

**Town of Tinnmouth  
Select Board  
Thursday, June 13, 2023  
Meeting Minutes**

Members present (in-person): Meadow Squier, Kevin Eaton, and Judy Gilmore

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Michael Fallar, Hollis Squier, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

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

Meadow called the meeting to order at 7:00, welcomed everyone.

Members reviewed the **agenda**, added 911 new road name and the need for extra meeting.

**Minutes** of 5/11/23 and 5/17/23 with the Consultant Selection Committee (CSC) were approved as written. Judy moved, Kevin 2nded to approve both, all voted in favor.

### **Highway ~**

**Public Works Update** – Meadow reported the SB and CSC jointly met on May 17<sup>th</sup> and decided to recommend DuBois & King for the design engineering for the proposed salt/sand shed, pending negotiation of cost. That negotiation resulted in the cost being reduced by \$7,800. After brief discussion, Meadow moved and Kevin 2nded to award D & K the contract for \$53,060 for the design engineering for the proposed salt/sand shed. All voted in favor.

Board then voted to dissolve the CSC, as the SB will assume ongoing responsibilities required by the TAP grant.

**Road Commissioner** - Eric reported the road crew has been busy ditching, getting ready for paving. He noted the state had tentatively approved the culvert grant for North East Road, will wait for final approval before ordering the culvert. Reviewed summer work plan, discussed removal of the maple tree near Ballou's swamp – grinding stump will not be possible as there is ledge under/near it. Ditching is needed there per State stormwater rules. He advised that he would like to include a line in the budget for help with bigger construction projects, as Dan Allard will be needed for that tree and also for replacing a culvert at the top of Cobb Hill before paving is done.

**Used Grader Purchase Authorization** – Eric presented request with specs to replace the grader as scheduled. Much discussion about whether the grader needed to be replaced, cost of repairs, hours used yearly, grader is a Champion which is hard to get parts for, John Deere and Cat are better choice, how to source another. Board asked Eric to research what is available.

Kevin moved to approve Eric's request for authorization, all voted in favor.

**Small Safety Grant** – Grant application for \$35,000 to cut dead and dying trees on Route 140. Board reviewed, then approved by consensus, also signed letter of support.

**Citizen Concerns** ~ Hollis inquired about the large tree on the Butterfoss property on Route 140 – now that leaves have come out, there needs to be brush cut to improve visibility and safety. Eric will speak to Mr. Butterfoss about it. He also inquired about ditching on Route 140 near the Wallingford town line, wondering if stone would be added – Eric noted that state rules do not require it there – seeding and mulching will be enough. Hollis asked the SB to take a look at the new culvert on North End Road – Potter's Brook, raising concerns about the need for headers, reflectors, and more stone in the ditches, as they are quite deep. SB took under advisement.

**Request for Proposals for Diesel Fuel and #2 Fuel Oil** ~ Board reviewed draft RFP for FY24, Judy moved and Kevin 2nded, all voted in favor, kudos were given to the late Bob Noble for his help in establishing the RFP form a number of years ago.

**End of Year** ~ Eric noted the black truck needs 8 tires for next winter, dealer advised it would be a two month wait. He ordered them, and they are here already, would like to purchase them in this fiscal year. Board agreed as there is room in the budget.

**Financial Reports** – Board reviewed reports and warrants. Anticipated revenue includes \$200,000 paving grant and \$36,000 culvert project grant.

*Payroll warrants* # 45 dated 5/15/23 for \$2,383.09; #46 dated 5/22/23 for \$3,631.85; #47 dated 5/30/23 for \$2,383.09; and #48 dated 6/5/23 for \$4,502.21.

*Accounts Payable warrants* #41 dated 5/15/23 for \$3,762.73; #42 dated 5/22/23 for \$7,416.41; and #43 dated 6/1/23 for \$9,909.35.

Judy moved and Meadow 2nded to approve the financial reports and the above warrants. All voted in favor.

**FY24 Wage and Salary Schedule** ~ Board reviewed salaries, Listers requested an increase in hourly rate for the re-appraisal work. Meadow moved, Kevin 2nded, to approve as presented, all voted in favor.

#### **Old Business-**

**ARPA List Review** ~ Board postponed until meeting on the 27th. Gail advised that the SB can transfer ARPA money into the Capital Building Reserve Fund, being so advised by VLCT ARPA staff.

**To-Do Follow-Up List** - Board postponed until meeting on the 27th.

**RFP for Generator Grant** – Board reviewed draft, for electrical panel upgrade at the town office and on-demand generators for the town office and TVFD, due on the 27th, Judy moved, Kevin 2nded, all voted in favor.

#### **New Business -**

**Equity and Inclusion Committee** ~ Meadow reported Emma Weatherhogg had moved out of town and stepped down from the E & I Committee. She then moved to nominate Todd Dennis, Kim Harbaugh, Lothar Schmelzenbach, Melody Squier, Rainbow Squier and herself to be re-appointed, (all remaining members) except Michael Fallar. Much discussion about purpose of the committee, not appointing someone willing to serve who has a different point of view, how other members of the committee felt about it, etc. Eventually Kevin 2nded the motion. Meadow and Kevin voted in favor, Judy voted against.

**Recreation Committee** – Board postponed until 27<sup>th</sup>.

**SWAC Alternate** ~ After brief discussion, Board voted to appoint Gail Fallar as an Alternate to the Solid Waste Alternatives Committee.

**911 Road Name** ~ As there is a 3<sup>rd</sup> house being added to a private right of way, it now needs an official name. Owners chose North Meadow Lane, Select Board approved by consensus. This property was formerly known as 174 Morgan Road, Route 133.

**Next Meeting Schedule** ~ Board decided to hold a second Board meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>, next regular meeting on July 13.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant

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