

# TALES OF TINMOUTH

January 2022  
Vol. 36 Number 1

Tinmouth  
Vermont

## Editors' Notes:

*May the New Year be filled with Health and Happiness. Please Pray for Peace . . . Be Kind . . .*

The deadline for submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, for publication on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month.

Please email your news, information, or ads to (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net).

*Gail Fallar and Pat Psholka*

## ~ Town Meeting 2022 ~

May be a little different again this year. Due to the continuing corona virus pandemic, the Legislature is going to again consider granting authority to the Select Board to conduct all town meeting business using the Australian balloting system.

Currently Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Voting by Australian balloting will be at the Old Fire House on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Town Meeting will find voters choosing the following officers:

- Moderator - Town - 1 year term
- Select Board Member - 3 year term
- Community Center Board Member – 2 year term
- Lister - 3 year term
- Auditor - 3 year term
- Auditor – 1 year term
- Tax Collector (Delinquent) - 1 year term

Deadline for *Petitions for Officers* is Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Deadline for *Petitions for Articles* to be added to the warning is Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Frank Sears** has announced that he will not seek re-election to the Select Board. Thank you, Frank for your six years of dedicated service!

**Shirley Bucceri** has announced that she will not seek re-election as a Lister. Thank you, Shirley, for your many years of service to Tinmouth!

## Town Garage Phone Number

If you need to alert the road crew about a tree across the road, or have concerns with road conditions, please be advised the Town Garage has a telephone and answering machine.

Please leave a message, as the road crew most likely will be out working on the roads.

The Town's Snow Plowing Practice is enclosed, please see page 7.

**802-446-9163**



## ~ Christmas Baskets ~

The **Roy & Anne Wilbur Fund**, under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church, along with the Tinmouth Elves, provided food and gift baskets to 22 families this year. There were also 20 fruit baskets delivered to elders and those needing a small boost of holiday spirit. They were very much appreciated. Thank you to all who donated food, time, and financially to make this happen. It helps keep Tinmouth a special place.

Thank you also to the Tinmouth Community Church for use of its basement, to the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department for use of its freezer and refrigerators, to the Mill River Union High School Honor Society for its wonderful food contributions, to the many Elves (shoppers, wrappers, boxers, nut butter makers, etc), and to the Tinmouth Community Fund for a grant for the Elf work.

## ~ Anne & Roy Wilbur Community Service Fund ~

*By Stan Wilbur*

If you need financial assistance with fuel, heat, telephone, electricity, food, transportation, taxes, or something to add a little joy, or know of someone who does, the Anne & Roy Wilbur Community Service Fund may be able to help. Please contact Gail Fallar at the Town Office for information – 802- 446-2498.

The **Anne Wilbur Fund** was established by the Tinmouth Community Church in 1993 in memory of Anne's many contributions to the Church and the Tinmouth Community.

Based on the family's request, the purpose of the fund is to make life a little better, bring a smile, and offer a helping hand to anyone in Tinmouth. They also wanted the money to be used to meet current needs until the money ran out. However, the money has never run out, thanks to the many generous donations made by "Tinmouth" folks, near and far.

When Roy passed in 1996, contributions made in his memory were added to the fund and the name was changed to the **Anne & Roy Wilbur Community Service Fund**.

Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets and the Food Shelf at the Town Office are supported by the Fund as well.

~ January reminder from your local  
Fire Department (TVFD) ~



Please remember to keep your walkways shoveled and clear – *even to the doors you only use occasionally* – you never know when you might need the Rescue Squad or which door they may need to use. Goes for the inside too, don't block doorways with 'stuff'. You may need to make a hasty exit (in case of fire) or the Fire Department may need to get in to rescue you or your family.

**TVFD also reminds everyone to make sure that your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working and that you have MORE THAN ONE WAY out of your house!**

~ Tinmouth Cemetery Association Notice ~

**Cemetery gates** are now closed for the winter. Anyone going in is asked to close the gates when leaving. If gates are constantly left open, they will be locked and only foot access will be allowed.

People are also reminded to refrain from using the cemetery for snowmobiling, sliding, skiing, snowboarding, etc. This is for liability reasons and out of respect for those who reside there.

*Thank-you for your cooperation.*

~ *Tales of Tinmouth* ~

*Tales of Tinmouth* is mailed monthly to 520 households ~ residents, property owners, past residents, and friends. It is a bit dismaying that only 60 or so of those contribute to help pay for paper, printing, labels and postage – those expenses are over \$3,000 per year. The Town allows the use of their copier, but is reimbursed for all copies made (including paper, copy fee and labels). And we thank them for use of the town office for assembly space. There are dedicated volunteers (Hollis, Alice, Pat and Rick) who gather each month to fold, tape and label. And during covid, this included grandkids helping out at Grampa & Gramma's house. No one is paid.

**2021 expenses were \$3,125.83 and donations/grants totaled \$2,320.00.** Luckily there was a bit of a balance to cover this deficit. If you are one of the **other 460** households that enjoy receiving and reading *Tales* each month, please consider sending a donation. It will be much appreciated and help keep us in print!

The *Tales of Tinmouth* is also on the Town's website (tinmouthvt.org). Look under "Info", if you would like to read it online, or if someone in your house recycles it before you get a chance to read it!

There is much more information about the town on this website, please take a few minutes and check it out!!



December 31, 2021

To the Tinmouth Community,

December flew by for teachers and students alike. During the three weeks that school was in session, grades three through six quarantined for five days due to exposure to a positive Covid case. Only five students in each grade were enrolled at that time in the Test-to-Stay program, which allows students to quarantine in school with daily testing. Currently, forty of our families have signed up for this program. Students who quarantined outside of school continued their studies at home.

Students celebrated the arrival of snow just prior to the holiday break. They took advantage of the opportunity to sled down the hill in the front playground during recesses. We also were able to try out our new snowshoes, which arrived last year in May.

Additionally, we caroled this year in spite of the pandemic. By riding in two busses we were able to distance students within class pods. We look forward to next year when we can sing without masks.

Our Winter Sports Program will be up and running, starting Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Students will be skiing, snowboarding, and skating in the upcoming months of January and February. We are looking for a few more volunteers to help out on the slopes at Pico. Please give us a call if you can help out on Fridays (802-446-2458)

It seems the Covid pandemic is lingering. We are doing our best to keep students healthy and create a sense of normalcy. We appreciate all the support and understanding received from community members and families.

We wish you all health and joy in the upcoming New Year!

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

*Whenever you are to do a thing, though it can never be known but to yourself, ask yourself how you would act were all the world looking at you, and act accordingly.*  
-- **Thomas Jefferson**



TINMOUTH CHURCH

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~

..... 2022 .....

Another year. Another winter. Another Covid season. Also, another opportunity to open our minds to truth, our hearts to love, and our hands to each other. We've been given the gifts. They are within us.

They are ours to be discovered, to be developed, and to be given away. Our neighbors need the gift we are. Our world needs the giftedness that is uniquely ours. And we need to give of ourselves to become our greater selves. 2022 is our time to make time for cultivating relationships, being creative, and contributing our efforts toward a more loving, nonviolent and just world.

Covid and its variants would hinder our efforts; but they cannot match our resourcefulness and resiliency when truth is our guide and compassion our response. Fear would infect our souls, but it has an antidote in the surrender of our compulsions to control life, trusting instead One who is the far greater power of Love in us and in our world. Yes, Covid will be with us this coming year; but, so will God.

So, let us begin again, making love our aim, truth our plumbline, hope our buoy, faith our anchor, forgiveness our mercy, good works our charity, kindness our generosity, generosity our treasure, prayer our lifeline, God our all in all. Then 2022 will be blessed, come what may.

**Blessings,  
Pastor John**

Sunday Services are in-person, with masks.  
Evening Prayer, Tuesdays and Thursdays, on the Tinmouth Community Church Facebook page

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman  
(802) 282-7532 (cell, preferred)  
(802) 884-8249 (parsonage)

[hzfam@hotmail.com](mailto:hzfam@hotmail.com)

Needing a friend to talk with during these COVID times? Pastor John (Tinmouth Community Church) is a phone call away.

**Any reason is a good reason to call: 802-417-1491.**

*Practice Random Acts of Kindness &  
Senseless Acts of Beauty*

**Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project Receives State Grant**

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Watershed Management Division Lakes & Ponds Program awarded a grant of \$4,402 to the Town of Tinmouth and the Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project (TPMP) for 2021. The grant money was used to pay for two divers to suction harvest and hand pull Eurasian watermilfoil from the lake/pond. The harvesting occurred during the summer months of 2021.

The main purpose of the Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project is to control the spread of the Eurasian watermilfoil (that is an "aquatic invasive" plant that was discovered in the pond more than 20 years ago) and to encourage the growth of native plants. Eurasian watermilfoil is a non-native introduced aquatic plant that has shown it is highly invasive in Vermont water bodies and in other regions of North America. Once in a waterbody, it cannot be eradicated, but does need to be controlled. An on-going endeavor for TPMP and the Town.

TPMP generates funds to hire divers to harvest the watermilfoil, and teach people about Eurasian watermilfoil - and the way that it is transported into and from Tinmouth Pond and other bodies of water. TPMP publishes a newsletter several times a year called *The Pond Frog* to help educate folks on how to identify and how to prevent the spread of invasive plants and invasive species. The funds from the Vermont DEC Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-Aide are a much appreciated help with these efforts.

\* \* \* \* \*

~ **Front Porch Forum** ~

**Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors**

Have you checked out Front Porch Forum yet? To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>. Or stop by the town office to sign up!! 200+ households have signed to date! Good way to discuss community issues, sell a canoe, give away a kitten, etc. If you are a second home owner you can use your Tinmouth 911 address.

~ **Nature Notes** ~

Days are getting longer, can you tell? It's lighter earlier in the morning and later in the afternoon. Yeah!!

New Year's Day was balmy and foggy - 45 degrees or so. And the next day the temperature dropped to nearly zero!!

~ **Community News** ~

*Get Well Wishes* are sent to **Alma Somers, Trish Warfle, John Squier, Shannon Squier** and anyone suffering from covid.

*Heartfelt Sympathies* are sent to **Maurice and Adelina Healy** for the recent loss of their son to covid.

Please keep them in your prayers as they nearly lost another son to covid as well.

~ **Meeting Highlights** ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

**Select Board ~ 12/9/21**

Members present: Frank Sears and Cathy Reynolds in person, with Meadow Squier via Zoom

Others present:

Via Zoom Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Maryesa White (RSVP), Barbara Noyes-Pulling (RRPC), Marshall Squier, and Melody Squier

In-person- Stan Wilbur-Public Works Project Manager and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Minutes of 11/11/2021 – Board voted to approve with a note that Efficiency Vermont no longer has a program to pay for old refrigerators (they did at the time of the meeting).

**Town Meeting Funding Request** ~ Maryesa explained RSVP's request for town funding to help the work that they do (Operation Dolls for one – toys for kids) and the services they provide, 1-1 transportation, etc. There are a number of volunteers from Tinmouth who help as well (414 hours last year). They do receive funding from most towns in the county, smaller towns are asked to contribute \$200. After brief discussion, Board agreed by consensus to add the request to the warning for town meeting. Maryesa offered to have a hand out for town meeting, Cathy asked that a representative be present to answer questions.

**Clean Water Service Provider Program** ~ Barbara advised this is a new program designed to help clean up Lake Champlain – RRPC and PMNRCD will oversee clean water projects in the South Lake Champlain Basin, with over ½ million dollars in grants the first year, then on-going for 10-15 years. There will be a group, the–Basin Water Quality Council, who will decide on grants for projects on streams, roads, developed land, streams on farms, etc. This covers the western side of town; the center and eastern side of town is in the Otter Creek Watershed Basin – Tinmouth Channel flows into Otter Creek on its way to Lake Champlain and is under a different regional commission and conservation district – and more dollars will flow through them. She advised they hoped to have a website up by July 1<sup>st</sup>, projects should be in a stormwater plan, or but could be designed from scratch. This is a preliminary head's up for what is coming.

**Public Works Facilities Update** ~ Stan presented a RFP (request for proposals) for a water well at the town garage, Board reviewed it. He will send to five firms asking for a fixed cost estimate for the SB meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Board discussed requiring a list to be clear on the request and to be able to compare the firms, apples to apples. Stan felt the RFP was clear enough.

He advised that Rick from Morton Buildings was not

able to attend due to a number of issues, but will have a proposal for the SB's January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Board discussed overall cost of the town garage, how much would be left for a salt/sand shed, seeking other funding for the salt/sand shed, getting the new garage built before next winter, and presentation for town meeting.

Stan asked Eric if the road crew would be able to do the site work. Eric advised yes, as long as it was recognized that no road work would be getting done. He estimated it would take two to three weeks to do. Stan noted that having the road crew do the work would save many \$'s as the engineers would only have to inspect the work – not over see the bid process, paper work, etc. Stan noted the road crew has the expertise to do the site work – dig out the foundation, install the holding tank, storm water ditches, etc.

**Ken and Jan Krantz Letter** ~ Board reviewed emailed concern regarding salt and sand running onto the Krantzes property for years, which Cathy included in the last salt/sand shed grant application. It was suggested that the storm water permit for the salt/sand shed would deal with the issue, but that was not clear. Engineers have advised that the town could build a retention pond to control it, but it has never been done. Board discussed how much salt had run off – currently the sand pile is only lightly salted to keep it from freezing, salt is in a shed. After discussion, Board voted to have the Krantzes garden soil tested for excess salt. Meadow volunteered to find a way to test, Cathy volunteered to call the Krantzes.

**Highway** ~ Eric reported lots of snow plowing, that there were lots of broken limbs due to the heavy snow and winds, and that grader has been fixed and is back in action. Board discussed recent complaints received regarding condition of the roads and lack of communication. They will address by posting snow plowing policy on Front Porch Forum and in *Tales of Tinmouth* to remind everyone of the process.

Cathy inquired about: the roller for the grader – Eric advised he will work on it as time allows – doesn't need it until spring; the need for a work plan for items on the to-do list; and the iPad – Eric advised it had arrived and was set up with the road program – he does have questions for staff at the RRPC regarding specific road segments.

**FY23 Draft Budget** ~ Eric requested adding **crack sealing** the paved roads as a regular yearly line item – usually it comes out of special projects/contingencies. After discussion, cost is \$4,250 per day, a bit more research is needed. Eric will check with other towns. Board reviewed **Equipment Fund**, added the \$10,000 received for the Navistar voucher, noted the budgeted amount is \$77,275 (up from \$76,250), discussed purchase of a **new loader** – scheduled for FY23. As Eric advised there is a 9 month wait once ordered, Board asked for bid docs for the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Estimated cost of \$175,000 minus trade-in (\$20,000-30,000).

**Vacation coverage** ~ Eric noted having a third person worked great while the road crew took their vacations last year.

**Potter's Brook Culvert Project** ~ Need to go out to bid for the culvert again – last time there was only one bid, and to include town share of cost in the FY23 budget, work will not be done by June 30. Bid documents for review on 1/13/22.

**Health Insurance** – Board decided to continue budgeting for four people, discussed MVP vs BCBS, need input from employees (EB and RC). Need to add to agenda in November, 2022.

**Others** ~ Marshall and Melody advised they were just listening, thanked the SB for all they do. Sherry advised the 'Santa comes to Tinmouth' event will require mask wearing.

**Financial ~**

**FY23 Draft General Budget**~ Cathy advised that Barry Cohen was working on a predictive model for estimating the amount of delinquent taxes to include in the budget – will present at January SB meeting.

**Financial Report FY22** – Board reviewed monthly report and warrants.

**Payroll Warrants**

- #19 dated 11/15/21 for \$1,447.63
- #20 dated 11/22/21 for \$2,650.08
- #21 dated 11/29/21 for \$2,090.78
- #22 dated 12/06/21 for \$3,822.53

**Accounts Payable Warrants**

- #9 dated 11/11/21 for \$150,810.03
- #10 dated 11/18/21 for \$ 78,643.07
- #11 dated 11/30/21 for \$ 32,480.11

Board voted to accept reports and approve warrants as presented.

**Old Business ~**

**Mill River Unified Union School District Proposed Amendment of Agreement** – Cathy reported on the amendments proposed by MRUUSD. As there are major changes being proposed, neither Cathy nor Gail felt comfortable proceeding with negotiations without legal advice. After discussion, Board voted to hire James Carroll, Esq., to assist the town with this matter with MRUUSD.

**New Business ~**

**Request from Zoning Administrator for Legal Assistance** ~ Gail, as Zoning Administrator, requested authorization to hire James Carroll, Esq., to assist with two zoning issues. One involves the dissolution of the affordable housing condition required in the Pumpkin Mill Subdivision PRD Permit – a couple of years ago both the Select Board and Planning Commission decided (with legal advice) that it was not enforceable, but a process was not developed, there was no formal request made and then the owner died. The other has to do with zoning permits granted many years ago that allowed development on one

side of the road, thinking land from the other side could be used to meet minimum lot sizes. Marshall as former Planning Commissioner Chair, remembered that the PC allowed it, but not any details. Gail will research permits and minutes. Board voted to authorize Z.A. to seek legal advice for both of these matters.

**Holiday Bonuses** ~ Board authorized Holiday Bonuses of \$100 each for the road crew, transfer station crew and town office staff.

**Vermont Bond Bank (VBB) Application** ~ SBA explained the process, the bond vote authorized \$850,000 minus what was available locally or other sources. Application is due 12/17/21 for the VBB's winter pool. Board voted to proceed with the bond application.

**2022 Town Meeting** ~ Floor Town Meeting will be Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> this year, with Australian balloting for officers on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Board discussed articles for the warning – Gail advised that during gathering paperwork needed for the bond bank application, she discovered that the Capital Building Repair Fund was created in 2001 for the purpose of maintenance and repair of town buildings. In 2002 voters changed its purpose to include construction of a salt/sand shed (thought at the time was that the state was going to soon require it). Voters never authorized construction of a new town garage, so that needs to be on the warning in order for the Select Board to spend money from that reserve fund on the new garage.

Cathy advised that the Tinmouth Community Fund decided to change its annual meeting from town meeting day to June to combine it with awards ceremonies for its grants and scholarships.

**Rutland Regional Transportation Council** ~ Michael Fannin, alternate representative, sent word that the Board needs to appoint a representative, he's filled in since Grant Reynolds passed, but does not want the job full time. SB will try to find someone to serve.

**Conservation Commission Special Fund** ~ Treasurer inquired about rent for use of the Town's Mountain Cabin (CC takes care of the trail and it). After brief discussion, Frank moved and Meadow 2nded that rent received for the use of the cabin be deposited in the Conservation Commission's Special Fund. They both voted yes, Cathy abstained as her husband Doug is on the CC, its former Chair, and co-builder of the cabin and keeper of the trails.

**Members Concerns** – Cathy asked that Board meeting packets be prepared two weeks before the meeting.

**Mail/Correspondence** – Board noted receipt of a letter from MRUUSD regarding the public water system used by the school, town office and fire department asking landowners to be mindful of use of chemicals, etc. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns sent information on improving cybersecurity and community engagement.

**Next Meetings Schedule** ~ Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 7:00.



**Planning Commission ~ 12/16/21**

Regular Meeting and October Hill/NeighborWorks  
Subdivision Hearing

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Larry Carabeau, Judy Gilmore, and Andy Gilmore

Members present via Zoom: Vito Macaluso, Bob Lloyd, Pat Psholka, Rainbow Squier, and Kim Harbaugh

Others present: **via Zoom** – Heather Starzynski, Executive Director of NeighborWorks, Doug Inkley, Sherry Johnson and Melody Squier: **in-person** Andrea and Frank Carmen, David Birdsall, and Gail Fallar, Sec.

**October Hill/NeighborWorks Subdivision Hearing:**

Heather thanked Tinmouth Properties for the donation of land many years ago for an affordable housing project, but explained that NWWVT had only been able to build one house – not four as originally planned – so this application was to transition five acres back to the original owner and give the other 4.7 acres to the owners of the one house that was built, as Tinmouth’s zoning requires a minimum lot size of 5 acres. The affordable housing restrictions will remain on that lot, but the five acres being returned will not be restricted. NWWVT will continue to steward the affordable housing property and requirements of grants, etc. They will also prepare necessary deeds for the transfers.

Doug, speaking for Tinmouth Properties, advised there is no intention to develop that lot, but TP would like the option in the future.

Existing water and septic will be on the developed northern lot (Esslinger/Smith) solely for the use of that lot.

Members voted to approve the application as presented – creation of two five acre+ parcels). Hearing closed.

**Preliminary Meeting** with regards to Carol Baker’s farm on the corner of Route 140 and Route 133.

Frank advised that the family has been discussing what to do with the farm. They have agreed to a boundary adjustment with neighbor Birdsall, to straighten the line - .6 of an acre. And to create four lots, 7.2+/- acres with a doublewide; the farm house, buildings and a meadow; the remaining meadow, woods and hunting camp; and a 5+ acre lot on the northern side with an old mobile. There is another 7+acre lot on the other side of Route 140 that is a separate parcel as road divides the farm so it is not part of the proposed subdivision.

The process was explained: they need to have a surveyor prepare a map, all lots must have access to a public road, be at least 5 acres in size, and then come back to the PC for a formal subdivision hearing.

Michael noted that the Young farm was recently approved for a four lot subdivision as a minor project – due to the current existence of the dwellings – and thought perhaps this would fall into the same category, and could be dealt with as a minor not major subdivision. Major subdivisions envision development of roads,

infrastructure, etc., with hoops that don’t seem necessary in this case either.

PC members agreed to allow this to go forward, and to be treated as a minor subdivision project.

No progress on Cohen or Scribner proposed subdivisions – owners are waiting for surveyors to finish.

Bob reported that he read the Rutland Regional Planning Commission’s report regarding the Flower Brook Project involving the Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources and Conservation District and the towns of Pawlet, Danby and Tinmouth. His comment was, ‘who is going to do all this work, and that there was only about 600’ of the brook in Tinmouth. After brief discussion, members decided to allow the Conservation Commission to report to the Select Board on possible action needed. (Rainbow is the CC Chair).

David inquired about the status of the separate 7+ acre parcel with multiple dwellings on it – having heard that they were originally allowed as there was more acreage across the road. Gail advised roads create separate lots, that research had shown there was no formal subdivision created when the two extra dwellings were allowed many years ago, and that the Select Board had authorized the zoning administrator to seek legal advice to resolve any issues.

Next meeting will be January 20<sup>th</sup>.

\* \* \* \* \*

**~ Christmas in Tinmouth ~**  
*By Sherry Johnson*

Despite the pouring rain more than 50 adults and children attended our first Christmas in Tinmouth. The activities included the arrival of Santa Clause on TVFD Engine #1, caroling at the Tinmouth Church, storytelling, crafts and hot cocoa.

A few last minute changes had to be made to accommodate the weather and COVID protocols, but in all the events were well received.

Families picked up pallets trees from the Old Creamery and decorated them. Trees were spotted on Mountain View Road, Route 140, McNamara Road, the Town Office and the Fire House. Hopefully everyone enjoyed the trees.

Thanks to Nate Miner, Pastor John, Theresa Butts, Chief Mo Squier, Maggie Moran, Karen and Kevin Eaton who helped make this event happen.

\* \* \* \* \*

**For road conditions call 511 or visit 511vt.com. For personal assistance, like heating help or other information, call 211.**

**211 is a service of the United Way.**

## TOWN OF TINMOUTH ~ SNOWPLOWING PRACTICE

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Reasonable ice and snow control is necessary for routine travel and emergency services. The Town will provide such control in a safe and cost-effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel and environmental concerns. The Town will use town employees, equipment and/or private contractors to provide this service. The Town will endeavor to provide reasonably safe road conditions during times of inclement weather. Travelers should use safe judgment and recognize that they are traveling at their own risk in inclement weather. The Town has two full time employees to do winter maintenance on approximately 13 miles of paved road and 18.5 miles of gravel road.

### **2. WHEN WILL THE TOWN START SNOW OR ICE CONTROL OPERATIONS?**

The Road Commissioner or Highway Department personnel will decide when to begin snow or ice control operations. The criteria for that decision are:

- A. When precipitation first starts or just prior to that, salt, sand and chemicals will be applied;
- B. Snow accumulation of 2 inches or more plowing operations will begin;
- C. Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel;
- D. Icy conditions which seriously affect travel; and
- E. Time of snow fall in relationship to heavy use of roads.

### **3. HOW SNOW WILL BE PLOWED**

Snow will be plowed in a manner so as to minimize any traffic obstructions. The center of the roadway will be plowed first. The snow shall then be pushed from left to right. The discharge shall go onto the shoulder area of the road. In times of extreme snowfall (12 inches or more), roads will not always immediately be able to be completely cleared of snow.

### **4. PRIORITIES AND SCHEDULE FOR WHICH ROADS WILL BE PLOWED**

The Town has classified Town roads based on the road function, traffic volume, and importance to the welfare of the community. Routes will be plowed in the most cost effective and timely manner. Those roads classified as "Major collectors" will be plowed first and to accommodate the school bus schedule as is feasible. These are high volume routes which connect major sections of the Town and provide access for emergency fire, police and medical services.

The second priority are gravel roads. The third priority are low volume or dead end roads. The fourth priority areas are Town parking lots.

### **5. WORK SCHEDULE FOR SNOWPLOW OPERATORS**

Snowplow operators will be expected to work eight-hour shifts. In severe snow emergencies, operators sometimes

shall have to work in excess of eight-hour shifts. Ideally, because of safety concerns, no operator shall work more than a sixteen-hour shift in any twenty-four hour period. If additional qualified personnel are available they will fill-in. Snow and ice operations will not normally take place between midnight and 4 AM.

### **6. WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Snow and ice control operations will be conducted only when weather conditions do not endanger the safety of employees or equipment, and operations are effective. Factors that may delay snow and ice control operations include: severe cold, significant winds, limited visibility and rapid accumulations of snow and/or ice.

### **7. USE OF SAND, SALT AND OTHER CHEMICALS**

The Town will use sand, salt, and other chemicals when there are hazardous ice or slippery conditions as necessary. The Town is concerned about the effect of such chemicals on the environment and will limit its use for that reason. Even after reasonable care, snow and ice may still build up. The Town does not have a bare roads practice.

### **8. EMERGENCY SITUATIONS**

For emergency vehicles responding to emergency situations (fire, medical, police) within the Town, necessary employees and equipment will be dispatched as soon as possible.

### **9. DAMAGE TO PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Objects in the Town's right-of-way are placed at the owner's risk and the town assumes no responsibility for any damage to objects placed in violation of State Statute. Damage caused by snow thrown from the plow will not be covered by the Town. Damage to trees, shrubbery, other landscaping and mailboxes will not be considered for compensation

### **10. PLOWING OF PRIVATE PROPERTY**

Unless approved by the Select Board or emergency vehicles need access, there shall be no plowing of private property or Class 4 roads with town equipment.

### **11. TOWING OF VEHICLES**

The towing of vehicles not owned by the Town of Tinmouth is not the responsibility of the Town. Vehicles that are simply stuck or unable to travel will not be towed or "pulled out" by a town vehicle. Any vehicle that is left unattended or parked in an emergency vehicle turn around (snow plow vehicles are considered emergency vehicles) can and may be towed by a professional towing company at the owner's expense.

**12. State law (23 VSA section 1126a) prohibits plowing snow or shoveling snow from a private road or drive across or onto town or state highways. Violators may be subject to fine or penalty.**

**Effective January 24, 2019**

*Tinmouth Select Board*

*Frank Sears Cathy Reynolds Michael Fallar*



**The  
Booted  
Hen**

Farm Fresh Eggs For Sale  
send me an e-mail or give me a ring:  
Ingrid Lepley 446-2900  
hikings@vermontel.net

**NOBLE ACE  
HARDWARE**

261 NORTH MAIN  
STREET

RUTLAND, VT 05701

(802) 773-2758

OPEN: 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

MON.- FRI.

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

SAT. & SUNDAY

**HARDWARE WITH A  
HOMETOWN FEELING**

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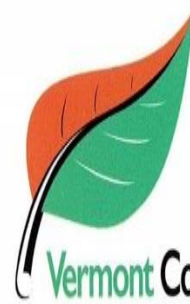
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### Blew Skies Holistic Massage

Located at Glow Spa in Rutland, between Avanti and the Paramount Theater, on Center Street, on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. The rates are: \$85 for 50 minutes, and \$115 for 80 minutes. Booking times are 11:00am, 1:00pm, and 3:00pm. And parking along the street is metered, but free on Saturdays.

**Massage therapy** also available on Sundays in Fair Haven at Goldenberry's Apothecary (across the street from Carl Durfee's): \$85 for 60 minutes and \$125 for 90 minutes. Booking times are the same as listed above. Parking is free.

Also offering chair massage at special events and in home visits at \$20 for 15 minutes and \$40 for 30 minutes.

Please help spread the word! Looking forward to helping many clients find time and a space to relax and maintain their wellness.

~ Bess Lewis ~

Tinmouth, VT 802-282-6240  
or [blewriver@gmail.com](mailto:blewriver@gmail.com)

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Naturally scented with organic essential oils, here is the list of soaps: Lavender, Tea Tree/Eucalyptus, Peppermint, Lavender/Peppermint, Clary Sage, Cedarwood/Patchouli, Ginger/Lemongrass, Pine/Cedar wood, Lemongrass, Patchouli, Cinnamon/Nutmeg/Ginger, Rosemary/Mint, Bergamot, Lavender/Peppermint/Cedar wood, Lemon with Calendula Petals, Unscented Calendula Petal, Cinnamon/Cedar wood, Tea

Tree/Eucalyptus/Rosemary, Cedar wood/Clary Sage/Lavender, Unscented.

Highly moisturizing and skin soothing, these soaps are sold as singles(\$8) or sets of three(\$20) and four(\$30). Wooden soap holders are available(\$1). Soaps are 4oz and circular. Beautifully boxed. (Soap supply is limited due to an eight-week cure time.)

**Spoon Mountain Botanicals  
Tinmouth, Vermont.  
802-282-6240**

**For more details contact Bess:  
[blewriver@gmail.com](mailto:blewriver@gmail.com)  
Beautiful and Bright!**

Beeswax/Soy Blend Candles are also available in any of the natural fragrances listed above. Candles also offered in the following

fragrances:

Maple Syrup, Chai Tea, Vanilla Bean, Pumpkin Pie, Harvest Spice, Sweet Almond. Sold in clear (whiskey glass) containers. 8oz. \$20 each.

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Pure Maple Products  
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We also have Maple Cream and Maple Sugar in limited supply. Please contact us with any special orders, we can also accommodate your party/weddings with maple favors!

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~ January 2022 Calendar of Events ~

All meetings are in-person and virtual due to the corona virus pandemic.

Fire Department	Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Fire House/Virtual
Select Board	Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Conservation Commission	Monday	17 <sup>th</sup>	7:30	Town Office/Virtual
Equity & Inclusion Committee	Tuesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Don't Miss It!	
Planning Commission	Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Select Board	Tuesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual

~ February 2022 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7:00	Fire House/Virtual
Select Board	Thursday	10 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town office/Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Don't Miss It!	
Town Meeting	Saturday	26 <sup>th</sup>	May be in-person, may be virtual.	

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

~ Sunday Church Service ~ 9:00 am, masks required. ~

~ Library Hours ~ Thursday 2:30 – 4:30 pm

**Stay Safe,  
Stay Healthy,  
Stay Home!**

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