

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, July 14, 2022
Regular Meeting - Minutes**

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

Others present:

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Stan Wilbur, Rick Fallar, Bart Bonazinga, Paula Bonazinga, David Birdsall, and Nancy Gucker Birdsall

In-person: Eric Buffum- road commissioner, David Eaton (until 6:20), Holly Ross (@6:30), Michael Fallar (@6:40), Rick Smyrski – Morton Buildings (@6:50)and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Cathy called the meeting to order at 6:00, welcomed everyone, noting that the beginning of the meeting was to address issues of the Eatons regarding the town garage.

David Eaton raised four concerns – 1) There is lots of stuff piled and left in an unsightly heap in plain view of his house – could it be moved elsewhere? 2) Headlights shining in the windows especially at night during the winter 3) Consideration of start time – back up alarms and other loud noises 4) Lighting for new town garage, will they be on motion detectors? More of a problem in the winter when there are no leaves on the trees.

Board tried to address each one – 1) Eric advised some of the stuff was going to move, once the new sand/salt shed is built, there will be a flat space back where the current pile is kept. 2) Eric advised the road crew will try to be more sensitive when loading salt or sand and turn lights off when the truck is pointed towards the house – they have been trying. 3) Start time for the road crew is 5:30, when they mostly roll out and do not work at the garage at that time 4) New lighting will be wall mounted, down facing on timer switches, no pole lights.

Regular **Board** business began at 6:19. Board reviewed the agenda, added Sherry Johnson, and moved Citizen Input to the end due to early start time.

Public Facilities Update ~ Stan reported the state provided a real quick turn-around time for the Fire and Safety Permit. Cathy reported Morton Buildings had advised that there would be a 10% increase in the cost of construction – only options are to pay or terminate the contract and pay costs accrued to date. Board discussed at length, expressing many concerns. Board discussed repairs to the old garage, nothing has been included in the new garage budget or regular highway budget to address this. Board decided have Eric repair the roof and to wait until next year for further repairs.

Minutes of 6/9/22 were approved, Meadow moved, Cathy 2nded, all voted in favor. Minutes of 7/7/22 were put on hold until the end of the meeting.

Rick from **Morton Buildings** arrived – Board expressed frustration with lack of progress and lack of communication, asked for a guarantee that the building would be done before winter. Board was reluctant to approve change order of \$60,510 without answers to a number of questions. Rick advised he would get answers ASAP. He was asked to put everything in writing. After much discussion, Meadow moved and Cathy 2nded to accept/approve the \$60,510 increase contingent upon receiving documentation from Rick – a commitment to no more increases, documentation of what had been spent to date by Morton, contact information for Rick’s supervisor, and a completion date for the town garage being all done; and authorized Meadow sign once these were received. All voted in favor.

Colors – Board discussed and approved by consensus that the overhead doors would be ivory, passage doors white, white window trim, ivory sides and trim, with a green roof and wainscoting.

Highway ~

Eric reported he had updated the 30 road stormwater segments completed in the computer, still needs to be able to print reports from the ANR Atlas. Troubles with both tandem trucks have been resolved. He asked about town policy for roadside wood, does the land owner have to take possession within 7 days? When does it become property of the town? Research is needed, SB added to agenda for 8/11 meeting. Work on culvert replacement on Potter's Brook should begin 1st week of August; he hasn't heard from Fuller Paving about summer paving.

Driveway Permit Process – After brief discussion and minor edits, Meadow moved and Cathy 2nd to approve Driveway Permit Process, all voted in favor.

Speed Limit Ordinance Update – Sherry reported the Rutland Region Transportation Council will help with speed studies and updating the ordinance for no charge. SB agreed by consensus to ask Sherry to request RRTC for assistance.

Annual Fuel Bid – SBA advised there would not be one this year, given current fuel prices, and has asked Champlain Fuels for a new contract. SB acknowledged action and agreed.

ARPA~ Holly updated SB on progress of the ARPA Committee, had questions from the committee for the SB. Could the Committee consider other proposals (solar panels on town buildings, MRE's, share equipment purchases with other towns, add dead trees to ash tree removal)? Is access for recreation part of ARPA project? Set aside money for paving or special project not yet determined? Eric expressed support for sharing equipment with other towns, but also put in a pitch for a brush head for the excavator (it would become a one-man operation) or a wood chipper – has estimates for both.

SB advised that the Committee was appointed to assist the SB with research, to present pros and cons of various projects - discouraged the solar idea – school pays for the electric on the school/community center, so there's no incentive, no other town buildings' roofs face the correct way; dead trees can be incorporated along with Eric's equipment request; recreation access will be a SB issue – not Committee's; don't spread the work out too far – September 1st deadline can be extended, thanked Committee for their work.

Financial ~ Gail (as Treasurer/SBA) reported end of year reports are not yet ready, progress is being made on the auditor's recommendations. Meadow moved and Kevin 2nd to approve the following warrants, all voted in favor.

FY 22

Payroll

#49 dated 6/9/22 for \$1,695.03
#50 dated 6/13/22 for \$2,267.53
#51 dated 6/20/22 for \$5,513.96
#52 dated 6/27/22 for \$4,313.35
#53 dated 6/30/22 for \$8,529.99

Accounts Payable

#30 dated 6/16/22 for \$5,768.70
#31 dated 6/28/22 for \$9,009.81
#32 dated 6/30/22 for \$17,692.98

FY23

Payroll

#1 dated 7/11/22 for \$2,043.24

Citizen's Input – Sherry inquired about status of reflective strip and paint strip near stop sign at intersection of Mountain View Road and Route 140. Eric has tape, will try to get to it soon.

To-Do Follow Up List ~ Moved to August meeting.

IT/Cyber Security ~ Gail noted Zach Bronzo is scheduled to take a look soon.

Old Fire House Repair ~ SBA reported the post on the railing has been fixed, hand rails will be replaced soon.

Heat Pumps ~ Cathy noted the State is still developing protocols for energy grant applications, so the town needs to wait before going out to bid.

SB Meeting Procedures ~ SB discussed comments from VLCT – they were asked to review – SB has the authority to determine when members of the public can comment, but recommends allowing brief comments while SB is discussing an issue. Much discussion of when, pros and cons of before, during or after. Board left as is for now.

Minutes of 7/7/22 – Meadow proposed edits, other members accepted, Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to approve as amended, they voted in favor, Cathy abstained.

Executive Session ~ Meadow moved and Cathy 2nded to enter executive session for the purpose of discussion a potential real estate issue at 8:45, Board exited at 9:05. Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to authorize Meadow Squier and Gail Fallar to make a real estate offer, all voted in favor.

Town Garage Electrical Issue ~ Rick from Morton had presented a quote from an electrician to run power from the pole to the new garage – it's not in the scope of Morton's contract. As it was over \$10,000, the Town's Purchasing Policy requires going out to bid. Cathy moved and Meadow 2nded to have the SBA prepare bid docs for power from the pole to the town garage, all voted in favor.

Member's Concern ~ None

Mail/Correspondence – None

Next Meeting Schedule ~ Thursday, August 11th no meeting on July 26th unless Morton Buildings does not produce required documentation and Board needs to revisit decision.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant