

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, March 10, 2022
Regular 1st Monthly Meeting
Minutes**

Members present(in-person): Cathy Reynolds, Meadow Squier, and Kevin Eaton

Others present:

Via Zoom Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, David Birdsall – ACO, Todd Dennis, Rick Fallar, Pat Psholka, (Sherry Johnson and Kim Harbaugh - 7:50 until end)

In-person- Stan Wilbur-Public Works Project Manager, Michael Fallar-PC Chair, Michael Fannin-EMD, Hollis Squier, Kim Harbaugh & Sherry Johnson (present until approximately 7:40), and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:01, noting the first order of business was to re-organize for the coming year.

Board Re-organized for 2022 as follows:

Elected Cathy Reynolds Chair

Set Regular Monthly Meetings - 2nd Thursday and 4th Tuesday @7:00 PM

Designated Signer for Bills and Orders - Cathy

Newspaper of Record – Rutland Herald

Adopted Robert’s Rules for Small Boards

Appointed Overweight Truck Permit Signer - Kevin

Appointed Member to Community Center Board -Cathy

Appointed Member to Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project Board - Meadow

Appointed Liaison to Public Works Facilities Project Manager -Cathy

Adopted Select Board Meeting Rules and Procedures Policy (with amendment to (c) moved by Meadow, 2nded by Cathy – all voted in favor).

Meadow moved and Cathy 2nded to approve the above re-organization, all voted in favor.

Board reviewed agenda, added David Birdsall and Otter Creek Engineering, and moved the Mask Mandate item to the top.

Mask Mandate: Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to lift the Mask Mandate from the Town Office and Old Fire House, all voted in favor. SB asked that a Mask Optional sign be posted.

Minutes: Minutes of 2/22/2022 – Meadow moved, Cathy 2nded, to approve as written. They voted in favor, Kevin recused himself as he was not present.

Public Works Facilities Update ~ Stan reviewed Otter Creek Engineering contract amendment, advised SB to sign, as the Town is required to have an engineer for the town garage project. Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to approve the contract and authorized Gail Fallar to sign for the Board. All voted in favor. Stan advised he will work on the State’s Fire Safety Permit, have it ready for SB review on 3/22. Briefly discussed on-going progress with the project, he departed at 7:30.

Highway ~ Eric reported there was lots of tree damage during the last storm and the black truck is having coolant leak trouble – covered by the warrantee. Board reviewed **MRGP** (Municipal Roads General Permit) plan and list of work done provided by Steffanie Bourque from the RRPC (Rutland Regional Planning Commission), and authorized Cathy to sign the report.

Board approved and signed **Annual Highway Budget Plan** for VTrans. Cathy moved, Meadow 2nded, all voted in favor.

Chainsaw Use - SB discussed recent incident, safety concerns, Cathy wrote draft best practice guidelines - SB will review at its 3/22/22 meeting.

Feedback Form – After brief discussion and review, Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to adopt the Feedback Form and Guidance. All voted in favor.

Michael Fallar, as Planning Commission Chair, presented the SB with proposed amendments to Tinmouth’s Flood Hazard Area Regulations. He advised the changes are necessary for the regulations to meet state and FEMA standards – in order to be able to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. The biggest benefit to the Town is a higher rate of reimbursement from the State if a major disaster hits again. SB set a hearing date of April 14th, 7:00, just prior to their regular SB meeting, will hold a vote in August, as voter approval requires using Australian balloting.

Citizen Concerns –

Michael Fallar, as a private citizen, expressed concern with dirty tricks during the recent town meeting elections.

Michael Fannin, as a private citizen, took issue with those comments.

ACO David Birdsall advised he’d received a dog complaint. SB reviewed process in the Dog Ordinance – need a written complaint once all other options are unsuccessful. Long discussion due to past history of the dog owner(s).

Financial ~

Financial Reports FY22– Board reviewed monthly reports, Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to accept, all voted in favor.

Payroll Warrants

- #32 dated 2/14/22 for \$3,359.23
- #33 dated 2/21/22 for \$1,837.22
- #34 dated 2/28/22 for \$3,446.71
- #35 dated 3/07/22 for \$2,411.57

Accounts Payable Warrants

- #18 dated 2/7/22 for \$10,445.85
- #19 dated 2/22/22 for \$9,644.14

Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to approve warrants as presented, all voted in favor.

Old Business ~

Special Town Meeting for Petitions regarding switching to Australian balloting for budgets and public questions. SB decided to hold this floor meeting on Monday, May 2, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Community Center. Town Clerk advised that there needed to be another Article added to the warning regarding keeping the tax exempt status of the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department, has to be voted on every five years. Board concurred, will review and approve Warning at its 3/22/22 meeting.

New Business ~

UVM Democracy Internship ~ Meadow, Select Board liaison, updated the SB on projects the intern, Logan Younce, will be working on – ARPA Plan and possible community survey and the pros and cons of Australian balloting and Floor voting and Tinmouth’s history (votes and revotes) regarding those choices of governance.

Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) Redetermination ~ Board accepted PVR’s re-determination of the CLA and COD, Cathy signed agreement for the SB. CLA went from 91.38 to 90.89, COD went from 17.54 to 15.74.

Annual Appointments – See separate pages.

BCA - Town Clerk advised that the Board of Civil Authority needed to meet just prior to the next SB meeting to accept a secure ballot drop box from the Secretary of State's office. SB agreed to meet with other members of the BCA at 6:55 on 3/22/22.

Members Concerns – Board pondered the possibility of discussing the need for more money for the salt/sand shed at the upcoming town meeting, along with a plan for the ARPA funds.

Mail/Correspondence – Board reviewed letter from Vermont Land Trust, email from Nelson and Betti Jaquay (re: special town meeting), and email from Steffanie Bourque at RRPC regarding the upcoming renewal of the LEMP (Michael Fannin advised he would have the paper work ready for the SB's 4/14/22 meeting).

Executive Session – None

Next Meetings Schedule ~ Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 6:55 (Board of Civil Authority at 6:55, SB to follow) and Thursday April 14th

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant

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