

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
July 23, 2019
Special Meeting**

Members present: Michael Fallar, Frank Sears and Cathy Reynolds-Chair
Others present: Gail Fallar – Tinmouth Select Board Assistant/Lister, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds as well as Wallingford Select Board members Rose Regula and Bruce Duchesne, Wallingford Assessor/Lister Lisa Wright, and former Wallingford town clerk Joyce Barbieri.

Cathy Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Every one introduced themselves.

Cathy noted that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss a process to work on locating the town line, and asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Bruce Duchesne advised that the Wallingford folks wanted to present information regarding the location of Stan Taylor's house. It was added to the agenda.

Wallingford has a five member Select Board; Rose and Bruce advised they would be bringing the results of this meeting to the full Board at their next meeting.

As Tinmouth has a three member Select Board and all three planned to attend, a special meeting was warned.

The meeting was held at the Wallingford Town Hall to discuss the Tinmouth/Wallingford town line. While both towns have had property maps for a number of years, the location of the town line on those maps near Stan Taylor's house is being challenged by Wallingford. The town line was changed by an act of the Vermont Legislature in 1793. "It is hereby Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of VT., That tract of land included in the following line, to wit, beginning at the southeast corner of the town of Tinmouth, thence running west on the south line of Tinmouth, one mile and a quarter and eighteen rods to Elias Farr's west line, Thence North on the height of land to Joshua Campbell's south line; thence East on said line to the allowance for highways at the east end of the east tier of home lots in said Tinmouth; thence North on said allowance for highways to the north line of Tinmouth; thence East to the North east corner of said Tinmouth, be and it is hereby annexed to the town of Wallingford."

Cathy advised that the Tinmouth Board believes the agreement reached in 2017 stands until both Boards reach a new decision. Michael and Frank agreed.

The process for the two Boards agreeing in 2017 to align the grand list with property maps was discussed. Gail gave a brief overview and Lisa Wright presented a time line of events, noting at the time there were adjustments to the Wallingford grand list with property in Danby, Clarendon and Tinmouth. She noted that property maps are relied upon by town listers/assessors for being as accurate as they can be, but are also a work in progress as new information is received. The 2017 property maps for both Tinmouth and Wallingford showed the Taylor house in the west side of the presumed town line – in Tinmouth – clearly visible on an ortho photo.

Joyce Barbieri presented information from research she had done regarding the Taylor house, noting it had been on the Wallingford grand list for over 150 years. She has researched deeds, has data from the Wallingford Historical Society, a diary and genealogical information from the Rogers family (previous owners) and a 1917 map. The Tinmouth Board requested copies and

time to review. Grant Reynolds noted that the 1869 Beers Atlas showed the Rogers house in Tinmouth.

Cathy advised that the Tinmouth Board was willing to discuss the whole town line, as it involves several other property owners as well, but that it will take time and perhaps a number of meetings to resolve. She asked that Wallingford review that statutes regarding what towns need to do to agree to a town line if there is a question.

Gail requested the Wallingford Board reverse its decision to have the Taylor house added to the Wallingford grand list for 2019 so that the Taylors would not have to pay taxes to both towns for their house. And to agree to a process to determine the whole town line, not just around the Taylor house.

Frank, Cathy and Michael again expressed that the 2017 agreement could only be changed by agreement of both Boards and asked for a process, they are willing to work on it. All need to agree to resolve the issue.

Rose and Bruce advised they could not speak for the Wallingford Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar ~ Select Board Assistant