meeting on the 24th.

Practice regarding when to plow, when to sand, when to salt, was postponed until January 24th, Cathy will edit and pass around again.

Others ~ Michael Fannin expressed concern with the Real Rutland request for more funding at town meeting. He has researched on-line and spoken with Frank, and still is leery of REDC (Rutland Economic Development Corporation) given their past support of the proposed OMYA trucking project through Tinmouth a number of years ago. Cathy noted it is supporting the greater Rutland Community.

Procurement/Purchase Guidance – After brief discussion, Cathy moved and Michael 2nded to approve as drafted. All voted in favor and signed it.

At this point, Michael Fannin, Matt and Eric departed the meeting (8:30).

Rutland County Sheriff's Department ~ Frank reported cost per hour was staying the same for FY20, \$38.09 for the four town consortium, he also asked for more enforcement/coverage on the East Road.

Cathy moved and Michael 2nded to ratify Board Chair Frank signing of a **Hazard Mitigation Grant document**. All voted in favor.

General Budget – Board reviewed proposed general budget for FY20 – Gail advised that the increase in the Select Board Assistant line item was due to increased work load. In fact this year's budget has already nearly been spent and we are only half way through it. Board tentatively approved both the highway and general FY20 budgets – final review will be on the 24th. Board also discussed the need to replace the roof over the library section of the town office, though that would not be a budgeted item, it would come out of the special building repair fund.

Town Meeting Warning ~ Board reviewed draft, decided to add request for special fund for computer and website support so that money not spent can be carried forward.

Cathy presented a request from Doug Fontein regarding placing an article on the warning about climate control. Cathy recused herself (married to the requestor), Frank and Michael decided that the Board would need a petition to consider it.

Town Report ~ Select Board edited their annual report for the town report.

Old Business –

Trash on Mountain View Road – recent article in the Rutland Herald about Rutland Town's actions regarding trash needs research.

Members' Concerns - None.

Special Meeting ~ Board decided to have a special meeting on January 24th to review/approve and sign the warning for town meeting, finalize budgets, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar,
Select Board Assistant