

**Town of Tinnmouth  
Select Board  
Thursday, February 9, 2023  
Meeting Minutes**

Members present (in-person): Kevin Eaton and (via Zoom) Cathy Reynolds

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Ed Bucceri, Michael Fallar, Judy Gilmore, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Pat Psholka, Rick Fallar, David and Nancy Birdsall

Cathy called the meeting to order at 6:11, welcomed everyone. Gail asked that solid waste tax appeal and Sherry Johnson be added to the agenda, Board agreed.

**Citizen's Input:** Michael noted that it is hard to make the SB 6:00 meeting time, traditionally meeting was 7:00 and most town committees use that. He also raised questions regarding the last executive session, noting an expense over \$10,000 needs to go out to bid, and public should be allowed to participate.

Cathy advised she was sick; her mother-in-law had just passed and they were away dealing with that. She noted the meeting times are for the convenience of the SB, is doing her best.

**Public Works:** Eric provided an update, the road crew is using the new building, need to build shelves; Morton Building's work is nearly complete – they have covered the exterior bollards, need to pour a cement slab under the porch, and do something about the 'make-up' air (for when the exhaust fan is turned on). He thanked the Board for the building.

Cathy moved and Kevin 2nded to enter executive session to discuss details of a procurement contract regarding the salt/sand shed grant at 6:18, Board exited at 6:28, no action taken. Present were Cathy, Kevin, Eric and Gail.

**Highway:** Eric reported plowing and sanding, servicing the chipper and grader, still working on an estimate for a boom mower – will have more information next meeting. He inquired about fencing by the road side, split rail? Need to think about, is it required for transfer station security? May only keep cable across the driveway for now. Eric also inquired about running air lines in the new garage for compressor access, road crew can do, will cost about \$500. Compressor is only on when it's being used. Board agreed by consensus it was needed.

**Used Equipment Procurement** – Board reviewed draft, Cathy will re-write for next meeting.

**2023 VTRANS Grant** – Board asked Eric and Gail to provide draft application for March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Annual Mileage Certificate** – Board approved by consensus, no changes from 2022.

**TAP (salt/sand shed) Grant** – Cathy updated Board, is 100 % certain that another grant will be needed due to increase in costs.

**Speed Limit Committee Expectations** – Kevin noted he would provide guidance to the committee. Cathy asked that the committee review how to change speed limits, review current limits, determine what is appropriate, propose changes to the SB. Board appointed Kevin to the committee, as its Chair. If others are interested, they are welcome to join.

**Minutes:** 1/3/23; 1/17/23; and 1/23/23, Cathy moved, Kevin 2nded, all voted to approve as written.

**Financials:** Board reviewed monthly report, reviewed warrants, approved all by consensus. Warrants; Accounts Payable #26 dated 1/19/23 for \$4,304.43; #27 dated 1/30/23 for \$19,718.60; and #28 dated 2/6/23 for \$11,026.58. Payroll #26, dated 12/31/22 for \$7,568.84; #27, dated 1/9/23

for \$1,526.75; #28, dated 1/16/23 for \$3,016.25; #29 dated 1/23/23 for \$2,063.17; #30 dated 1/30/23 for \$3,176.45; and #31 dated 2/6/23 for \$2,830.96.

**Debit Card Update** – Guidelines needed – for road commissioner and town clerk – Board will discuss at March meeting.

**Financial Policy Review** – Accounting Auditing & Financial Reporting and Cash Receipts - Kevin asked that review wait until Meadow could be present at the March meeting.

Cathy reviewed **Follow-Up List** for Ed and Judy. David spoke to Shade Tree Policy – statewide only one town has adopted one to date – noted there is no immediate need. He also spoke to wood in the town’s right of way – if the land owner does not want it, what could/should be done with it? Stack for use by needy folks? Who would oversee that? Not the road crew, so perhaps the TVFD?

Board discussed the **AARP grant** for speed feedback signs, authorized the Speed Limit Committee to prepare application for next SB meeting, Sherry volunteered to work on it. Approved by consensus.

**Right of Way from Mountain View Road** – The Strattons have not replied to request regarding moving the driveway to a safer location. Board discussed a walking right of way on the northern end of their property – Gail advised that the SB walk the proposed location before further consideration. Board tentatively set 2/16/23 at 5:00 for that. SBA will coordinate.

**EOC grant** – Cathy spoke to language in the grant – wants to make clear that the application/approval is for two generators – one for the town office and one for the fire department. Board agreed by consensus to approve Cathy signing paperwork for them. Board discussed using ARPA money to cover both the town and fire department’s share – about \$18,000, as it benefits entire community – Sherry advised that the TVFD no longer needs the ARPA money for air packs, would like to re-direct their request to the generator match. Cathy moved, Kevin 2nded to approve match for both from ARPA funds. Both voted in favor. Cathy volunteered to act as project manager for this grant, an RFP will be required. Board agreed by consensus.

Added **ARPA request list** to March agenda for review.

**Solid Waste Tax Appeal** – Cathy moved and Kevin 2nded to authorize the Select Board Assistant to write letter of appeal of the Vermont Tax Department’s recent notice regarding solid waste tax. The Town has paid this tax for years, and so has Hubbard Brothers on behalf of the town. A refund is due to the town, not a fine and penalty for not paying last quarter.

**NFIP** – Gail advised that the town has been approved to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and that there will be a presentation about it at the SB’s April meeting.

**CLA Redetermination** – Listers met with District Advisor, waiting for results.

**Town Report** – Gail advised it is at the printers, will be mailed mid-month.

**Sherry**, speaking for herself and husband Kim, expressed appreciation for all of Cathy’s accomplishments and service to the town.

Next Meeting Schedule ~ Thursday, March 9th – 6:00 start time

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant