

TALES OF TINMOUTH

January 2023
Vol. 37 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 20th of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net) or drop it off at the Town Office. *Gail Fallar & Pat Psholka*

~ Special Town Meeting – January 17, 2023 ~

There will be a Special Town Meeting held on **Tuesday, January 17th**. Voting takes place from 8:00 AM until 7:00 PM at the Community Center. There is only one article on the ballot.

Article 1. Shall the voters rescind Article 1 voted and approved on November 8, 2022?

“Article 1. Shall the voters authorize the expenditure of American Recovery Plan Act money (Federal Covid funds) to purchase a right of way off of Mountain View Road for access, for recreational and other purposes, to the southern end of the town garage parcel and 0.43 acres of land on the westerly boundary of said parcel for \$14,500.00 plus closing costs?”

The Article is worded according to state statute, and may seem confusing. What it means, is that if you want to vote the original proposal down, you will vote yes to rescind. If you want the original to remain approved, you have to vote no on this question – you do not want to rescind the original article.

The Vermont Secretary of State's Office advised that because all voters were mailed a ballot for the first vote, all voters must be mailed a ballot for the reconsideration. Ballots were mailed last week. You may vote early by returning them in the envelope provided or you may vote in person on the 17th.

If you are unsure about this article and have questions, please attend the **Informational Meeting** that the Select Board will hold on **Thursday, January 12th at 6:30** at the Community Center. This meeting will provide voters with information and a chance to ask questions regarding this Article. The Informational Meeting has to be within 10 days of the actual voting day.

~ A Few Thoughts ~

The Select Board called the Special Town Meeting in response to the petition to rescind received following approval of Article 1 voted on November 8th regarding the Town purchasing a right of way from Mountain View Road to the south western side of the town garage parcel.

Many of the folks who signed the petition to reconsider and rescind the original vote, felt not enough information

was provided and that there was little time for discussion before the vote.

There were a series of missteps and bumbles before the vote - the neighbors were never contacted, there was no opportunity to really ask questions about the proposed right of way, its location, what it would be used for, what kind of recreation activities were anticipated, etc.

Petitioners want the Select Board to start the process over to gather more public input and provide more information.

The Select Board will try to explain its actions at the Informational Meeting on the 12th. Its actions were all legal, but not as transparent as some would have liked.

At this point, the process required by statute, is that there has to be a special town meeting to consider the petition to rescind. If that is approved, then the Board would have to start over.

There was an article by the Select Board in the November issue of *Tales* – excerpts included below.

This is in response to several questions/comments received following the mailing of ballots and a yellow informational flyer sent by the Select Board.

There have been questions about the process the Select Board followed regarding the proposed \$14,500 purchase of a right of way and .43 acre parcel to enhance access the Town Lot. The Select Board could not make this public until a Purchase and Sales Agreement was negotiated and signed. This was not finalized until 10/6/22. To add this item to the November 8 vote, the Select Board had to vote to include it on the election ballot with 30 days' notice, which was October 9. (The seller did not want to wait until March town meeting.)

As this was a real estate transaction, all Select Board discussions had to be kept confidential and occurred in Executive Session.

The Town mailed ballots to all voters, along with ballots for Justice of the Peace, as the state had mailed General Election ballots to all voters. The informational meeting was warned for the night before the vote. 2/3 of voters had already cast their ballots by then, and only a handful of voters attended.

There was some discussion on Front Porch Forum and in the November *Tales of Tinmouth*, back issues can be found on the town's website – tinmouthvt.org – if you have recycled your copy already.

The Informational Meeting will be in-person at the Community Center **and** available virtually by linking in to the Town's zoom account – please contact the town office for those details, tinmouthtown@vermontel.net or call 802-446-2498.

~ Regular Town Meeting 2023 ~

Will be a little different this year. Last year voters decided to conduct all town meeting business using the Australian balloting system. That means that there is an informational meeting within 10 days of the meeting. The Select Board has not yet decided when that will be held. The articles on the warning will be discussed, and then voting is done at the Community Center on Tuesday, March 7th from 8am – 7pm. Early (absentee) balloting is also available.

Town Meeting will find voters choosing the following officers:

Moderator - Town - 1 year term

Select Board Member - 3 year term

Town Clerk – 3 year term Treasurer – 3 year term

Lister - 3 year term Auditor - 3 year term

Tax Collector (Delinquent) - 1 year term

Budgets and public questions will also be voted by Australian ballot.

Holly Ross is running for re-election as Moderator.

Ann Czar is running for re-election as an Auditor.

Cat Yoder is running for re-election as Delinquent Tax Collector.

And **Ye Olde Town Clerk and Treasurer** is also running for re-election.

As *Tales* goes to print, no one has announced they are running for the Select Board.

~ Petition Deadlines ~

To run for an office, you need to file a petition with the signatures of 5 voters. The deadline to submit your petition to the town clerk for officers is Monday, January 30th. Petitions are available at the town office.

The deadline for petitions for Articles (public questions) to be added to the town meeting warning is Thursday, January 19th. You will need 21 voter signatures.



~ 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 refrigerators, to the Mill River Union High School Honor Society for its wonderful food contributions, and to the Tinmouth Community Fund for grants for the Elves 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.

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 Friends of the Rutland Free Library
Book Sale**

10 Court Street, Rutland, VT 802-773-1860

Friday, January 13 (10 - 4) and

Saturday, January 14 (10 - 2)

Thousands of organized, gently used books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles for all ages.

Always a broad selection of rare and antique books.

All purchases by donation only.

(802) 773-1860 www.rutlandfree.org



~ 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.

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!



January 1, 2023

To the Tinmouth Community,

December was a short month as far as the number of days students were in attendance. We weren't affected as hard as other schools in the surrounding towns with cases of flu, Covid, strep, and bronchitis. Now that the holidays have passed, we are holding our breath and hoping that the second round of post-holiday illnesses will bypass us again.

Tinmouth Carolers visited folks on December 21st. This year we decked the bus with lights, bows, and wreaths. The children wore their favorite Christmas hat and brought ornaments they had made for the occasion to all they visited- Kindergarten through sixth grade participated, creating a bevy of holiday cheer on wheels! PreK joined the carolers at their final stop, the church across the playground, and sang to the Tinmouth Elves who were coordinating holiday baskets. The event was immediately celebrated in style with fresh baked cookies and hot chocolate when carolers returned to school.

Our Winter Sports Program at Pico Mountain and Spartan Arena starts on January 9th. Students will be snowboarding, skiing, or skating on Mondays in January, February, and March. The exact dates are January 9th and 30th, February 6th and 27th, and March 6th and 13th. The Winter Sports Program does not run on consecutive Mondays due to scheduled half days, holidays, and winter break.

Please 'A Day in the Life' in the next column.

The staff at Tinmouth Mountain School wish you peace, joy, and blessings in the New Year! We are sincerely appreciative of all your support!

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker
Principal
Tinmouth Mountain School

~ 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.

Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!

~ A Day in the Life ~

By Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker

Fifth and sixth grade students are reading historical fiction novels that focus on the Dust Bowl era. Upon completion of the book, *Out of the Dust*, six students chose a culminating group project in which they created a fictitious family consisting of mom, a 15 year-old son, a 4-year old daughter, mom's sister, a grandmother, and a close family friend and neighbor. Each student wrote a brief essay or letter from the perspective of one of these characters and envisioned what their lives would be like as a catastrophic dust storm approached.

Each month, for the next six months, we will publish one essay. Together, these six essays provide insight into a day in the life of a family during the Dust Bowl Era.

Aunt Sally (Liliana Williams):

I woke up, cot sagging, to the sound of my sister, Mary, snoring. It's pitch black out and I can't see a thing. I carefully grab a match and light a candle. "Well," I think, "time to get to work." I quickly get dressed, careful not to wake Mary or Kaite, my niece. I hear Mary rustling under the dust filled covers and silently rush out the door.

I head out of the house to the Post Office, running, in case a dust storm comes. It takes about ten minutes, but I get there in one piece. A couple minutes after I opened up, my neighbor from down the road came in. He shakes his head and says sadly, "Mr. Baker, the man who owns the General Store, died." "Oh no!" I say.

We talk a while about how nice the general store owner was. When we finish talking he says, "Ain't it a shame times are so hard?" and walks slowly through the door, head down, sighing. A couple minutes later, Mary comes over. "Brought you lunch Sally!", she says cheerfully.

"Thank you so much," I say.

"Well, stay safe," she says.

"You too," I reply.

At the end of the day, I see a letter addressed to Mary. I put the letter in my bag and run home. All of a sudden the wind picks up. I look up to the sky. The whole time I was running, a dust storm was starting! The house is too far away so I take shelter in the barn. The barn door has fallen down from the wind. As I look more closely, I see a figure-Kaite! Kaite's leg is trapped by the barn door. She is laying on the ground, her face covered with dust. It seems as though she can't form human sounding words as the dust clogs her throat. I lift the door up and Kaite crawls out. Her leg is covered with splinters and bruises. We soak our bonnets in the trough and huddle together while we cover our faces with the wet cloth. As soon as the dust storm ends, we rush to the house.

When I yank open the door and see Ma laying on the floor, my first reaction is to yell at Mary. Blood is rushing over Ma's neck. At the sight of Ma's blood, I start to feel faint. I fall over as the world spirals into darkness.



~ Library News ~
By Ruth Drachman, Librarian

Happy New Year to everyone.

The library is full of interesting books. Make 2023 a LIBRARY YEAR!

New for adults:

* **Fall Guy** by Archer Mayor, Vermont author, A body is found in the trunk of a stolen car in the latest novel about Joe Gunther.

* **A World Of Curiosities** by Louise Penny, the next installment of **Armand Gamache!**

We are open and a librarian is on duty on Thursday afternoons from 2 until 5.

~ *Tales of Tinmouth* ~

Tales of Tinmouth is mailed monthly to 525 households ~ residents, property owners, past residents, and friends. It is a bit dismaying that only 80 or so of those contribute to help pay for paper, printing, labels and postage – those expenses are over \$3,300 per year (cost of paper and postage went up!). The Town allows the use of their copier, but is reimbursed for all copies made. And we thank them for use of the town office for assembly space. There are dedicated volunteers who gather each month to fold, tape and label. No one is paid.

2022 expenses were \$3,324 and donations/grants totaled \$3,820. **Thank you so much for keeping us in print!**

If you are one of the **other 445** households that enjoy receiving and reading *Tales* each month, please consider sending a donation. It will be much appreciated!

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, take a few minutes and check it out!!

* * * * *

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**

~ **Community News** ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Joan Brooks and all those with the flu, colds, covid or other respiratory troubles.**

Kudos to those who decorated for the Holidays, there were many lovely displays around town!



TINMOUTH CHURCH

~ **Tinmouth Community Church** ~

2023. . .

The year of my birth, 1955, now sounds so long ago, that I could be reading it on a tombstone! And thoughts of my youth feel so remote that they could just as well be someone else's life. As a young adult I remember thinking that the year 2000 was so far in the future that I need not be concerned about it. Next thing I knew, we were unnerved by the possibility of a Y2K fallout when the clock struck 12 on New Millenia's Eve. And all that is now 23 years ago. Auld Lang Syne!

At this point in the time of my life, my body has clearly aged. Yet, internally, I still feel young. Here's my explanation: Spirit is eternal. It cannot age. But it is supposed to mature. That is the business of life.

We are told that Jesus grew in "wisdom and stature." The stature part is automatic. Wisdom takes time and experience and guidance and nurture and willingness and effort and suffering and failures and perseverance and (here add your wisdom on wisdom) and the grace of the Spirit.

2023. . . The journey toward the maturity of wisdom continues for us, time-bound in a physical sense, timeless in a spiritual sense. With all good gifts within us and the Gospel as a guide, we continue our journey toward an ever-growing realization of the wisdom that is Love, drawing us into the fullness of Life.

**"Shalom." The peace of God to you
Blessings this season,
Pastor John**

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

~ **Back-Up Batteries** ~

VTel's fiber optic system has been in place for many years. It includes a back-up battery to enable the telephone to work if the power is out. This battery is supposed to provide up to 8 hours of service.

As evidenced in the latest electrical power outage, they no longer hold their charge that long. Could put you in a pickle if you do not have a cell phone – or your cell doesn't work where you live.

And in some cases, the battery dies and that causes your phone to no longer work!

Ye Olde Editor is researching where these back-up batteries can be purchased – yes, you have to replace them yourself. If anyone has done that recently, please let us know where to go.

~ Thank you from the Tinmouth Community Fund ~

By Cathy Reynolds

The Tinmouth Community Fund and the Continuing Education Scholarship Fund thank all their donors for their support in 2022. Our most vigorous donor category is “Anonymous” – those who have donated but do not care to be recognized plus all the folks listed below.

Anonymous
Nancy and David Birdsall
Tracy Byford and Chuck Bronk
Barry Cohen
Ruth Drachman
Judith Farkas
CJ Frankiewicz
Ed Hasenohr and Helen Mango
Maurice and Adelina Healy
Theresa Hoffman
John and Joanne Holler
Nelson and Betti Jaquay
Jan and Ken Krantz
Scott and Sam Lepley
Bob Lloyd
Vito and Patty Macaluso
Rose Napolitano
Bob and Rob Noble
Lisa and Matt Patry
Vic and Beth Rickman
Evelyn Ritchie
Annie Robbins
Tom Sullivan
Jack and Deborah Whitehead
Rene and Stan Wilbur
David Wright
Tinmouth Plant Sale

To learn more about the Tinmouth Community Fund and all the grant opportunities available annually to Tinmouth groups and residents, check out our webpage at <https://www.tinmouthvt.org/community-fund/>



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68 South Main Street • Wallingford
uthrive@vermontel.net • thriveinvermont.com

~ Meeting Highlights ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

Select Board ~ 12/8/2022

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

Others present:

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar, Rainbow Squier, Pat Psholka, Nancy Birdsall, Michael Fallar, and Rick Smyrski-Morton Buildings @6:00.

In-person: Ethan Pepin-RRPC Transportation Planner, Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Hollis Squier, Ray Pratt, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant.

Speed Study Report ~ Ethan reviewed data from the RRPC report. He noted that 85% of drivers travel the correct speed for the road. There are two ways to change driver behavior – 1) enforcement or 2) change the geometry of the road. Where the highest speeds occurred in the study, the roads are straight, so that is not an option. Board inquired about time of day of the speeders in the report, which way they were driving, etc. Ethan advised he could provide that information. Cathy noted the speed study provides a baseline, but there are other factors to consider for setting proper speed limits. She also advised the current speed ordinance needed updating so that it included stop signs as well as speed limits. Kevin recommended caution lights on the school zone signs. Safe School grants were discussed, grants for “you are going this fast” sign boards, etc. After discussion, Board voted to create a Speed Study Committee with those who volunteered and other interested parties. Board asked Kevin to meet with the committee to help orient them to their task – to evaluate and review speed limits/signs, upgrade speed ordinance and look at enforcement. Board appointed members Sherry Johnson, Tracy Byford, Ray Pratt, Hollis Squier and Jeff Warfle. SBA will send them the speed study and the Setting Speed Limit Guide. Kevin indicated later in the meeting that the group would meet beginning in February – due to the holidays and a busy January (budgets, town meeting warning, special vote).

Citizen Input ~ Hollis thanked the road crew for filling pot holes in the gravel roads.

Public Facilities Update ~ Rick from Morton reported that they are nearing the finish line, crew is working on the porch, trim work on windows and doors, they are waiting for their auger truck to be repaired, hope to wrap up the end of next week. Plumbers and electrician are also getting near the end. Hope to turn over the building by Christmas. Cathy noted the blower test showed the building was tight. This led to discussion of the heaters (they pull in their own air), the exhaust fans, how it works, is it on a sensor – Rick will check. Cathy noted safety first, energy second, expressed concern with driving in and out and the CO levels. Board directed Eric to get independent CO sensors.

Fire Alarm System ~ Not included in the new building, Eric advised it is needed and presented a quote from Countryside, includes motion sensors and monitoring by them. May be possible to get a grant from the town's insurance company to help offset the cost.

Board reviewed **total spent to date on public works facilities \$815,158**. There is a balance in the Capital Building Fund of \$120,106. The town will need to provide a \$100,000 match for the TAP salt/sand shed grant. There is still some work/expense for the garage – gravel for driveway, seed, mulch, etc.

TAP Grant – Cathy reported she had signed the contract with RRPC and the state. After brief discussion, voted to appoint Cathy, Eric, and Gail to the Consultant Selection Committee for the TAP grant. This committee does not have power to spend money, that will remain with the Select Board.

Highway ~ Eric reported the road crew has been busy filling pot holes and with tree clean-up. The new loader has arrived. Old loader was traded in. Eric advised that a bigger **floor jack** is needed for safety, will use tools/repair budget lines to cover, just wanted SB to know about it, Hollis advised he should also get the jack stands too. Eric also noted that VTEL's Wi-Fi does not work in the metal building, Board authorized an **exterior antenna**.

Eric advised there was a mix-up with the **Cargill Salt contract** – their Clear Lane product is really \$97 per ton, not the \$85.50 as bid. After discussion, the Board voted to approve the \$97 (still lower than the other bidder), with dismay to be expressed.

Highway Equipment Fund Spreadsheet ~ Board reviewed, discussed adding wood chipper – (not to be shared with other towns), the need to keep the spreadsheet updated each year, etc.

Draft FY24 Highway Budget ~ Board discussed wage/salary increase, health insurance benefit, diesel fuel usage, winter salt usage, West Tinmouth winter road care contract, number of weeks for extra help, etc. Board will have a special meeting to discuss more.

Financial ~ No monthly financial report, draft FY24 budget and end of year reports were reviewed.

Board voted to approve the **payroll and accounts payable warrants as presented**.

Follow-Up To Do List ~ Board reviewed *'s.

* **Ash Tree Removal** – Eric advised an 80 foot lift could be rented for a month, for the cost of renting the big tree truck for a day – Board asked Eric for a plan to spend \$5,000.

Board asked if there was a dangerous tree list – discussion got side tracked as the tree across from Jenkins was brought up – Jack Butterfoss would like to revisit driveway permit requiring its removal. Discussed wind damage to tree at the community center – who's responsibility is it, town or school? Eric advised the road crew will take care of it. Tree warden David Birdsall will

be asked to take a look, this is the 2nd time the tree has been damaged – lightening was the first.

***Equity and Inclusion Committee** – Meadow emailed report just before the meeting.

***MRUUSD/Community Center** - Cathy reported meeting with VLCT/PACIF- the town's insurance company – they advised cleaning up language in the agreement with MRUUSD – building cannot be insured by two providers – more research is needed – as well as discussion with MRUUSD.

***Housing Rehab Program** - This program is from the early 1990's, to help low income folks with housing needs – currently there are 3 owners paying back their mortgages, two have been deferred for a number of years due to lack of income. Many others have repaid; voters transferred \$30,000 to the Building Fund a couple of years ago. Folks with those kinds of needs are now sent to NeighborWorks in West Rutland.

Special Town Meeting ~ A petition to rescind the vote on November 8th was received, on time and with more than the required number of signatures. After lengthy discussion, Board decided to move its January meeting to Tuesday the 3rd; hold the informational meeting for the special town meeting on Thursday the 12th; and hold the special town meeting on Tuesday the 17th. The Board also decided to hold a budget meeting on December 14th and to approve and sign the warning for the special town meeting.

Holiday Bonus ~ Board voted to give each regular town employee a \$100 holiday bonus. (road crew, transfer station crew, town office staff)

Mail/Correspondence ~ Energy Webinar – no one available to attend.

Gail advised that Stan and Rene Wilbur will be donating a Tinmouth picture created for the new courthouse in Rutland – for the old fire house; and that Colleen Balch donated a US flag and a Vermont State flag that had belonged to the late Grant Reynolds (who collected dozens of flags).

Executive Session ~ At 9:14 Cathy moved and Meadow 2nd to enter executive session to discuss a personnel issue. All voted in favor, Select Board only. Board exited at 9:14, no action taken.

Next Meeting Schedule ~ Wednesday December 14th, Tuesday January 3rd, Informational Meeting on Thursday, January 12th.

Select Board ~ 12/14/2022 - Special Meeting

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

Others present:

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, and Rick Fallar

In-person: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Board reviewed draft #3 of the proposed FY24 budget, starting with the **Highway** portion. Board reviewed line by line – discussed:

*Need for third road crew member – how many weeks? Needed to cover vacations, tree work (dead trees and ash tree removal), crack sealing paved roads, and storm water projects.

*Roadside mowing estimate is over \$10,000 – may need to go out to bid – discussed options, will wait for more information. Does the town purchase more equipment or hire it done?

*Tree work is a big job, how does a town the size of Tinmouth manage it?

***Chipper** - use ARPA funds or Equipment Fund? Board voted to purchase a used chipper with \$25,000 from the Equipment Fund.

*Crack sealing paved roads – prolongs pavement life – Eric advised it can be done in-house much cheaper than hiring a company at \$4,500 per day.

*Equipment Fund – Cathy reviewed latest spreadsheet, had to increase inflation factor.

*Wage increase – after discussion, Board decided to give a 5% raise to all employees – will look at budget numbers next meeting.

*Budget carryover (highway) and FY22 general fund balance, what to do with them?

*Reimbursement for FY23 town garage expenses from the Capital Building Fund – no decision.

*Highway Paving Project Reserve Fund – what can it be used for? Current balance is \$35,000, was created 7 years ago to help with cost of a major reconstruction project, is funded yearly, Board decided not to fund for FY24.

*Salt/Sand Shed funding needed

General Budget discussion:

*Increase in office assistant time

*Reduced proposed increase (from \$1,500 back to \$500) for old cemetery repairs, Board gave tentative approval for budgets, will do final review in January.

Warning for January 17, 2023 Special Vote – Board reviewed draft, voted to approve as written, and signed.

Town Clerk reported that the Secretary of State's Office advised that ballots needed to be sent to all voters, as that was what happened for the initial vote on November 8th. It was noted that the article asks if the first vote should be rescinded, so a yes vote means to rescind, and a no vote means to leave the approval in place.

TAP Grant – regarding salt/sand shed grant – Cathy reported on meeting with Project Manager from RRPC and VTRANS staff. VTRANS will review engineering already done to see if it meets federal procurement requirements – may have to start over . . . also need point at which the town can decline the grant if it seems too much. Prices have increased dramatically since the project was first proposed.

Procurement Policy for Used Equipment – have one for new equipment, need to have something for used equipment– chipper, grader, etc. On agenda for January 3rd meeting.

Celebrate New Town Garage – Cathy asked members to think about it, in January or February?

Planning Commission ~ 12/15/22

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Rainbow Squier, Judy Gilmore, and Andy Gilmore

Members present via Zoom: Larry Carabeau, Vito Macaluso, Kim Harbaugh, and Bob Lloyd

Others present: in-person-Kevin and Linda Brown, Cameron Lepley, and Gail Fallar Secretary

And via Zoom: Travis Lepley, Scott Lepley, Ali Jenkins, Sherry Johnson, and Rick Fallar

Members reviewed the agenda, Michael noting that if the preliminary meeting with Valentine Farm LLC (VFLLC) and Kevin Brown went long, review of Chapter 4 would be bumped to the PC's January meeting. All agreed.

Kevin reviewed maps showing two lots (24 and 30 acres more or less) to be transferred to him – one on either side of Route 140, one including the old Valentine house. Cameron explained the other maps showing remaining acreage (about 240 acres) with 6 or 7 possible lots, noting much remains to be determined, septic tests have not been done, etc. The intent is to keep as much in agriculture and forest use as possible. Scott noted their previous project with Pumpkin Mill on the East Road was done in a bit of hurry, so they want to take their time with this property, get a handle on what is on it, and how to best match the development for the benefit of the town and future owners – as it's very near the center of town.

After much discussion, including whether the entire plan has to be ready to proceed, it was decided by consensus to allow Kevin's two parcels to be surveyed, as Phase 1, with the other portions presented at a future time as Phase 2. As there will be four lots initially, it will be considered a major subdivision, and the major subdivision checklist will be followed. Once the survey is completed, VFLLC will submit a formal application for review.

Members decided to postpone review and discussion of Chapter 4 of the Town Plan – it looks like there will be much input needed from the regional planning commission. Ed Bove will attend the January meeting.

Next meeting will be January 19th – might include Scribner Subdivision hearing. Homework is Chapter 4 review and Judy asked everyone to determine how many kilowatt hours each person's house used in the past year – to check data in current town plan.



The Auto Salon
545 Route 140W
Tinnmouth, VT 05773

Kevin Eaton (802) 855-7885

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**HARDWARE WITH A
HOMETOWN FEELING**



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Air Conditioning ~Water
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- Trim Work

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teenager.
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References available.

**Andy McCullough
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kenscomputerservices.wordpress.com



**The
Booted
Hen**

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send me an e-mail or give me a ring:
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Any size, any color
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J. ALLEN MAPLE
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Stop by our self-serve stand for any of your maple needs. We have Maple syrup sizes range from 100ml to one gallon with prices ranging from \$3 to \$40.

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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Blew Skies Holistic Massage

Located at the Honeycomb in Manchester, 4351 Route 7A
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~ Bess Lewis ~
Tinmouth, VT 802-282-6240
 or blewriver@gmail.com

Needing a friend to talk with during these stressful times?
 Pastor John (Tinmouth Community Church) is only a phone call away.
Any reason is a good reason to call: 802-417-1491.

MOUNTAIN VIEW DEVELOPMENT INC.

- Computer generated landscape design
- Low voltage landscape lighting
- Backhoe service • Brush hogging
- Complete home building and contracting services
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 MountainViewDevelopment@msn.com

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 - Mulching
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 ViewMontPS@gmail.com



TINMOUTH CHURCH

Everyone Is Welcome in This

Community of Worship and Faith

TINMOUTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman,
 Pastor

*Open Minds, Open Hearts,
 Open Doors*

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 Garage Phone Number 802-446-9163

If you need to alert the road crew about a tree across the road, or have some other road issue, 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 on the town's website, tinmouthvt.org. If you would like a printed copy, please contact the town office.



Spoon Mountain Botanicals

Organic and Natural Soap and Candles Goats Milk and Shea Butter Soap. Organic Soy and Natural Beeswax Candles.
 Handmade in Tinmouth, Vermont.

Special orders and custom fragrance blends available.
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~ January 2023 Calendar of Events ~

Select Board	Tuesday	3 rd	6:00	Town Office & Virtual
Fire Department	Thursday	5 th	7:00	Fire House
Informational Meeting	Thursday	12 th	6:30	Community Ctr & Virtual
Special Town Meeting Voting	Tuesday	17 th	8:00am – 7:00pm	Community Center
Equity and Inclusion Comm.	Tuesday	17 th	7:30 -8:30	Community Ctr & Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	19 th	7:00	Town Office & Virtual
<i>Tales of Tinnmouth</i> Deadline	Friday	20 th		Don't Miss It!
Conservation Commission	Monday	23 rd	7:00	Town Office and Virtual

~ February 2023 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	2 nd	7:00	Fire House
Select Board	Thursday	9 th	6:00	Town Office & Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	16 th	7:00	Town Office & Virtual
<i>Tales of Tinnmouth</i> Deadline	Monday	20 th		Don't Miss It!

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

~ Sunday Church Service ~ 9:00 AM ~ ~ The Library is open Thursdays 2:00-5:00 PM ~

Please note that the regular January Select Board meeting has been changed to Tuesday, January 3rd at 6:00 to enable the Select Board to hold an Informational Meeting on Thursday, Jan. 12th at 6:30 at the Community Center. This meeting will provide information about the Special Town Meeting being held on Tuesday, Jan. 17th.

~ Special Town Meeting ~
 Informational Meeting –
 Thursday, January 12th at 6:30,
 Voting on Tuesday, January 17th from 8
 am – 7 pm at the Community Center.

Presorted Standard
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 PERMIT # 12

Tales of Tinnmouth
 515 North End Road
 Tinnmouth, VT 05773