

# TALES OF TINMOUTH

July 2021  
Vol. 35 Number 7

Tinmouth  
Vermont

**Editors' Notes:** *Summer is speeding right along ~ take time to enjoy sunny days, take an evening walk, a dip in a cool stream, reading a book.*

The deadline for submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net) or drop it off at the Town Office.

*Pat Psholka, Helen Mango & Gail Fallar*

~ **Tinmouth Day Celebration – July 17<sup>th</sup>** ~

*See Insert!! Bring it with you . . .*

## Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment Last Reminder

There are still a number of folks who filed last year, and have **not yet done** it for 2021! It's not too late. If you don't file, it means you will be taxed at the non-residential rate and will not get a property tax adjustment if you qualify.

Once you do file, you will receive an adjusted tax bill.

## 2021 Tinmouth Town Wide Tag Sales

*By Sherry Johnson*



Time to save that "stuff" from spring cleaning! We are planning to have the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinmouth Town Wide Tag Sales again in 2021, and look forward to continued community participation.

Don't want to have a tag sale, but the stuff is too good to toss - items can be donated at the end of August to our charity tag sale. This year the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department will be the beneficiary.

**So, please save the date – September 4<sup>th</sup>, which is the first Saturday of the Labor Day weekend.**

There will be a yard sign for each location, and the yard sign will be delivered to each location the day before the event. Sale location maps can be emailed by request or picked up at the Town Office a few days before the event. More information will be forth coming on Front Porch Forum.

Questions? Call Sherry Johnson 446-3307. If you'd like to sign up to have your tag sale placed on the map; please email your location to [charles.bronk@gmail.com](mailto:charles.bronk@gmail.com) by August 28<sup>th</sup>.

Organizers: Sherry Johnson (446-3307)  
[vtsjohnson@icloud.com](mailto:vtsjohnson@icloud.com) or Tracy Byford  
[tracyleab@gmail.com](mailto:tracyleab@gmail.com) or Chuck Bronk  
[charles.bronk@gmail.com](mailto:charles.bronk@gmail.com)



~ **Tinmouth Library News** ~  
*By Ruth Drachman, Librarian*

The Library is Re-Opening! We will be there on Tinmouth Day, July 17<sup>th</sup> to welcome everyone back.

If you have books at home, please return them so they will not be overdue.

After July 17<sup>th</sup>, we will be open on Thursdays from 10 to 12 and 1:30 to 5:00. Several weeks later, we will add Mondays to our schedule.

## ~ Zoning Permit Required ~

A reminder from the Zoning Administrator – a permit is required for **any** new construction or change of use. You don't need a permit to tear something down (such as removing a deck) but you do need a permit to replace it.

If you own property on Tinmouth Pond, the state has Shoreline Regulations for the first 250 feet from the water that requires permits. The Town's Lakeshore District also requires permits. Yes, you may need two permits.

The State of Vermont has jurisdiction over septic systems as well.

Thank you for your cooperation. Any questions or if you need a permit, please contact Zoning Administrator Gail Fallar at the town office. 446-2498.

## ~ Front Porch Forum ~ Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors

Have you checked out Front Porch Forum yet? To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>.

200+ households have signed to date! Good way to keep track of events dealing with the coronavirus, discuss community issues, sell a canoe, give away a kitten, etc..

If you are a second home owner you can use your 911 address.

## ~ Job opening at the Town Office ~

I need someone to help with town clerk, treasurer, and bookkeeper duties - part time. Computer skills, attention to detail, good people skills, and flexible schedule required.

Please call Gail at 446-2498 or email [tinmouthtown@vermontel.net](mailto:tinmouthtown@vermontel.net) for more details.

~ **Tinmouth Community Fund Awards Night** ~

*By Jan Krantz, TCF President*

The Tinmouth Community Fund (TCF) held an in-person awards event on Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Community Center. TCF Round 2 Community and Small Business grants, K-12 Camp and Continuing Education Scholarships were awarded, totaling \$23,940. In addition, the Susan McIntosh Lloyd and the Pam Garceau Memorial Scholarships were given out, totaling \$3,500. To make the event accessible to all, Andy McCullough worked his tech magic to Zoom the event live, which allowed remote participants to participate fully. Thank you to Andy for making this possible!

Round 2 Community grants will make possible the following projects, at \$500 each, unless otherwise noted: Butterfly Garden Bench, Little Free Library, and Painting Lessons, all at the Tinmouth Mountain School, New Community Center Sign (to honor Patty and Ramsey Yoder) Tinmouth Snack Bar (community bike rack), Imagination Library (books for children), Tinmouth Fire Department (new tables) \$450, Punch Cards and Garbage Bags (for needy residents) \$440, and Be Seen In Tinmouth (reflective clothing for bikers/walkers) \$50. Small Business grants will provide support to the following initiatives, at \$500 each: Phil's Mill (website development) and Tinmouth Snack Bar (equipment and electrical upgrade). Please note, electrical upgrade application was submitted for Round 1, but disappeared in cyberspace.

The K-12 Camp Scholarships will go toward partial funding for the following summer experiences for area children: riding lessons, soccer camp, Theatre in the Woods, and Word of Life summer camp. Total funding from TCF for these activities was \$1432.

Awarding the Continuing Education Scholarships was the culminating event of the evening. To qualify for the TCF scholarship, one must live in Tinmouth, and be interested in pursuing further education and/or training. As can be seen from the awards, it is not limited to just a college education, and applicants can also apply for multiple years. Congratulations to the following scholarship recipients for 2021: Annie Hasenohr, studying Psychology at UVM, Noah Patry, studying Mathematics at UVM, Michael Fallar, seeking a Commercial Driver's License, Allison Nemeth, studying Nursing at Castleton University, Emma Weatherhogg, seeking Yoga Teacher Training, Seamus Nauton, studying Computer Science at Wentworth University, Hannah LaMarche, studying Psychology at Norwich University, Sadira Majorell, studying Nursing at Liberty University, Colleen Balch, seeking additional endorsements in her Commercial Driver's License and recertifying as Wilderness First Responder, Rachel Stratton, studying Early Childhood Education at CCV, Riley Usher, studying Nursing at Castleton University,

Jaron Rochon, studying Music and Anthropology at Castleton University, and Amy Martone, seeking a Doctorate of Nursing Degree at Yale University.

The Susan McIntosh Lloyd Scholarship is awarded to a recipient pursuing further education who reflects Sue's values with an emphasis on music, forestry, and farming. This year's scholarship was awarded to Jaron Rochon and Emma Weatherhogg.

The Pam Garceau Scholarship is awarded to a Tinmouth resident, graduating from Mill River, who demonstrates Pam's tenacity and compassion. This year the award recipient is Riley Usher.

Thank you to everyone who attended this special event, whether via Zoom or in-person, and to all those who support the Tinmouth Community Fund, by making tax-exempt donations.

~ **Obituary** ~

**Marion Louise Harvey Squier Hambly** lived a long and adventurous life. She passed away on July 8, 2021, at the age of 92, at home surrounded by family. She was born February 4, 1929, the oldest daughter of George and Gladys (Scribner) Harvey.

She married J.J. "Farmer John" Squier in 1949. They raised six kids on a farm in Tinmouth, Vermont. She was a farm wife and when the cows were sold, they became vegetable truck farmers, selling sweet corn and pumpkins, and also raising thousands of gladiolas.

After Farmer John passed away in 1989, Marion began to travel. She visited nearly every state in the USA. In 2001 she married Richard Hambly, they criss-crossed the country a few times while residing in Florida. After his passing in 2007, she moved back to Tinmouth to be near family.

She enjoyed music, travelling and reading. She played the organ at the Tinmouth Community Church for over 30 years. She also played with Maynard's Old Time Fiddlers. She is survived by her children Arthur (Kum Cha) Squier, John P. (Shannon) Squier, Marshall (Melody) Squier, Gail (Richard) Fallar, Hollis Squier and soul-mate Alice, Eileen (David) Allen, step-son Jon Hambly, many, many grandchildren, step-grandchildren, and great grandchildren, as well as her sister Norma Pope of Missouri.

Private services were held at the family cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a random act of kindness or senseless act of beauty in her memory. Special thanks to the Rutland Visiting Nurses and Hospice and to the many folks who helped care for her during her final time.

She is now dancing with the angels.

*Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!*



TINMOUTH CHURCH

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~

After helping us get to this point in combatting Covid, most of us can now take our masks off. What a relief! What freedom!

Masks are good when they protect us from deadly germs or provide the oxygen we need to breathe. Masks can also be used to hide our identities and provide cover for malfeasant deeds. Masks, as personas, can protect our vulnerable selves while needed and safeguard the darker energies of our inner shadow. Masks, as the face we wear in public, can also hide the potentials of our deepest goodness and the beauty of our true self.

Maybe many of us needed to put on facial coverings in order to go inward during this pandemic and unmask our souls. What have been your revelations? Your discoveries? Surely, our masking up has helped our society further face up to the injustices of systemic racism and discrimination. Juneteenth is now a federal holiday. Still more importantly are the applied changes taking place in law enforcement, business and government to create a more just and compassionate society.

When we feel safe to take off our masks and look honestly at ourselves, love has a chance to redeem us. Yet, at times, it may still be the loving gesture to wear a mask to protect others and ourselves, for without love, our freedom cannot be real.

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman

Pastor John can be reached by email at [hzfam@hotmail.com](mailto:hzfam@hotmail.com) or by phone at 802-417-1491 or 802- 282-7532.

~ Community News ~

*Get Well Wishes* are sent to **Cris Carabeau, Tess McGinley, Jan Krantz, and Art Squier.**

*Heartfelt Sympathies* are sent to family and friends of **Fred Aines, Jr.**, and to family and friends of **Marion Squier Hambly** – she wrote many columns for *Tales* about her traveling adventures and Tinmouth many years ago.

*Welcome to Tinmouth's newest arrival, Grayson Predom*, born June 14<sup>th</sup>, son of **Morgan Predom** and **Caleb Page**. Proud Grandparents are **Phil** and **Erin Predom**. Congratulations and best wishes!

~ Helpful Items for Loan ~

Someone getting a new hip or knee? Or just needs some help getting around? The Town Office has walkers, crutches, a potty seat, a potty chair (commode), and a wheel chair to loan. No charge.

Please call 446-2498 to make arrangements.



Tinmouth Mountain School

July 1, 2021

To The Tinmouth Community,

The school year ended quietly on June 11th. Staff looked forward to a serene summer after an unpredictable school year typified by shifting, legislative, Covid restrictions. Students weathered the changes implemented throughout the school year well, as children do. I observed more stress from adults struggling with the uncertainties of this year's pandemic and the ambiguity of the restrictions put in place by state and federal legislators as well as the Agency of Education.

The school is now vacated for the summer, which allows for building cleaning and repairs. A water pipe replacement was prioritized and installation was completed on June 23rd. Cleaning crews will arrive throughout the summer to clean, paint, and wax where needed in preparation for the upcoming school year. The scheduled maintenance and repairs include tasks that can only be completed when children are on summer vacation.

Additionally, the roof on the community center will be replaced prior to the start of school. The delivery of asphalt shingles and supplies has been delayed due to national supply shortages. However, the completion of this project is expected before September 3rd. Slate roof shingles will be replaced as needed.

We are looking for help "planting" a few logs vertically in the Wee Folk Playground to create stepping logs for the pre-K students. Two and three foot depth holes the width of the circumference of the logs on the basketball court would do the trick. We need five in total. I have two post hole diggers – an hour of your time is all we need. Please email if you can help – [mfitzgerald-riker@millriverschools.org](mailto:mfitzgerald-riker@millriverschools.org).

Our volunteers and town community make a difference in the lives of our children! Thank you for always keeping TMS, *A Small School with a Big Heart!*

Sincerely,  
**Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker**  
Principal  
**Tinmouth Mountain School**

~ Meeting Highlights ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

**Select Board ~ 6/10/21**

Present were members Frank Sears, Cathy Reynolds, and Meadow Squier, as well as Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Rick Smyrski from Morton Buildings, Michael Fallar, David W. Birdsall (DWB) – Tree Warden, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Hollis Squier, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant (SBA).

**Public Works Facilities Update** ~ Rick from Morton Buildings reported since the last meeting with the SB that contact with sub-contractors and material providers has provided steep increases in pricing. So much so, that Morton cannot build this fall, they would like to hold off further work on the Design Phase, and he encouraged the Board to wait and hope that building prices go down. Some increases were 300%. Cathy and Frank expressed disappointment in the garage not being built this year and asked that the garage be first on the schedule for spring. Rick could not commit to that but noted he would continue to monitor conditions and do his best. The Select Board noted they are making a choice of going slow now for the potential to save money in the long run, with the goal of construction in the spring of 2022 and done before winter of 2022-2023. Rick noted he shared that goal.

As Stan was unable to attend, other public works agenda items were skipped over.

**Emerald Ash Borer** – David noted he had three things to discuss.

1) **EAB update** – he has learned that ash trees won't die as fast as he first thought – some infested trees are standing 3 years later, so the SB has time to take the dead ones down, budgeting over several years. There is an EAB trap on the Gulf Road to check for their presence – David Potter is assisting with that on Michael Fannin's property. The EAB kit DWB received has been updated – now has bugs, larvae, and bark to show school kids, he would like to hold a workshop in conjunction with the Conservation Commission to help educate town folks. Discussed insecticide – better to not try a homemade remedy – may do more harm to other insects. Frank volunteered to help organize a meeting – July was discussed – maybe in conjunction with a pizza night.

2) **Tree Committee** – he doesn't need one – he's a professional forester, will accept help as long as there are no formal meetings. He agreed to keep Board updated with steps he's taken (he sent an email to Board with that info), and agreed that there needed to be a process to budget and spend money.

3) **Qualification** - Board needs to ensure whoever is hired to cut the ash trees are qualified, professional tree

cutters – Marshall, Wheaton and himself, are offering to help the town with this project and they are all qualified.

Board discussed the need to plan for the \$5,000 budgeted for FY22 – identify the really nasty trees that need to come down first, and use common sense to determine where those are. Hollis advised that some of that money should be used to take down dead maple trees now, there are quite a few along the road sides. Gail advised that a taxpayer stopped in to inquire why the Board was talking about taking down live trees when there were so many dead ones already on the roadsides that are dangerous. Board discussed how to prioritize; that Green Mountain Power has advised they are working on a plan for trees in the powerlines; that in the past the road crew took care of the dead trees; adding a third road crew member to help with that project; that David is a national trainer for safely felling trees.

**Highway-** Eric reported grading was underway with gravel and chloride being applied (to hold the gravel in place). He advised the quote from Dan Allard for the culvert for Wright's Road was \$3,955 and an extra \$5,000 if blasting through the ledge is required.

Hollis advised that it should be closer to the stream and run through the parking area into the meadow – he doesn't believe any blasting would be necessary there. He also noted that he had spoke with Doug Inkley and him that advised if they wanted it done sooner than later, they should think about asking the town for permission and have it installed on their own.

Eric advised he would look into it once he was back from vacation, as the culvert would be quite long. Board wondered where it would fit into the budget of stormwater work to be done – would be at the end, but there is still no plan or budget – will probably be a five year plan.

Board discussed proposal from Matt Patry – Frank noted the town can't do the work he wants as it is out of the town's right of way, he hopes the current roadside ditching project will take care of the issue. Board discussed the driveway into the field, with the ditch dug out, it looks like it now needs a culvert to allow vehicles to enter. There was an entry there, town should not remove it, stone lined ditch will not provide that. Eric has not seen it, will try to stop and take a look. Ditching project is on North East Road, about 1/2 done.

**Roadside mowing** – Hollis advised he is available, will get started soon to help keep the poison parsnip under control in the town's right of way. He noted he will continue until he decides not to. Board approved his mowing for this summer.

**Buried cable on Channel Road** – Hollis advised that VTel had finally taken care of the line – re-buried it properly – but he again advised the SB and VTel that written permission has to be granted by the SB for any underground burial of lines. He also noted that DigSafe is marking dead phone lines – and wonders why.

**Fuel Bids** – There were 3 bidders – 9 requests for proposals were sent.

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Heating Oil</b>	<b>Diesel Fuel</b>
Champlain Valley	10 cents over rack price	15 cents over rack price

Marcell Oil	25 cents over rack price	25 cents over rack price
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*Irving Oil Variable rates based on the State's contract*

\*Rack price is the price charged by Valero at its Rutland depot on a given date.

After brief discussion, Board voted to award the contracts to Champlain Valley Fuels.

**Grant status** - SBA advised that the State denied the paving grant, but they did approve the structures grant application to replace the culvert on Potter's Brook on North End Road. Eric will order the culvert for delivery after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Project will need to go out to bid – need docs for the Board to review.

**Rutland Region Mutual Aide for Highways** – After brief discussion, Board voted to approve joining again. Designated the road commissioner and select board as contacts, positions-not people, the same as last year.

**Grant-in-Aide Letter of Intent** – Board voted to approve applying for a grant and to authorize SBA Gail Fallar to sign on behalf of the Board (in order to meet deadline).

**Driveway Permit** for 690 Route 140 – Rainbow Squier requested one curb cut on the southern end of the property to access the back and one on the northern end-which will replace the existing curb cut. Eric reported a culvert would be needed on the northern, not the southern – but they will have to cut trees for visibility and build a landing there. Cathy moved, Frank 2nded, both voted in favor, Meadow recused herself as Rainbow is her sister. Rainbow advised work on the southern driveway will not be done until next spring.

Frank asked Rainbow regarding the speed limit on Route 140 – she responded that she's working on a petition to bring to the Board for its consideration.

#### **Financial ~**

**Financial Report** – Board voted to accept. Board discussed budgeting or not for delinquent taxes – Sherry volunteered to compile a chart from the past ten years – what was budgeted and received for delinquent taxes – for the Board to review.

**Warrants Reviewed ~ Payroll Warrants** #48 dated 5/31/21 for \$2,994.26; and #49 dated 6/7/21 for \$1,923.08; and **Accounts Payable Warrants** #25 dated 5/31/21 for \$25,972.09; were reviewed. Board voted to approve.

**Audit** ~ Discussed Auditor's recommendations – keep on agenda – Accounting Policy and Procedure target date is June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Covid \$'s Report** – Cathy reported that there is lots not yet figured out, not much for Tinmouth, VLCT and RRPC

are working on it. May be able to use it to set all meetings on Zoom, more to learn about it.

#### **Old Business ~**

**Personnel Policy Final Review** – Postponed until meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**COOP (Continuity of Operation Plan)** – Work continues.

**Select Board Operation – Delegation of Tasks – Efficiencies Discussion** – Deferred for now.

#### **New Business ~**

Board voted to open town buildings in conjunction with state guidelines. The July 8<sup>th</sup> SB meeting will be in person, but will try to maintain virtual accessibility as well.

**Animal Control Officer Job Description** – Board discussed draft, Frank will continue to work on it for the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Frank advised that he used state and three other towns as a model.

**Unlicensed Dog Warrant** – Board voted to approve the warrant for unlicensed dogs. Board will stop by town office to sign.

**Bond Bank Application** - Need to start process to get approval – otherwise another outside audit will be required.

**Members Concerns** – Cathy advised that the Tinmouth Community Fund would be awarding community grants (Round 2), business grants and continuing education scholarships at the Community Center on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Select Board ~ 6/22/21 ~**

*Combination In-person and Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19 Pandemic measures being relaxed and folks still wanting to have a choice.*

Present were members Frank Sears and Cathy Reynolds-(in person), and Meadow Squier(on-line)

Others present: Doug Fontein, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Lothar Schmelzenbach and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant (SBA) - in-person. And Amy and Chris Martone, Stan Wilbur, Todd Dennis, Michael Fallar, David Birdsall, Nancy Gucker Birsdall, Logan Birdsall, Ronnie Crossman, Margaret Morin, Paul Morin, and Rainbow Squier were all online, via Zoom.

There was a bit of technical difficulty connecting the Zoom participants with those present – telephone on speaker phone ended up being the best solution for the time being.

Board reviewed **Agenda** – moved the Statement of Values item to the top.

**Minutes:** Minutes of 6/10/21 were not available, will be reviewed at the next Board meeting.

Frank read the proposed **Tinmouth Statement of Values:**

*"The Town of Tinmouth upholds a culture of inclusion, civility, and respect, and welcomes all persons; regardless of but not limited to race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, income, wealth, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, marital status, familial status, disability, gender identity, and gender expression.*

*As a town we commit to fair and equal treatment of everyone in our community and formally condemn discrimination in all of its forms.*

*The Town of Tinmouth has been and will continue to be a place where individuals can live freely and express their opinions."*

Todd Dennis and Nancy Gucker Birdsall advised how they had worked with numerous other Tinmouth folks to compose this – noting that there is a statewide effort to address these issues, and to date 13 other towns have passed something similar. They included Governor Scott's *Proclamation of Inclusion*.

Many folks spoke in favor and thanked the Board for considering it. Michael Fallar suggested the Select Board defer to voters at town meeting. After more discussion, Board voted to approve the proposal. All voted in favor. Frank thanked everyone who participated. Nancy thanked the Select Board and everyone in the community who helped compose and support it.

#### **Public Works Facilities Update ~**

Stan reported he has not heard from the soils engineer – no hurry now that construction has been pushed back, but he will follow up; has taken no action on the well or the berm and has not been able to take a look at the proposal from Otter Creek Engineering regarding engineering work still needed. Cathy noted the OCE proposal could wait, and expressed concern that the proposed building had been located by them where it may not work – and that would require amending the state stormwater permit. Board discussed the process for quotes or bids for the well – noting that the town has a procurement policy that needs to be followed. Stan advised that he will talk with the well drillers and if the cost meets the minimum requirement, he will prepare documents for the Board to consider.

#### **Highway ~**

**Ronnie** reported there was a good rain storm, no major damage-will need to take a day or two away from ditching to repair some spots, but work on the ditching on North East Road is going well. Frank thanked Ron and Glenn for road work while Eric is on vacation.

**Navistar Voucher** regarding the 2013 Class Action – SBA advised the request was granted for a \$10,000 voucher, but that the voucher was not yet in hand. This will be applied to the new truck that is still waiting for its dump body.

Cathy advised that Hollis Squier will not be **mowing the roadsides** next year and noted that the Board will

need his help developing bid docs for whoever does it next. Board expressed its appreciation for the many years he has done it.

**Emerald Ash Borer** – David advised not much was happening with EAB, but there is now a Gypsy Moth infestation defoliating maple and other trees. He will be attending workshops and webinars regarding recent changes in the tree warden laws. Board asked for updates for the public to be posted in Tales – for both EAB and Gypsy Moths – what steps that can be taken. He is still working on a public forum to discuss these. Frank thanked him for his continued work.

**Website Committee** – Todd reviewed the hand out provided to the Board regarding using a .gov domain name. Board needs to approve 'tinmouthvt.gov' and write a letter to CISA requesting that. It is free for a year, and folks are working to make it free going forward. The town recently renewed its webhosting with godaddy and domain name for several years. After discussion – including that .gov may be more secure, less susceptible to cyber attack, that there is no downside to it, it is a good idea, Board voted to authorize the Website Committee to proceed with securing tinmouthvt.gov and authorized Frank to sign necessary documents.

**Email addresses for elected and volunteer officials** – VTel can provide 20 at no charge as the town has two Internet accounts (one at the town office and one at the town garage). This has been suggested because when individuals use their personal email accounts to discuss public business, it makes those email addresses subject to public records laws. Both Cathy and Meadow refused to use VTel email addresses due to past difficulties.

Cathy thanked the Website Committee for all their work and the comprehensive information presented.

#### **Financial ~**

**Warrants Reviewed ~ Payroll Warrants** #49 dated 6/14/21 for \$2,201.58; and #50 dated 6/21/21 for \$7,164.87; and **Accounts Payable Warrant** #26 dated 6/16/21 for \$13,165.79 were reviewed. Board voted to approve.

**Budget Surplus** – Board will review draft final reports on the 8<sup>th</sup> to determine if there are surpluses – highway can roll into the next highway years, if there is a general surplus it needs to either be applied to reduce taxes for the coming year or voted on at town meeting to use it for something else. Past practice has been to leave it in the general checking account for cash flow purposes.

#### **Old Business ~**

**Personnel Policy and Salary Schedule for FY22** - Board voted to approve the changes to the Personnel Policy, which included 3% raises for town employees in the Salary Schedule.

**Select Board Work Delegation** – Board continued discussion – should it be formalized (for instance) so that when someone does not get a response from the road

commissioner one member of the Select Board tries to resolve the issue – or should that go before the entire Board – does one member have that authority – or should the road commissioner be held responsible? Discussion, no resolution.

**Animal Control Officer Job Description** - Board voted to approve latest version as written.

**New Business ~**

**Rutland County Sheriff's Department FY22 Contract** – After brief discussion, 1.5% increase in hourly rate, Board voted to approve.

Kim inquired about the **WiFi antennae** – Cathy noted the town missed the first round of installation, but was back on track for the next round.

**Members Concerns** – Cathy noted that the tech for tonight's meeting was 'weenie' – would like to be able to provide for virtual attendance at meetings with a better system than a lap top and cell phone. Sherry volunteered to watch the proceeding on the computer on Zoom to advise if someone wanted to participate. More research needs to be done.

**Mail/Correspondence** – Gail advised that Bob Lloyd presented the Town with a copy of his memoir.

**Planning Commission ~ 6/17/21**

*(Virtual)*

Present were members Michael Fallar, Bob Lloyd, Vito Macaluso, Andy Gilmore, Kim Harbaugh, Pat Psholka, Rainbow Squier, and Larry Carabeau (at 7:08 due to computer issues) as well as Kim Young, Sherry Johnson, and Gail Fallar, Secretary.

Michael called the meeting to order at 7:03 and welcomed everyone. First item of business was the annual re-organization. He called for nominations for Chair, Pat nominated Michael, Kim nominated Rainbow. Roll call vote: Michael received 4 votes (Andy, Pat, Vito and Michael), Rainbow received 3 votes (Kim, Bob and Rainbow). Michael was re-elected as Chair. Michael nominated Bob for Vice Chair – no other nominations, Bob was re-elected as Vice Chair. Gail was nominated for Secretary – and as no one else volunteered – Gail was re-appointed Secretary.

Minutes of 11/19/20 (last meeting) were approved as written. There were no meetings in the interim as non-essential meetings were cancelled due to the pandemic. This is essential as there is a proposed subdivision to consider.

**Kim Young** explained her request for a waiver to have her four lot subdivision treated as a minor subdivision. PC had authorized proceeding with a three lot proposal at its November meeting. In the interim, Kim Young had decided to also create a lot for her daughter. Four lots are defined as a major subdivision. Members reviewed the requirements and differences between minor and major subdivisions – this proposal does not have features of a

major – there is an existing driveway that will be used for the log house and the second small lot – mobile home and farm house have existing driveways, there are dwellings already on 3 of the lots, there are no proposed public parks, or roads, etc. Kim Y. stated that she is working on keeping the remainder of the farm in agriculture, having planted fruit trees and berries this past spring. PC voted to grant the waiver request to treat as a minor subdivision.

PC advised Kim Y. that there needed to be a deeded 25 foot right of way for the log house and the undeveloped lot shown on the survey, and that the current driveways for the farm house and the mobile home also needed to be shown. PC decided to hold formal hearing on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 and it would be in-person as the Governor has relaxed Covid restrictions. Kim Harbaugh advised he will participate via Zoom.

Planning Commission vacancy created by Grant Reynolds' passing - Members discussed finding a replacement to recommend to the Select Board. Several names were suggested, members will speak with them before the next meeting to see if they are willing/interested, and ask if they would like to attend. Select Board makes the final decision, PC just recommends.

Grant was also on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, so there is a vacancy there as well. Members discussed duties of the ZBA, Vito and Bob are current members, Michael advised that he was willing to serve if no one else on the PC was interested – no one was.

**Village Center Designation Update** – Michael noted that Bob had provided excellent maps. Bob spoke to them both – the State prefers the Village Center not be too large, members wanted to include current businesses (there is one to the north of the town green) and the town's land south of the town garage/salt shed area (the town's Conservation Commission (CC) is considering recreational uses for it). Rainbow (CC Chair) spoke to the CC's suggested uses – trails, frisbee golf, picnic area, pickle-ball court, etc. A walking access is being worked on so that users do not have to access the town garage area for parking.

Michael noted that the primary benefit to the Village Designation is to enable the town to be able to obtain planning grants in the future – those without it, have a lower score. It will also enable businesses in the center more opportunities. It was suggested that the house on the other side of the town garage lot be included as a possible future business use.

Bob noted it was easy enough to change the maps, he will submit them to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission for their input. He reviewed the steps needed – Select Board approval, notice to the regional planning commission and economic development group, have the RRPC confirm the town's planning process, provide photographs (he will take those) and have the

town plan address the issue – which the PC did when it last amended it. There are no major hurdles.

Bob was thanked very kindly for his work on this project.

Next meeting will be July 15<sup>th</sup> to include the hearing for the Young subdivision. PC meeting will follow the subdivision hearing. Members noted they were looking forward to meeting again in person.

### Conservation Commission ~ 6/28/21

*Minutes not available at printing time*

**The Wallingford Town Office sent this invite to their Fun Day – also on the 17th.**

~ **Back With a Bang** ~

That's right everybody, Wallingford Day will be back with a bang on July 17, 2021! The day will be organized around two main events:

- A return of last year's Pallet Project
- A musical extravaganza culminating with a fireworks show at the ballfield!

### Pallets

If you got your pallet on last year, feel free to either display last year's great work or make a new one. If you didn't have a chance to get your pallet on, but wanted to, this is your lucky year! We still have a few pallets at the town garage for the take'n. All you need to do is paint 'em, decorate 'em, and display 'em. When you finish your work of art contact [wallingfordday@gmail.com](mailto:wallingfordday@gmail.com) by July 7th to get your name on the map. Maps can be found at either the Gilbert Hart Library or the Town Hall in the week running up to Wallingford Day.

### Musical Extravaganza

Make your way to the ball field on 7/17 for an afternoon/evening of musical variety. Bring a picnic supper and find your spot on the field for a safe and entertaining evening to celebrate Wallingford! Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket. There may be food vendors, please keep an eye on Front Porch Forum and the Wallingford Day Facebook page for updates.

- 5 PM Phil Henry and fiddler Jimmy Kalb
- 6 PM Drum Journeys of Earth
- 7 PM Burlington Taiko
- 9 PM Fireworks

If you are going to take advantage of traffic and passers by with a tag sale you will want to be sure to wrap it up in time to come enjoy the music.

### Parking

If you are able, please park away from the ballfield (Waldo Ln., School St., Railroad St., etc.) and walk in as this will reserve the ballfield parking lot and Meadow Street for folks who may have difficulty walking. This will also make it much easier and safer when it's time to leave after dark.

Landscape Gardening & Maintenance  
Kim Gaylord

802-235-3345  
802-235-3365  
kamg11@yahoo.com

Middletown Springs VT  
Kinderhook NY



The photo pictured is invasive Eurasian Milfoil.

What should you know about Eurasian Milfoil? I will tell you. Eurasian isn't any type of milfoil; it's an invasive species that is good-for-nothing, really. They crowd space for native plants-(occurs naturally) Floating fragments quickly germinate to Milfoil in sky rocket time.

Everything will settle into the aquatic ecosystem and take over oxygen of fish causing them to die. To help out let me explore your doc for clean and better use of swimming and the prevention of any more milfoil from spreading.

I'm 15 years old - Charging \$15 an hour.

Contact me @ (802)-287-1399

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Noah Buffum

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## GoFundMe Request



## Save Identical Twins Bi-Centennial Farm & Dairy - \$700,000 goal

Andy Gilmore is organizing this fundraiser.

The Gilmore Farm has been in the family for over 220 years and is a national bicentennial farm. Identical twin brothers - Andy and Alan Gilmore are the 7th generation to run the farm. Possibly the last bicentennial farm in Rutland County, Vermont still milking cows.

The Gilmore's are fundraising to buy more land so that they can be more self-sustaining and not rely on renting land. If funds are not used for land, the money will be used to build a new barn for raising calves. It will also be used to upgrade equipment and make improvements around the farm for water quality.

The Gilmore Farm sells milk to Agri-Mark co-op and have been with them since they were Yankee milk. Agri-mark owns and operates Cabot Co-Operative Creamery and McAdam Cheese.

Small farms are better because they

- help support the local community
- buying more local products and machinery
- work smaller fields keeping more land open
- have a closer connection with their cows and know them better

Some of the obstacles small farms face are the same as larger farms

- lower milk prices
- higher feed costs
- higher equipment costs
- good land is harder to get
- higher seed and fertilizer costs
- harder to find good reliable help
- more restrictions on everything

The weather in Vermont and Climate Change can be a big obstacle.

Large snow falls, big temperature swings, Fall frosts and cooler than normal Springs can make the cows sick.

Supporting expansion of the Gilmore Farm will show you believe in small farms, fresh milk and preserving history.

Thank you

The Twins - Andy and Alan Gilmore & the Cows

Farm Conservation article:

[https://www.manchesterjournal.com/news/local/tin-mouth-project-conserves-over-950-acres/article\\_c9f7b57a-1ec6-542c-a634-a64c0077ca26.html](https://www.manchesterjournal.com/news/local/tin-mouth-project-conserves-over-950-acres/article_c9f7b57a-1ec6-542c-a634-a64c0077ca26.html)



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## What is GoFundMe?

GoFundMe is the world's largest free social fundraising platform and has helped millions raise over \$5 billion for the people and causes they care about.

**Andy Gilmore would like you to support Save Identical Twins Bi-Centennial Farm & Dairy by making a donation and spreading the word.**



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hikings@vermontel.net

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**Hunting and Fishing Licensees are available at the Town Office. The town receives \$1.50 for each license sold.**

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Gene Usher Tinmouth, VT  
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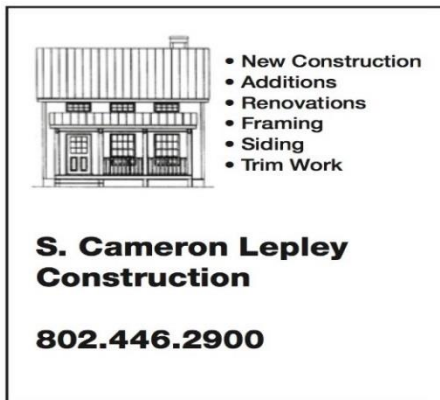


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~ July 2021 Calendar of Events ~

<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Fire House</b>
<b>Town Office</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July</b>
<b>Select Board</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Planning Commission</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Tinmouth Fun Day</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 – mid afternoon – Center of Town</b>	
<b>Tales of Tinmouth Deadline</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Don't Miss It!</b>
<b>Grievance Hearing</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Select Board</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>

~ August 2021 Calendar of Events ~

<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Fire House</b>
<b>Select Board</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>First Half Property Taxes</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Planning Commission</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Conservation Commission</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Tales of Tinmouth Deadline</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Don't Miss It!</b>
<b>Select Board</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>

*Transfer Station hours are Wednesday 4:00 – 7:00 pm & Saturday 8:00 am – noon.*

~ Sunday Church Service ~ 9:00 am ~

~ Library – Now open Thursdays 10:00 - Noon and 1:30-4:30 ~

~ Volleyball and Pickle ball will be starting soon! ~



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