

**Town of Tinmouth  
Select Board  
Thursday, August 12, 2021  
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Members present:** Meadow Squier, Frank Sears, and Cathy Reynolds

**Others present:** Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner (via Zoom phone), Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Michael Fallar @8:15, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant (SBA).

**Frank** called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed everyone.

**Board** reviewed agenda – added member’s concern from Meadow.

**Minutes:** Minutes of 7/27/2021 - Cathy moved to approve with corrections (*pint* was changed to *paint* and next meeting dates), Meadow 2<sup>nd</sup>, all voted in favor.

**Public Works Facilities Update** ~ No Stan, no update, Board did review soils report received on 8/11/21. Stan did forward it to Morton Buildings for their review. Quick read indicates there is ledge in the middle and none around the edges, which will make using a slab a problem. Soils engineer suggested some options. Board asked Eric to review and send them his thoughts.

**Highway-** Eric advised paving will be started in the next couple of weeks, the road crew fixed the trouble spot on Mountain View Road – found clay, made a good repair. He inquired about crack sealing on Route 140, will come from the special project line, Board concurred. Ditching work continues on North East Road, will seed and mulch Harrington Cross road project when Ronnie returns from fighting forest fires. Frank inquired about the location of the stop sign at the west end of Harrington Cross Road – it’s on the other side of Route 140. Eric advised it was the best place for it as it is a very wide intersection, but he will check state standards.

**Emerald Ash Borer** – David emailed a brief report - the 1/2 dozen folks who attended the EAB talk on Tinmouth Day got a lot out of the presentation, and he and Dave Potter checked the EAB traps, a couple of look-a-like bugs were sent in for official ID. Pretty sure they were imposters.

**Financial** ~

**Financial Report** – Board discussed end of year reports, requested bottom line for highway budget. Meadow moved to approve reports presented, Cathy 2<sup>nd</sup>, all voted in favor.

**Warrants Reviewed** ~ **Payroll Warrants** #4 dated 7/31/21 for \$4,693.83; and #5 dated 8/9/21 for \$2080.12, and **Accounts Payable Warrant** #2 dated 8/4/21 for \$19,857.09 were reviewed. Cathy moved, Meadow 2<sup>nd</sup>, to approve, all voted in favor.

SBA noted that the warrant and time sheets included time transfer station workers spent replacing the tarp on the trash dumpster with a metal chain link (to keep bears out). SBA also noted the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee (Helen Mango, Sec.) is working on the re-certification of the Transfer Station. Has to be done every 10 years.

**Audit** ~ Board discussed delinquent tax recommendation, Sherry has compiled the list of delinquencies requested comparing the last 10 years, needs to be discussed with Barry Cohen, SB, town auditors and treasurer.

**Old Business** ~

**Task Forces** – Meadow reported some towns use them in different ways, still working on differences between committees and task forces, how to use them for a specific problem, define what needs to be done and give a time certain to accomplish it. She will continue research.

**United Way** - Meadow reported the UW is looking for towns to host health clinics. Cathy noted the Select Board does not need to be involved unless it's to allow use of a town building. Meadow is going to meet with the UW again.

**Tech Plan** – Meadow noted the new phone speaker is working for now, other towns are also seeking ways to allow virtual as well as in-person attendance. Zoom allows for a waiting room, Sherry volunteered to monitor and let people in.

**Maple Brook Lane** – Meadow reported it was cleaned up by the owner without any action by the town.

**Health Officer/Enforcement Officer** – Cathy moved and Frank 2nded to appoint the Health Officer as Enforcement Officer for the Solid Waste Ordinance. All voted in favor.

**Equity and Inclusion Committee** – Meadow reviewed mission/vision/directive and asked the Select Board to create the committee and ask for volunteers – 3 to 9 members. She volunteered to be the Select Board liaison with the committee. Cathy moved, Frank 2nded, to create an Equity and Inclusion Committee, all voted in favor. SBA will post notice seeking volunteers on Front Porch Forum and in *Tales*. Michael volunteered; Board took under advisement.

#### **New Business ~**

**Water System Repair** - Board discussed whether the town was responsible for paying for repairs for the water system that serves the school. Current agreements are a bit vague but suggest it is the school district's responsibility for maintenance, buildings are mentioned, but not the water system (except for the chlorination system). After discussion, Frank moved and Cathy 2nded, to deny paying the bill as requested by MRUUSD based on the 2007 and 2016 agreements. All voted in favor. Board instructed the SBA to draft a letter to MRUUSD advising that the Select Board believes it is the school district's responsibility based on the past agreements, with history and agreements, along with the need for an agreement to clarify that it is the school's responsibility, amending the 2016 contract's #6 to say, "such as, but not limited to all elements of the water system, including the well and pump".

**Slide** – Michael inquired about the slide which was to be removed and replaced. It was declared a danger. Cathy also noted that the playground needs woodchips as grass is growing out of control. These issues need to be addressed in the letter as well.

**UVM Interim Program** - Board discussed program, asked the SBA to research further, determine if it would work for Tinmouth.

**Members Concerns** – Meadow reported complaints about traffic speeding on Route 140 near the Wallingford town line and about ½ mile north of the center area, and inquired about the Rutland County Sheriff's Department setting up the speed cart to gather information so the SB can consider changing the speed limit in those locations. Frank agreed to contact RCSD to set it up.

**Mail/Correspondence** – None

**Executive Session** – None

**Next Meetings Schedule** ~ August 24<sup>th</sup> and September 9<sup>th</sup>

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar  
Select Board Assistant