

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, November 10, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes**

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

Others present:

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar, Pat Psholka, David Birdsall, Jeffery Warfle, Trish Warfle, and Kyle Parker at 7:20.

In-person: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Hollis Squier, Judy Gilmore, Ray Pratt, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Meadow called the meeting to order at 6:05, welcomed everyone. No changes to the agenda.

Minutes of 10/13/022, Cathy moved, Kevin 2nded, to approve as written, all voted in favor.

Public Facilities Update ~ Eric advised the walls of the town garage were insulated, framing for the office, bathroom and mechanical room is underway. Waiting for GMP for electrical hook-up. Project is taking longer than anticipated.

He advised the stormwater retention pond is done, waiting for engineer to inspect before seeding and mulching. He inquired about propane dealer, as Rick from Morton Buildings says the town is responsible for that hook-up. Cathy will contact Proctor Gas.

Hollis inquired if the engineer had sited the septic tank, noting that it appears the ground is all sloped toward it. Eric advised that the tank is super sealed.

Highway ~ Eric reported the road crew has been busy working on the retention pond, spot grading, getting trucks undercoated, getting ready for winter – sand has been hauled. While Ron was on vacation, Glenn would cover for him.

Storm water reports, Eric noted the work quota was met, he has to input the data before Cathy can print reports.

TAP salt/sand shed grant ~ SAM.gov registration has finally been renewed. Grant was briefly discussed, Meadow moved, Kevin 2nded to appoint Cathy to review and sign contact with RRPC for project management. All voted in favor.

Draft FY24 highway budget – it was noted that paving was underspent by nearly \$25,000, Board decided by consensus to carry that balance forward to FY24 paving. Board asked Eric for proposal for extra help in the coming year.

Rutland Regional Transportation Council – Sherry, as Tinmouth’s representative, reported a grant opportunity for a solar speed sign, has short turnaround time. After brief discussion, Meadow moved and Cathy 2nded to apply for this grant (Cathy and Sherry will write), all voted in favor. She also reported that the 113 mph speed reported in the speed study was confirmed by RRPC.

Speed Study~ RRPC staff will attend the SB’s December meeting to review results, Board decided to meet with them at 5:30.

Feedback Form ~ None

Financial ~ Due to technical difficulties, FY22 year end reports were not reviewed and the draft FY24 budget discussion was postponed until December meeting.

Meadow moved and Cathy 2nd to approve the following **FY23 payroll and accounts payable warrants**, all voted in favor.

Payroll

#15 dated 10/17/22 for \$1,876.69; #16 dated 10/24/22 for \$2,738.40; #17 dated 10/31/22 for \$2,387.85; and #18 dated 11/07/22 for \$3,230.49.

Accounts Payable

#12 dated 10/10/22 for \$500.00; #13 dated 10/13/22 for \$9,147.9; #14 dated 10/24/22 for \$11,793.50; #15 dated 10/27/22 for \$43,090.00; and #16 dated 10/31/22 for \$20,177.63

Follow-Up To Do List ~ Cathy advised she had updated and assigned tasks to help with completion. Board reviewed *'s – see below.

***Ash Tree Plan** – David reported on the meeting (David, Eric and Kevin) with the guy from Bennington, with a huge machine that will take down trees, from the top down, road crew needs to assist, may need traffic control, \$4,200 per day, has a reach of 115 feet, faster than a bucket truck, level ground is best. Still need to prioritize which roads are done first – start on Route 133? \$5,000 per year won't get too far. Town liability for not taking action was discussed. A start needs to be made, should roads be closed when that machine is in town? A day or two at time best for support workers, arrange with other towns to share for a week? Try it for a day? Spring event? Need to pick a section to work on. Contact with landowners is also needed, check to see if trees can be pushed into the woods where possible. A plan and budget is still needed, as is more research. Does the town need a wood chipper?

***Retaining wall for the transfer station** – once site work for the salt/sand shed is in progress, will replace old wall, with lower one, use dumpster as the 'hand rail' – similar to the metal bin.

***Speed Study Committee** – appointment – ask those who inquired about it? Hold until December meeting – may need more enforcement

***Traffic** – Kevin will contact Rutland County Sheriff's Department regarding more enforcement, working with Speed Study Committee, etc.

***Equity and Inclusion Committee** – Meadow will report at December meeting.

***MRUUSD/Community Center-** Next step is to discuss insurance – Cathy and Gail

*** Emergency Generator** for town office – Ray supported it – it would free up firefighters for other duties in the event of an emergency. Cathy noted a grant was due on the 15th, Michael Fannin, EMD, requested a special camera to emergency situations. After discussion, with Kevin, Sherry, Ray and David (firefighters-all in agreement), the grant proposal was changed to include an on-demand generator for the fire department as well – the water system that runs through the fire house serves the school, town office and fire department and needs to be on-line in the event of an emergency. After more discussion, Cathy moved, and Meadow 2nded to apply for two generators and an upgrade of the town office's electrical service. All voted in favor. 50% match is required.

***UVM Intern** – Gail will check on availability to help with organizing all ordinances, policies, procedures, etc.

***Audit Policies** – List from professional audit for bond – town auditors to review before presentation to SB – on Gail's to-do list.

***ARPA Funds** ~ Board decided to hold any decisions until the town garage is completed and final cost is known.

***Other items** on the list were discussed, no action taken.

Citizen's Input ~ Jeff Warfle suggested there might be a Highway Safety Grant through the Rutland Count Sheriff's Dept. (RCSD) to help with a speed cart, and that the SB should contact Kevin Geno at the RCSD as he is the coordinator for the county.

Special Town Meeting – Next steps – Gail reported the article regarding purchasing a right of way from Mountain View Road to the town garage parcel was approved by a vote of 178 to 104. As the Road Commissioner has advised that the proposed location of the driveway will not meet

the Town's Driveway Standards, there will need to be negotiations to determine where it could/should be moved to. Kevin moved and Cathy 2nded to authorize Meadow and Gail to speak with the Strattons about moving the access to a safer place. All voted in favor. Board authorized Kevin and Eric to determine where it should be.

VAST Request – Eric asked on behalf of the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, for permission for the VAST trail to continue to travel over the town's land on the southern end of the town garage parcel. Cathy moved, Kevin 2nded to approve the request and authorize Eric as Road Commissioner to sign paperwork required for it.

Mail/Correspondence ~ None

Executive Session ~ None

Member's Concern ~ None

Next Meeting Schedule ~ Thursday, December 8th – 5:30 start time

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant

DRAFT