

THE TOWN OF TINMOUTH, VERMONT



**Annual Report of the Town Officers
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023**

Tinmouth Town Fun Day and Parade 2023



~ Photo credits ~

Cover photo of Tinmouth Pond (Chipman Lake) by Ken MacLeod
Inside photos by Colleen Balch, Nancy Gucker Birdsall, school staff, Benson Inkley
Visit the Town's website at www.tinmouthvt.gov

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

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**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

ELECTED TOWN AND SCHOOL OFFICERS

Bold – Elected in 2023 * Term expires this year (2024) () – Year term expires

Moderator (1 year):

Town Clerk (3 years):

Town Treasurer (3 years):

Select Board (3 years):

Mill River Unified Union School District Director (3 years):

Community Center Board (2 years):

Road Commissioner (3 years):

Listers (3 years):

Auditors (3 years):

Delinquent Tax Collector (1 year):

Holly Ross*

Gail Fallar (2026)

Gail Fallar (2026)

Meadow Squier (2024)*

Kevin Eaton (2025)

Judy Gilmore (2026)

Josh Squier (2025)

Martha Stanley (2024)*

Eric Buffum (2024)*

Pat Psholka (2024)*

Rick Fallar (2025)

Gail Fallar (2026)

Vito Macaluso (2024)*

Sandy Goyette (2025)

Ann Czar (2026)

Catherine Yoder*

OFFICERS ELECTED AT GENERAL ELECTION

Elected in November 2022 for the term beginning in February 2023 (2 years)

Justices of the Peace

Nelson Jaquay (2025)*

Anna Majorell (2025)*

Michael Fallar (*appointed by Gov. Scott*) (2025)*

Sherry Johnson (2025)*

Marshall Squier (2025)*



Volunteers at the new ice skating rink at Tinmouth Mountain School, before filling. Thanks to the volunteer builders, the school, the fire department, LaValley Building Supply, and the Tinmouth Community Fund. The rink is open whenever school is not in session.

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

OFFICERS APPOINTED BY SELECT BOARD

Most are annual appointments.

For those with terms: **Bold** – Appointed in 2023. * – term expires this year (2024) () – year term ends

Board of Adjustment (3 years)

Bart Eaton (2025)

Todd Dennis (2026)

Ed Hasenohr (2024)*

Sherry Johnson (2026)

Robert Lloyd (2024)*

Tracylea Byford (2024)*

Vito Macaluso (2025)

Michael Fallar, *Alternate (annual)*

Planning Commission (3 years)

Michael Fallar, *Chair* (2026)

Larry Carabeau (2026)

Andy Gilmore (2024)*

Kim Harbaugh (2025)

Robert Lloyd (2025)

Vito Macaluso (2026)

Pat Psholka (2024)*

Judy Gilmore (2025)

Rainbow Squier (2024)*

Zoning Administrator (3 years)

Gail Fallar (2026)

9-1-1 Coordinator

Gail Fallar

Rutland Regional Planning Commission

Robert Lloyd, *Commissioner*

Michael Fallar, *Alternate*

RRPC Regional Transportation Council

Sherry Johnson

Michael Fannin, *Alternate*

Solid Waste Alliance Communities

Chris Martone

Gail Fallar, *Alternate*

Tinmouth Library Trustee (3 years)

Gene Usher (2025)

Rutland Free Library Trustee (3 years)

Barry Cohen, *President* (2024)*

Health Officer

Jeff Warfle

Theresa Schmelzenbach, *Deputy*

Safety & Wellness Committee

Ronnie Crossman

Kevin Eaton

Gail Fallar

Chris Martone

Ray Pratt, *Chair (resigned; vacant)*

**Regional Emergency Management
Committee**

Ray Pratt, *EMD*

Matthew Patry, *EMC*

Tree Warden

David Birdsall

Wheaton Squier, *Deputy*

Green-Up Day Committee

Doug Fontein

Ed Hasenohr

Nelson Jaquay

Housing Rehab Loan Review Committee

Select Board

Animal Control Officers

David Birdsall

Paul Morris, *Deputy*

Town Huggers

Hollis Squier

Patti (Cow Patti) Macaluso

Community Center Board

Judy Gilmore (appointed by Select Board)

Josh Squier (MRUUSD School Member)

Martha Stanley (2024)* (2 years – elected at Town Meeting)

Energy Committee

Todd Dennis, *Energy Coordinator & Chair*

Ray Pratt

Cathy Reynolds

vacancy

Weighers of Coal

Michael Fannin

Cathy Reynolds

Inspector of Lumber & Shingles

Doug Fontein

Michael Fallar

Fence Viewers

Michael Fallar

Ralph Lewis

Glenn D. Merrill

Caleb Scott

Conservation Commission (4 years)

Jeff Ams (2024)*

Chuck Bronk (2026)

Doug Fontein (2024)*

Ed Hasenohr (2026)

Colleen Balch (2024)*

Robbie Leeds (2027)

Rainbow Squier, *Chair* (2026)

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

Recreation Committee

Robbie Leeds, *Chair* Colleen Balch
Doug Fontein David Levant
Martha Stanley

Pound Keeper

Glenn D. Merrill

Solid Waste & Recycling Committee

Jonathan Czar Gail Fallar
Helen Mango Chris Martone
Wheaton Squier, *Chair*

Old Creamery Committee

Doug Fontein Michael Fallar, *Chair*
Stan Wilbur Vito Macaluso

Speed Limit Study Committee

Tracy Byford Sherry Johnson
Ray Pratt Hollis Squier
Jeff Warfle Kevin Eaton, *Chair*

**Select Board Liaison to Rutland County
Sheriff's Department &
to Tinmouth Road Crew**

Kevin Eaton

Tinmouth Website Committee

Judy Gilmore (*Select Board*)
Trish Warfle (Comm Ctr Bldg Mgr)
Gail Fallar (Town Clerk)
Todd Dennis Zach Bronzo
Jennifer Trepal

Equity & Inclusion Committee

Todd Dennis Meadow Squier, *Chair*
Rainbow Squier Kim Harbaugh
Melody Squier Lothar Schmelzenbach
Sherry Johnson (*resigned, then reappointed*)
3 vacancies

NOTICES

Town Clerk – Office Hours:

Monday & Thursday, 8 a.m. - Noon and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. and most Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Or by appointment if necessary.

Telephone: 802-446-2498; Fax: 802-446-2498

E-mail: tinmouthtown@vermontel.net

Dump cards, dog licenses, zoning permits, tax payments can be done via mail or email, as well as in person.

Tinmouth Website: tinmouthvt.gov

Town Calendar - Monthly Meetings (Being held in-person with virtual participation option.)

<i>Select Board</i>	Town Office	2 nd Thursday 7:00 p.m.
<i>Planning Commission</i>	Town Office	3 rd Thursday 7:00 p.m.
<i>Volunteer Fire Dept.</i>	Fire House	1 st Thursday 7:00 p.m.
<i>Tinmouth Energy Committee</i>	Town Office	Scheduled as needed
<i>Tinmouth Historical & Genealogical Society</i>	Town Office	4 th Sunday (except Nov. & Dec.)
<i>Conservation Commission</i>	Town Office	3 rd Monday every other month
<i>Equity & Inclusion Committee</i>	Town Office	Every other month (see website calendar)
<i>Recreation Committee</i>	Town Office	2 nd Monday 7:00 p.m.
<i>Additional Town Committees</i>	Town Office	Scheduled as needed

Emergency Number

Fire Department, Rescue Squad/Ambulance, State Police:
If 9-1-1 is not operational, call the Tinmouth Fire House:

Dial 9-1-1
802-446-2460

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
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Fire Permit

If there is no snow on the ground, a fire permit is required to burn grass or brush within 200 feet of any woodland. For information about a fire permit call: *Glenn D. Merrill, Fire Warden* 802-446-2782 or
Wheaton Squier, Deputy 802-446-2082

To report a FOREST FIRE, call 9-1-1.

Voting

To Vote in a Town Election, one must:

1. Be a citizen of the United States of America.
2. Be 18 years of age or over.
3. Have taken the Voter's Oath in the State of Vermont.

Please contact the Town Clerk for an application to the Check List. You can also register through the DMV or online at "My Voter Page" at mvp.sec.state.vt.us.

Vermont has **same-day voter registration**, meaning that if you have not previously registered to vote and want to do so on election day, you can register then and there. You do need to be a resident of the town in which you are registering to vote, and must provide proof of residency (like a utility bill), and identification (driver's license).

Transfer Station Hours

The Transfer Station (for trash disposal and recycling) is open Saturday morning 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Wednesday afternoon 4 - 7 p.m. A punch ticket is required (\$25 for 10 punches or \$125 for 50 punches). Each 30-gallon bag of trash is 1 punch (\$2.50). Larger items are priced according to size.

Recycling is FREE.

1. Zero Sort for glass, tin cans, aluminum, #1-7 plastic (you don't have to separate)
2. Paper – sort newspaper; corrugated cardboard; and all other papers
3. Metal

Punch tickets must be obtained at the Town Office. Information sheets are available at the Transfer Station or Town Office.

Electronics – Computers and Computer peripherals – no charge – special containers for collection in shed.

Household Hazardous Waste is not collected in Town. See the Hazardous Waste Schedule on page 39.

Refrigerators, freezers, air-conditioners, and all items containing Freon are no longer accepted. Hubbard Brothers on Cold River Road in Rutland is an option for disposal.

Library Hours - Thursday afternoons: 2 - 5:00 p.m.

Ruth Drachman, Librarian

Zoning & Subdivision Regulations

Permits are required for the following:

New driveways (Driveway) – No Fee

New Building Construction or Alteration (Zoning) – \$5.00 Fee*

Change of Use (Zoning) – \$5.00 Fee*

Subdivision of Land (Subdivision) – \$25.00 Fee*

Application to Board of Adjustment – \$25.00 Fee*

New septic systems or repairs – State Permit Required, copy to be provided to the Town

*Fees may be reviewed and changed in 2024.

If you have any questions or need an application, please contact:

Gail Fallar, Tinmouth Zoning Administrator

802-446-2498 or

tinmouthtown@vermontel.net

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
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Tinmouth Newsletter

The *Tales of Tinmouth* is a monthly newsletter that contains town, church and school news; upcoming events; interviews with town residents; etc., for town residents (past and present), property owners, and friends. If you are not currently on the mailing list and would like to receive “Tales,” please send your name and address to Editor, 515 North End Road, Tinmouth, VT 05773, or by email. There is no charge, although donations are gratefully appreciated. The newsletter is published with volunteer help; donations cover postage and printing. E-mail is tinmouthtales@vermontel.net. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month. Ads accepted with a donation.

Dog Licenses

All dogs six (6) months of age or older shall annually, on or before **April 1st**, be licensed. RABIES certificates must be signed by a duly licensed Veterinarian and delivered to the Town Clerk stating that the dog has within 36 months (for dogs two years of age and older), 12 months (for dogs over one but less than two years), and within the last year (for dogs under one year old), been vaccinated against rabies, BEFORE any dog is licensed.

Regular License Fees: \$9.00 neutered male or spayed female; \$13.00 male or female not neutered/spayed. Price includes \$5.00 for State Rabies and Neutering Programs. The price increases by 50% after April 1st.

Licenses are available at the Town Clerk’s office.

Front Porch Forum ~ Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors

Front Porch Forum is a company that provides online digital news for all Vermont towns. Each town has its own site for neighbors to share news, events, etc. In Tinmouth, meeting agendas and notices are posted here as well.

To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>, or stop by the town office for assistance.

Post upcoming events; sell, swap or trade; comment on current issues; keep track of what’s happening in town; give someone a pat on the back; etc. You get an email several times a week, read the postings or not, you don’t have to post anything. It helps everyone keep in touch and provides for better communication.

If you own property here, but live out of town, use your Tinmouth 9-1-1 address for your location.



**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

TOWN OF TINMOUTH REPORTS

SELECT BOARD

This year the Select Board focused on moving forward with numerous grant opportunities to continue to update and improve Town infrastructure. Despite the rapid pace of this year the Board made inroads on our sand and salt shed planning, added back-up generators, and addressed road safety concerns.

In May the Board accepted a bid from Dubois & King Engineering to do the design and engineering for the sand and salt shed, their work is being paid for by a grant we received last year. We will hopefully get a sense of the total cost of this project once this process is done and be able to budget, write additional grants and make decisions based on this work.

In the spring we received an Emergency Operations Center grant. The goal of this grant was to improve emergency centers within communities. We used this grant to make electrical upgrades to the Town Office and purchase and install back-up generators for the town office and the fire department. We used ARPA money to cover the required match and also cover the additional cost for the fire department so that both buildings would be equipped during an emergency.

We received a road safety grant to help us clear some of the ash trees that have become a safety concern.

The Board decided to spend ARPA money for a used tractor with a roadside mower, and a new blade attachment for cutting brush/limbs. This will give the road crew the ability to mow the roadsides themselves and push back more of the brush to increase visibility and safety.

The Town is in the process of completing a townwide reappraisal, this will be required by all Vermont communities and we are well on our way to having that completed.

We received recommendations from our Speed Limit Study Committee and we will be working with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department to establish an updated traffic ordinance, increase enforcement, and work to increase the safety of our roads.

Thank you to all our staff and crew who keep the town going and for all the wonderful community members who make this town such a special place to live.

Meadow Squier, Chair

TOWN PROPERTY

Mountain View Road

Town Office / Library * Old Firehouse * Old Town Sheds * Old Creamery * Pizza Oven

Town Green

**Tinmouth Community Center * Tinmouth Mountain School (Pre-K through 6th grade)
WeeFolk and original Playgrounds and Ballfield**

Route 140

Town Garage & Transfer Station

Tinmouth Mountain

Town Forest & Cabin

TOWN HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT

Trucks:	Ford F550 Dump	2019
	International-Black Tandem Dump	2019
	International-Orange Tandem Dump	2022
Loader:	Caterpillar 926M	2022
Excavator:	Caterpillar 307E2	2016
Skid Steer:	Caterpillar 242D	2016
Grader:	Campion 730A	1999
Wood Chipper		2006

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Trailer for Excavator	1998
Blower for Skid Steer	2018
Sander for 1 ton:	2017
Roller for Grader under construction	
Chain Saws (3)	
Back Pack Blowers (2)	
Tractor w/Boom Mower & Buzz Bar	

TOWN CLERK

2023 was filled with the usual events for the town office: licensing dogs (due April 1st), selling transfer station tickets, selling hunting and fishing licenses, renewing motor vehicle registrations (cars, trucks, trailers, boats and motorcycles); as well as recording deeds and mortgages; recording births, deaths and marriages; helping genealogists find ancestors; collecting taxes; overseeing two town meetings, and answering general questions (like - I'm lost!).

2024 is an election year, which includes a Presidential Primary in conjunction with town meeting – March 5th. There will also be a State Primary on August 13th and a General Election on November 5th. Registering to vote – Vermonters are automatically registered to vote when applying for or renewing a Vermont Driver's License unless they chose to opt out. Same Day Voter Registration went into effect in 2017, meaning anyone who is 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen can walk into the polling place, register to vote and then vote – provided you can present an ID and evidence that you live in Tinmouth. All voting is done by Australian balloting, so early/absentee ballots can be requested for any election. Ballots can be mailed to you; you can vote early at the town office; ballots can be picked up at the town office and you can mail them back or drop them off on election day.

Thank you to the many folks who serve the Town as volunteers on the numerous committees, commissions, boards, and for elections. There are also many volunteers that organize events, such as the Town Fun Day, the Fire Department's Game Supper, pizza oven parties, Christmas Elves, *Tales of Tinmouth*, and more. It takes effort and work to create and maintain the sense of community that Tinmouth exudes and enjoys. It is a special place due to the people who live here and care about their neighbors.

A special thank you to Nancy Gucker Birdsall and Wendy Fannin for their many years of past work volunteering producing the town report. This year's town report is the handiwork of Jennifer Inkley Trepal, who has done a great job!

The Select Board continues to work on a number of issues:

- Construction of a salt/sand shed – though at the moment the cost appears to far out-weigh what a town with a population of less than 600 can support. Alternatives are being considered.
- Public Safety – worked with the Speed Limit Study Committee to help address concerns raised by citizens regarding drivers going too fast; also includes working with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement and speed control.
- Ensure that the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund has sufficient funds to replace three trucks, a grader and loader when the need arises (scheduled every few years), as well as the several other pieces of equipment that have been added to the mix (excavator, skid steer, tractor and mower, chipper, and trailer).
- Search for grant opportunities, to replace culverts and repair ditches to help the town comply with new State water quality regulations, as well as re-paving asphalt roads.

With gratitude to the residents of Tinmouth for providing me the opportunity to continue serving the town as town clerk (starting year 40), treasurer, select board assistant, lister, and wearer of many other municipal and volunteer hats.

Respectfully submitted, *Gail Fallar*

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

GENERAL & HIGHWAY FUNDS

Checking Account Summary

Beginning Balance in Checking Account 7/1/2022	\$305,614.73
Receipts	
State Highway Aid	87,243.27
Highway Grant in Aide	6,700.00
State Paving Grant	200,000.00
Reim. to Hwy from Capital Fund re:town garage	60,008.00
Property Taxes Collected FY22 (Town & School)	1,627,960.91
Use Value – State	63,770.00
Fish & Wildlife in lieu of taxes	5,484.85
Act 60 Re-appraisal & Homestead – State	4,275.00
Delinquent Taxes (tax, penalty, interest, expenses)	91,991.79
Transfer Station fees	12,342.00
Recycling	94.60
Current Use Penalty	2,015.00
Dog Licenses & Fees	1,740.50
Zoning Permit Fees	191.00
Marriage/CU License Fees	480.00
Copies	1,200.00
Interest – checking	8,109.18
Old Firehouse Donations	25.00
Traffic tickets	863.50
Reimbursements/Refunds	824.90
Milfoil Project State Grant (pass-through)	6,797.00
Community Center Manager Salary Reimbursement FY21	1,221.83
Overweight truck permits	240.00
Town Clerk Recording Fees	4,768.00
Town Office Fees	80.00
Miscellaneous-Mountain Cabin	20.00
American Rescue Act Plan ARPA Funds	88,822.90
Overpaid FY23 Property Taxes	2,931.28
Prepaid FY22 Property Taxes	(279.42)
Abatement FY15 Snafu	(52.98)
Total FY 23 Receipts with beginning balance	2,279,868.11
Disbursements	
Highway Orders	916,178.55
General Orders	227,599.26
School Property Tax Transfer	1,062,812.07
ARPA Expenditures	4,526.79
Milfoil Transfer	6,797.00
Total Expenditures	2,217,913.67
Balance 6/30/23 Town Checking Account	\$367,569.17
FY23 Construction Bond for Town Garage \$ 339,500. Principal paid \$16,975, balance 6/30/23 \$322,525.	

Respectfully submitted, *Gail Fallar*, Treasurer

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

Checking Accounts Summary – Encumbrances

	Balance 7/1/22	Add'l alloca- tion/ unspent budget	Rec'd from State	Transfers	Expenses	Total	Balance 6/30/23
Checkbook balance							\$367,569
Less Encumbered Balance							
Accounts:							
Website Special Account	2,381	750				3,131	
Computer Special Account	2,287	834				3,121	
Re-appraisal Fund	85,448		4,275			89,723	
Property Mapping	700	1,000				1,700	
Conservation Commission	1,060	340				1,400	
Community Participation Comm	469			(469)		-	
Highway Fund CarryForward	52,196			4,266	(56,462)	-	
Ash Tree Removal Project	4,266			(4,266)		-	
Prepaid FY 24 Property Taxes	279	2,931			(279)	2,931	
ARPA Funds	86,842		88,823		(4,527)	171,138	
Total Encumbrances in Checking	235,928	5,855	93,098	(469)	(61,268)	273,144	(273,144)
Unencumbered Balance							<u>\$ 94,425</u>



Storytelling at the Old Firehouse

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
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Revenues – General & Highway Funds

	FY23 Budget	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budget	FY25 Budget
HIGHWAY FUND				
State Highway Aide	84,000	87,243	84,000	84,000
Hwy Bridge & Culvert Grant	36,000	0	0	0
Grant In Aide	6,000	6,700	6,000	8,000
Paving Grant	0	200,000	0	0
Capital Fund T.G. Reimbursement	0	60,008	0	0
Highway Fund Subtotals	126,000	353,951	90,000	92,000
GENERAL FUND				
Property Taxes*	662,365	565,149	682,955	663,630
Use Value - State	62,000	63,770	62,000	63,000
Fish & Wildlife Taxes In	5,000	5,485	5,000	5,000
Delinquent Taxes	0	82,210	0	0
Delinquent Interest	4,000	4,630	4,000	4,000
Delinquent Fees	2,000	5,120	2,000	2,000
Delinquent Expenses	0	32	0	0
Transfer Station Fees	11,000	12,342	12,500	12,500
Recycling	50	95	50	50
Current Use Penalty	0	2,015	0	0
Dog Licenses & Fees	1,600	1,740	1,600	1,600
Zoning/ZBA Permit Fees	100	191	100	100
Marriage/CU Licenses	120	480	120	120
Copies	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Refunds/Reimbursements	0	825	0	0
Interest - Checking Acct.	1,000	8,109	2,500	3,000
Old Firehouse Donations	0	25	0	0
Traffic tickets	1,000	864	1,000	1,000
Milfoil Grant	0	6,797	0	0
Comm.Ctr. Reim	1,150	1,222	1,280	1,300
Overwt Truck Permits	100	240	100	100
Grants	0	0	0	0
Town Office Fees	50	80	50	50
Mtn Cabin Rent	0	20	0	0
TC Recording Fees	6,000	4,768	6,800	6,000
General Fund Subtotal	758,735	767,409	783,255	764,650
Total Revenue w/Highway Aide	884,735	1,121,360	873,255	856,650
ARPA Funds		88,823		
Re-appraisal Funds		4,275		

* To be raised by property taxes: \$663,630 + up to \$46,360 for Organizations/Dues, to be voted on separately. If all are approved, the total would be \$709,990. Approving the Extra Paving Article for \$25,000 would increase the total to be raised by taxes to \$734,990.

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
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Expenses – General Fund

	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual	FY 24 Budget	FY 25 Budget
GENERAL EXPENSES				
Select Board	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Select Board Assistant	7,500	10,704	9,000	9,270
Town Clerk	32,300	32,300	33,900	34,900
Treasurer	13,375	13,375	14,050	14,475
Assistant TC & Treas.	6,250	5,987	11,100	11,100
Auditors	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Delinquent Tax Collector	3,080	3,080	3,235	3,330
Listers	3,800	3,891	5,000	5,000
Health Officer	500	0	500	500
Zoning Admin/PC Sec.	1,500	2,200	2,000	2,000
Emergency Management	200	200	200	200
Animal Control Officers	200	0	200	200
Town Bookkeeper	3,150	2,637	3,700	3,150
Comm. Ctr. Director	1,135	1,135	1,190	1,225
Paint/Work Crew	2,500	1,485	2,500	2,500
FICA	4,900	4,926	5,300	5,500
Medicare	1,200	1,140	1,200	1,300
VMERS	3,560	3,963	4,000	4,500
Health Insurance	5,000	5,969	6,050	7,000
Dental Insurance	650	598	650	650
Workers Comp/Unemployment	400	389	425	820
W/C Fire Dept	1,500	1,219	1,200	1,250
Disability Insurance	325	184	325	325
Insurance Prop/Liability	6,000	4,927	6,000	6,300
Telephone/Internet	1,750	1,859	1,750	2,000
Electricity	900	784	900	1,000
Fuel Oil	2,000	2,091	2,000	2,300
Lawn Care	1,000	680	1,000	1,000
Office Supplies	4,600	4,748	4,600	4,600
Postage	1,500	1,313	1,500	1,500
Town Report	1,200	1,182	1,200	1,400
County Taxes	7,350	6,448	8,900	8,900
Legal Fees	2,500	0	2,500	2,500
Professional Services	5,000	5,000	5,975	6,000
Computer Software/Hardware	1,300	530	1,300	1,300
Miscellaneous	750	675	750	750
Old Cemetery Maintenance	500	466	500	600
Mileage	100	0	100	100
Building Repair	1,500	1,035	1,500	1,500
Marriage/CU Licenses	150	300	150	150
State Dog Tax	800	865	800	800
Dog Control Fees	100	0	100	100
Workshops/Seminars	500	93	500	500
Planning (Advertising)	500	355	500	500
Property Map Update	1,000	0	1,400	1,500
Building/Repair Fund	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Web Site Support *	750	232	750	750
Conservation Comm *	500	180	500	500

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual	FY 24 Budget	FY 25 Budget
Advertising	500	452	500	500
TOTAL GENERAL EXP	141,275	134,097	156,900	161,745
LAW ENFORCEMENT				
Workers Comp	25	24	25	40
County Sheriff	23,760	17,531	24,775	24,775
TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT	23,785	17,555	24,800	24,815
SOLID WASTE				
Salaries	6,500	6,230	6,700	6,900
Hauling - Solid Waste	3,000	2,680	3,200	3,200
Disposal Solid Waste	8,000	9,044	10,800	10,800
HHW Disposal	1,000	604	1,000	1,000
Dues & Fees	3,200	2,560	3,200	3,400
State Trash Tax	1,000	0	0	0
Supplies/Equip/Repairs	1,000	325	1,000	1,000
FICA	410	405	410	430
Medicare	100	95	100	110
Miscellaneous	200	300	200	300
Workers Comp	650	636	650	650
Recycling Disposal	2,200	3,608	2,800	4,000
Recycling Hauling	2,500	3,501	2,800	3,500
TOTAL SOLID WASTE	29,760	29,988	32,860	35,290
ORGANIZATIONS/DUES				
VACD	100	100	100	100
BROC	200	200	200	200
Green-Up Vermont	50	50	50	50
Poultney Rescue Squad	700	700	700	820
RRPC	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Rutland County Parent/Child	500	500	500	500
NewStory Center	175	175	175	175
Rutland Free Library	3,010	3,010	3,160	3,285
Rutland Mental Health	550	550	550	550
Rutland NRC	250	250	250	250
SW Office on Aging	300	300	300	300
Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Pro	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Tinmouth Vol. Fire Dept.	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
VLCT	1,775	1,772	1,825	1,825
VNA/Hospice	800	800	800	800
Vt Adult Learning Ctr	200	200	200	200
Vt Ctr. Independ. Living	80	80	80	80
Vt Old Cemetery Assoc.	25	25	25	25
Wallingford Rescue Squad	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
NeighborWorks	200	200	200	200
A.R.C	800	800	800	800
Poultney-Mettowee Watershed	500	500	500	500
VT Trails & Greenways	0	50	50	50
Tinmouth Cemetery	2,500	3,300	2,500	3,500
Vermont Cons Commission	50	50	50	50
American Red Cross	250	250	250	250
Child First Advocacy Ctr	400	400	400	400

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual	FY 24 Budget	FY 25 Budget
RVPS & Volunteer Group	200	200	200	200
TOTAL DUES & ORGANIZ	45,115	45,962	45,365	46,610
Milfoil Grant Pass Through		6,797		

* Unused balance for website support and Conservation Commission transferred to special accounts.

Expenses – Highway and Public Works Fund

	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual	FY 24 Budget	FY 25 Budget
HIGHWAY EXPENSES				
Wages	107,700	97,623	113,500	116,900
Wages Over-time	17,000	11,154	17,600	18,000
Extra Help	7,500	21,902	28,400	30,000
FICA	8,200	8,965	10,200	10,500
Medicare	2,000	2,097	2,400	2,500
VMERS	8,925	7,747	9,200	9,450
Health Insurance	30,000	29,967	23,900	28,000
Dental Insurance	1,200	1,197	1,200	1,200
Disability Insurance	600	456	600	600
Workers Comp/Unemployment	10,000	11,367	10,650	11,500
Uniform Allowance	900	710	900	900
Safety Equipment	0	0	500	500
Property & Liability Ins	7,500	6,662	10,700	11,000
Repairs/Maintenance/Parts	18,000	34,008	18,000	20,000
Diesel Fuel	20,000	29,056	31,200	35,000
Tools	500	3,095	500	500
Gasoline	250	131	250	250
Winter Salt	45,000	27,409	35,000	35,000
Winter Sand	14,000	14,106	14,000	14,000
Gravel/Stone	17,500	38,307	22,500	22,500
Paving	100,000	275,581	100,000	100,000
Cold Patch/Hot Mix	500	220	500	500
Chloride	12,000	10,926	12,000	12,000
Culverts	5,000	3,939	5,000	5,000
Road Signs/Work Signs	800	1,997	800	800
Winter Contracts	6,800	4,200	6,800	12,000
Misc./Contingency	1,500	1,592	1,500	1,500
Hay	0	0	0	500
Roadside Mowing	5,550	8,500	10,000	0
Mileage	200	0	200	200
Equipment Rent	750	1,285	1,500	1,500
Bldg repair	1,000	205	1,000	1,000
Electricity	900	1,892	2,000	2,000
Fuel Oil	1,000	1,584	2,500	2,000
Propane	0	1,979	0	2,000
Telephone/Internet	1,650	1,859	1,800	2,000
Equipment Fund Allocation	77,275	77,250	71,500	80,000
Salt/Sand Shed Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Crack Sealing Paved Roads	10,000	0	5,000	5,000

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual	FY 24 Budget	FY 25 Budget
ANR Permit	2,500	1,925	2,500	2,500
Hwy Reserve Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Grant In Aide	2,000	0	2,000	2,000
Ash Tree Removal	5,000	0	5,000	0
Carry Forward \$30,922 Chipper	0	18,500	0	0
Potter's Brook Culvert	54,800	54,684	0	0
Bond Payment Town Garage + Int	24,000	23,695	20,500	24,000
Debit Card	0	446	0	0
Total Highway	640,000	848,218	613,300	634,800
PUBLIC WORKS – New Town Garage (from Highway Account)				
Engineering		1,309		
Permit Fees		331		
Gravel		19,509		
Equipment Rent		994		
Supplies/Misc/Pipe/Gas		12,458		
Subcontractors		9,052		
Materials (Holding Tank)		8,160		
TAP Grant Expenses Salt/Sand Shed Project		2,528		
EB Wages		6,709		
RC Wages		3,776		
GM Wages		3,137		
SUBTOTAL PW FACILITIES		67,963		
Reimb from Capital Bldg Fund		60,008		
Balance Due to Highway Account		7,955		
TOTAL HIGHWAY AND GARAGE EXPENSES		916,181		

Expenses Total – General & Highway Funds

	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual	FY 24 Budget	FY 25 Budget
TOTAL General Expenses	239,935	227,602	259,925	221,850
TOTAL Highway Expenses	640,000	848,218	613,300	634,800
Engineering Public Works Facilities		67,963		
TOTAL General + Highway	879,935	1,143,783	873,225	856,650
Milfoil Grant Pass Through		6,797		
Property Tax Transfer to School		1,062,812		

Annual Allotments for Organizations/Dues totaling \$46,360 will be voted separately at town meeting. The approved amount will be added to the budget before the tax rate is set. The General Expenses total of \$221,850 does not include the \$46,360 to be approved separately, nor does it include \$25,000 for the Extra Paving Article to be voted on at town meeting. If both the highway and general budgets, all the allotments, and extra paving are approved, the total that will need to be raised by taxes will increase by approximately 7.6%. An estimated tax rate is unavailable due to the reappraisal.

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

**STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED
2022-2023 Budget**

2022 Total Grand List		\$ 88,168,700
Adjusted for Current Use		(8,591,000)
Contracts		(385,300)
Cable Equip. (School Tax only)		316,300
Veterans Exemptions		<u>(120,000)</u>
2022 Taxable Grand List		\$ 79,388,700
1 % of Grand List (for town tax)		793,887
Non-residential education grand list (School)		416,890
Homestead education grand list (School)		380,160
Town Tax Rates		
Town	\$ 0.7976	
Local agreement	0.0018	
State School Tax Rates		
Residential	\$ 1.5217	
Non-Residential	\$ 1.6129	
Total Adjusted Taxes Assessed		\$ 1,885,522.41
Collected by Treasurer		1,627,960.91
State Payments		<u>206,854.87</u>
Taxes turned over to Delinquent Tax Collector		\$ 50,706.63



*Knit and Chatters –
Socially Distanced*

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

<p style="text-align: center;">Capital Building and Repair Fund</p> <p><i>Originally created for construction of a salt shed. Has been modified to include use for the town garage and other town buildings.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$ 326,958.19</td></tr> <tr><td>Bond Funds</td><td style="text-align: right;">339,500.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Annual Allotment</td><td style="text-align: right;">7,500.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Efficiency VT Credit</td><td style="text-align: right;">1,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest Income</td><td style="text-align: right;">5,199.90</td></tr> <tr><td>Morton Buildings Deposit</td><td style="text-align: right;">(388,860.00)</td></tr> <tr><td>Parker Water Wells</td><td style="text-align: right;">(17,788.16)</td></tr> <tr><td>Bank Fee</td><td style="text-align: right;">(15.00)</td></tr> <tr><td>Transfer to Hwy/General Fund</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>(60,008.00)</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023 *</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 213,486.93</u></td></tr> <tr><td>* General Share</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$38,769.00</td></tr> <tr><td> Hwy Share</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$174,717.93</td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 326,958.19	Bond Funds	339,500.00	Annual Allotment	7,500.00	Efficiency VT Credit	1,000.00	Interest Income	5,199.90	Morton Buildings Deposit	(388,860.00)	Parker Water Wells	(17,788.16)	Bank Fee	(15.00)	Transfer to Hwy/General Fund	<u>(60,008.00)</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023 *	<u>\$ 213,486.93</u>	* General Share	\$38,769.00	Hwy Share	\$174,717.93	<p style="text-align: center;">Housing Rehab Program</p> <p><i>Created in 1993 through a grant from the state that provided mortgages to several properties for the purpose of helping with wells, septic systems, roofs, etc. The fund represents repayments from homeowners and is not restricted in its use.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$ 3,989.49</td></tr> <tr><td>Loan Repayments</td><td style="text-align: right;">3,360.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest Income</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>5.49</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 7,354.98</u></td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 3,989.49	Loan Repayments	3,360.00	Interest Income	<u>5.49</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023	<u>\$ 7,354.98</u>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Highway Equipment Fund</p> <p><i>Fund created for purchasing highway equipment.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$ 123,573.19</td></tr> <tr><td>Annual Allotment</td><td style="text-align: right;">77,250.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest Income</td><td style="text-align: right;">936.74</td></tr> <tr><td>Purchase New Loader</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>(159,800.00)</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 41,959.93</u></td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 123,573.19	Annual Allotment	77,250.00	Interest Income	936.74	Purchase New Loader	<u>(159,800.00)</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023	<u>\$ 41,959.93</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Record Restoration & Preservation Fund</p> <p><i>Established for the preservation and restoration of town records.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$ 10,394.57</td></tr> <tr><td>Recording Fees</td><td style="text-align: right;">1,732.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest Income</td><td style="text-align: right;">34.65</td></tr> <tr><td>Land Record #49</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>(472.26)</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 11,688.96</u></td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 10,394.57	Recording Fees	1,732.00	Interest Income	34.65	Land Record #49	<u>(472.26)</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023	<u>\$ 11,688.96</u>												
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<p style="text-align: center;">Capital Paving & Road Reconstruction Reserve Fund</p> <p><i>Fund created for major highway projects.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$ 30,080.55</td></tr> <tr><td>Annual Allotment</td><td style="text-align: right;">5,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest Income</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>221.65</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 35,302.20</u></td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 30,080.55	Annual Allotment	5,000.00	Interest Income	<u>221.65</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023	<u>\$ 35,302.20</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Old Creamery Project</p> <p><i>Fund created to restore historic building.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$ 5,949.71</td></tr> <tr><td>Community Fund Grant</td><td style="text-align: right;">750.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest Income</td><td style="text-align: right;">11.53</td></tr> <tr><td>Paint</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>(240.93)</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 6,470.31</u></td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 5,949.71	Community Fund Grant	750.00	Interest Income	11.53	Paint	<u>(240.93)</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023	<u>\$ 6,470.31</u>														
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<p style="text-align: center;">Fish & Wildlife Account</p> <p><i>Established to record hunting and fishing licenses sold.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$453.75</td></tr> <tr><td>Licenses Sold</td><td style="text-align: right;">953.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Paid to VT Fish & Wildlife</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>(880.50)</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$526.25</u></td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$453.75	Licenses Sold	953.00	Paid to VT Fish & Wildlife	<u>(880.50)</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023	<u>\$526.25</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bill Jenkins School Field Trip Fund</p> <p><i>Privately funded in memory of Bill Jenkins. Provides class trips to enhance the experiences of Tinmouth students.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Balance, July 1, 2022</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$ 4,832.13</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest Income</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>9.66</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Balance, June 30, 2023</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 4,841.79</u></td></tr> </table>	Balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 4,832.13	Interest Income	<u>9.66</u>	Balance, June 30, 2023	<u>\$ 4,841.79</u>																		
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**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

**AUDITOR
FY 2022 – 2023**

We have conducted our audit of the Town of Tinmouth's financial records for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. We reviewed cash receipts, general expense warrants, payroll warrants, the Grand List and special accounts. The Grand List is checked for accuracy to lister card valuations and tax payments received and deposited are verified. We check cash receipts for unusual changes, verify the receipt and deposit of large state aid payments and their recording into the proper accounts. The cash disbursements are checked for the proper authorization and payment to the listed vendor. Payroll disbursements are checked for select board authorization, payee, pay rate, overtime rate and withholdings.

The few discrepancies we found in our document samplings were explained to our satisfaction. To the best of our knowledge, it is our opinion, based on our examination of accounts and records, that the accounts as printed in the Town Report accurately represent the financial status of the Town.

Respectfully submitted, *Sandy Goyette*, Chair, *Vito Macaluso*, *Ann Czar*

LIBRARY

The Tinmouth Library is a Reader's Library, one which we hope fits the needs of children and adults. It is the goal of the Tinmouth Library to fuel the fires of the imagination and intelligence.

The Tinmouth Library is an all-volunteer, all-donation library. This means that no person working at the library receives money for their services to the library; the library is completely staffed by volunteers. In order that we might pay for our purchases and expenses we hold fund-raisers and we accept monetary donations.

We had a very successful Book Sale in May of 2023, with thanks to Gayle Wetzler who was in charge of the event. We combined the book sale with a pizza bake, serving lunch to many of the book browsers as well.

Our Writer's group continues to meet on "zoom". Although we are not in the same room, it allows us to have members present from Maryland and California. The writer's group is a group of committed writers who meet monthly under the leadership of Nelson Jaquay to share what they have written and get feedback.

The Little Free Library is thriving, and we thank The Tinmouth Community Fund for helping us fund it. It is a "put and take" structure with books that are FREE to anyone who chooses to use it. It is located on the porch of the town office.

We thank the many volunteers who keep the library running. We specially thank the Board of Trustees: Nelson Jaquay, Gene Usher, Jan Krantz, Lori Gilmore, Chris Martone, Kristy Usher, and our newly elected trustee, Gayle Wetzler.

We believe that reading is essential to our good health!

Respectfully submitted, *Ruth Drachman*, Librarian

BOARD OF LISTERS

The Town of Tinmouth is conducting a town-wide assessment update of each and every parcel within the town borders for the 2024 Grand List.

The last town-wide reappraisal was done in 2016. Changes in the economy require that we analyze all property using current cost tables and land schedules, to ensure all properties are assessed equitably and at 100% of fair market value. Many properties have sold for twice the town's assessed value, all over the state, not just in Tinmouth.

In addition, due to the huge increase in property sale prices, the Vermont Department of Taxes is requiring over half of the towns in the state to conduct a reappraisal. Tinmouth is one of them.

In May, the Select Board signed a contract with Douglas C. McArthur, CAE, who has conducted the last three re-appraisals done in Tinmouth, to assist the Town's Listers with completion of the tasks necessary for this project.

Work began in earnest in July with Mr. McArthur visiting nearly every property (there were a few mountain top parcels that were viewed from afar). The Town's Listers assisted him when possible. Site visits/field reviews – which included verifying current information, and taking new photos were completed at the end of December. Work on a new land schedule, cost tables, a new depreciation schedule, and data input into the computer will

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

begin in the new year. Once all properties are re-calculated and new parcel value reviews are completed, property owners will be notified of all changes in assessment/appraisals.

Your cooperation in this process is very much appreciated!

Reminder: the state requires all residential property owners to file a Homestead Declaration form every year, whether you owe income taxes or not. If you make less than \$141,000, you also need to file the property tax adjustment form and the household income form to be eligible for income sensitivity, due by April 15th. You can file online at: <https://www.myvtax.vermont.gov>

As always, you are welcome to and encouraged to review the information in the Listers' files on your property. If you have any questions, please call or email the Town Office. 802-446-2498 or tinmouthtown@vermontel.net.

Respectfully submitted, *Gail Fallar, Chair, Pat Psholka, Rick Fallar*

**GRAND LIST ABSTRACT
2023**

Real Estate	Parcel Count	Municipal Value	Education (taxable) Homestead	Education (taxable) Non-Residential	Total Education
Residential I	98	18,386,400	11,846,500	6,539,900	18,386,400
Residential II	127	40,115,300	25,649,800	14,465,500	40,115,300
Mobile Homes Unlanded	6	247,200	161,300	85,900	247,200
Mobile Homes Landed	32	3,784,000	2,671,100	1,112,900	3,784,000
Seasonal I	50	7,110,500	0	7,110,500	7,110,500
Seasonal II	19	3,459,300	0	3,459,300	3,459,300
Commercial	3	316,900	0	316,900	316,900
Utilities E	1	2,076,600	0	2,076,600	2,076,600
Farm	11	5,195,300	1,663,000	3,532,300	5,195,300
Woodland	1	159,600	0	159,600	159,600
Miscellaneous	103	7,742,400	80,800	7,661,600	7,742,400
TOTALS	451	88,593,500	42,072,500	46,521,000	88,593,500
Exemptions					
Cable	1	510,000	0	510,000	510,000
Veterans	2	80,000	20,000		20,000
TVFD Grand-fathered	1	69,000	0	69,000	69,000
Current Use	71	8,061,300	1,727,200	6,334,100	8,061,300
TOTAL Taxable Property		\$ 803,832.00	\$ 403,253.00	\$ 406,279.00	\$ 809,532.00

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Tinmouth Solid and Recycling Committee reconnected and reconvened after a pandemic hiatus.

This year upon request from the Select Board we looked at how the town collects solid waste and recycling and if there are any more cost effective or efficient methods or alternatives to the way the transfer station works now. It was determined that the current system is still the most cost effective for the town.

Other issues we discussed and heard about this year were bears, ravens and other wildlife getting into the dumpster and removing trash and the various methods used to impede this activity and possible ideas going forward. There is a very small amount of after hour dumping that has happened over the years and though it's not a lot, it's also not legal or allowed. We discussed how to mitigate that with more signage and possibly installing a security system at the transfer station.

Wheaton Squier, Chair

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OLD CREAMERY PROJECT

The Old Creamery Committee is happy to report that electricity from the town office was installed as well as lights under the porch, and that the East wall is nearly painted – a bit of touch-up remains. We anticipate that the Select Board will allocate some of the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds to assist with construction of a deck/walkway to a storage room that can be accessed by pizza oven users, the Conservation Commission, and whoever else needs a bit of covered space (Historical Society perhaps), as well as the storage room itself. The South wall will have its siding replaced, hopefully finding volunteers to pre-paint the claps.

Porch events included Town Fun Day (the ice cream station), several pizza oven parties, Knit & Chat folks, out-door meetings for several committees, and a local vendor selling wreaths and Christmas decorations.

If you are interested in helping keep this historical building around, look for our meeting dates and come on by.

Thank you to all the volunteers, past and present for your dedication and enthusiasm.

Michael Fallar, Chair

**DELINQUENT TAXES
As of December 31, 2023**

Delinquent Tax Breakdown FY 23

Taxes	\$ 82,509.95
Interest	4,629.55
Penalty	5,119.94
Fees	<u>32.35</u>
Total	\$ 91,991.70

Delinquent Tax List

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2013- 2019	Totals
Baker, Carol	10,609.74	0	0	0	0	10,609.74
Baker, Douglas	0	0	0	131.16	3,200.65	3,331.81
Benjamin, Alan & Webster, Mary	130.17	125.86	134.58	0	0	390.61
*	159.1	153.94	2.13	0	0	315.17
Carboni-Branchaud, Tammi	265.97	0	0	0	0	265.97
Carmen, Courtney w/Cook, Jeremy	2,088.49	1,469.81	1,728.89	788.23	0	6,075.42
*	1,676.33	0	0	0	0	1,676.33
Hepburn, Philip	332.38	0	0	0	0	332.38
Reinholt, Maryann	143.28	151.27	0	0	0	294.55
Rogers, Anita	1,350.86	1,306.78	833.03	0	0	3,490.67
Sears, Frank	7,028.93	6,666.06	1,385.15	0	0	15,080.14
Traina, Mildred Estate of		335.66	0	0	0	335.66
Velde, Lisa	286.38	0	0	0	0	286.38
Velde, Thomas Jr.	0	0	0	118.72	2,060.21	2,178.93
Webster, Marsha. w/ Jones, William	830.19	0	0	0	0	830.19
*	1,425.28	0	0	0	0	1,425.28
TOTAL	\$38,984.50	\$10,209.38	\$4,083.78	\$1,038.11	\$6,298.97	\$59,576.63

Amount includes tax, penalty and interest currently due.

* Payment in full received after December 31, 2023.

Cat Yoder, Delinquent Tax Collector

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PLANNING COMMISSION

2023 was fairly quiet. Work began on updating the Town Plan, which is due for re-adoption in September of 2025. Members reviewed the current Plan, revising sections as needed, relying on the Rutland Regional Planning Commission for census and countywide data. 2024 will find the PC considering whether an Enhanced Energy Plan is needed as part of the new Town Plan. The PC will also participate in a Town Needs Assessment being conducted in 2024, hoping to include several questions regarding the future of Tinmouth and its planning.

There is a major subdivision underway for the former Valentine farm. Current plans are for seven parcels, with only two under 25 acres in size.

You are invited to drop in to a meeting anytime to see what goes on. We would be glad to see you.

Thank you, *Michael Fallar*, Chair

RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

As we reflect on the past year, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) extends its deepest gratitude to the towns within our region for their unwavering support and collaborative efforts in advancing community and economic development, thoughtful planning, and sustainable growth.

Community and Economic Development – In the pursuit of fostering vibrant communities, we are actively engaged in community and economic development initiatives, such as Brownfields Redevelopment. Through strategic partnerships and public investment, we've worked to transform underutilized areas, like Pittsford Village Farm, into valuable community assets.

Town Planning and Zoning – By providing guidance and support to towns modernizing and updating their municipal plans and zoning regulations, we aim to create balanced, sustainable, and resilient communities that meet the needs of residents and businesses.

Water Quality and Natural Resources – Preserving our region's water quality and natural resources is a shared responsibility. Through collaborative efforts with local governments and organizations, our work as the South Lake Champlain Clean Water Service Provider identifies and develops projects that safeguard our water sources and protect the richness of our natural landscapes.

Emergency Preparedness and Climate Resilience – The RRPC led the charge responding and recovering from this summer's historic flooding. Beyond enhancing planning processes, we are committed to training local Emergency Management Directors (EMDs), ensuring swift and effective emergency responses, and building resilient communities equipped to navigate evolving climate dynamics.

Multimodal Transportation – Efficient and sustainable transportation is vital for the well-being of our communities. The RRPC has worked towards developing multimodal transportation solutions, such as an analysis of the Rutland City Bus System, that prioritize accessibility and safety.

Energy Conservation and Efficiency – Addressing the importance of energy conservation and efficiency, the RRPC has supported initiatives aimed at reducing energy consumption and promoting the use of renewable energy sources. We are working with towns across the region to implement the Municipal Energy Resilience Program, aimed at saving energy and money for our critical town-owned buildings.

Affordable Housing – Recognizing the need for diverse and affordable housing options, the RRPC has actively supported initiatives to address housing challenges. We worked closely with Vermont Finance Housing Agency (VHFA) to complete the 2023 Rutland Region Housing Needs Assessment and created a new planning program to help towns navigate housing challenges and opportunities.

Equity – Promoting equity is at the core of our planning efforts. We are dedicated to ensuring that our planning processes consider the needs and perspectives of all residents, fostering inclusive and equitable communities.

Regional Planning – We are thrilled to initiate a three-year process to update the 2018 Regional Plan, aiming to make it a true reflection of local priorities. We encourage active participation from residents, businesses, and organizations in meetings, workshops, and surveys to ensure diverse perspectives shape the updated plan. Your insights are invaluable in creating a blueprint for sustainable development, economic growth, and community enhancement. Stay tuned for upcoming engagement opportunities!

In closing, we want to thank all of the dedicated local volunteers and civil servants for their commitment to our region. Active participation in the local planning process ensures that diverse perspectives contribute to our

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shared vision. All are invited to join in helping shape our future as we look forward to another year of progress, innovation, and shared success.

Devon Neary, Executive Director

EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

This year members of our committee attended a statewide gathering to recognize and celebrate the Equity and Inclusion efforts being made across the state. Tinmouth was commended, along with 21 other towns, for our early action in this initiative. The statewide network supporting equity and inclusion has been increasing over the last years. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns has created a Tool kit for towns to use when working on equity and inclusion. The Vermont Chamber of Commerce helped develop the VT Declaration of Inclusion website, Governor Scott helped establish the Vermont Office of Racial Equity, and signed the proclamation of Inclusion for the state. IDEAL Vermont was created by the VT office of Racial equity and the cohort of communities participating in that program include Tinmouth, the only town in Rutland county represented. The goal behind all of these efforts is to ensure every person in the state is seen, heard, counted, feels safe and welcome. PEG-TV is putting together a video to explain the Declaration of Inclusion, which will be available for towns and on YouTube. We will post it on Front Porch Forum when it comes out for anyone interested.

Our committee has been participating in these statewide efforts through the IDEAL programming as well as through state seminars and workshops. We have been discussing ways to encourage dialogue within our community and some ideas are a book club, hosting speakers, lecturers and artists.

We have worked on the town manual updating it and are hoping to have it ready for approval and publishing this year. We have also written a successful community fund grant to put up “Welcome to Tinmouth” signs on each end of 140.

We helped organize the Tinmouth fun day in collaboration with the fire department, library, and road crew. It was wonderful to see so many folks coming together to have a good time and participate in this amazing community.

Respectfully submitted, *Meadow Squier, Committee Chair*

WEBSITE COMMITTEE

Website: www.tinmouthvt.gov

The Website Committee had several members resign, so the Select Board appointed a new committee, which included a member of the Select Board, the town clerk, the Community Center Building Manager, and a member at large, in addition to the two members that remained. We would like to thank Cathy Reynolds and Nancy Gucker Birdsall for their many years of work maintaining the website.

The new Website Committee was able to successfully move the domain of *tinmouthvt.org* to a more official **tinmouthvt.gov** domain. The redirect for *.org* to *.gov* was put into place and *.gov* is now the default landing page for all traffic. We also implemented Cloudflare which now acts as a WAF (Web Application Firewall). With Cloudflare in front of the site we can see and provide traffic data along with other metrics.

As of writing this report, in the past 30 days there have been approximately 40,000 unique visitors to the site! Another great benefit to having Cloudflare in front of the site is the ability for it to detect and instantly block attacks. We have traffic coming from all over the world. Much of the traffic coming from countries like Pakistan, China, Russia, and Indonesia is just scanning traffic from what are known as Bad Actors. Therefore, it is general practice to block all access coming from these areas.

With all that being said security and update wise the website is in a great position and the Website Committee will continue to ensure its functionality and ease of use.

Thank you, *Zachary Bronzo, Chair*

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SPEED LIMIT STUDY COMMITTEE

The Select Board appointed a Speed Limit Study Committee to investigate and report back to them regarding concerns raised by citizens about unsafe speeds on individual roads. A number of requests involved lowering the speed limits.

The Committee met several times, including with staff from the Rutland County Sheriff's Department (RCSD) and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission's Transportation person (RRPC). Members reviewed information gathered from speed monitoring devices placed by the RCSD and RRPC, which indicated that while the majority of drivers conform more or less to the limits, there are a few who do drive at excessive and dangerous speeds. Both of these folks and members of the committee advised enforcing current limits was the best next step.

The Committee also heard from a variety of residents who had concerns on speeds and unsafe drivers on their particular road, Route 140, East Road, Harrington Cross Road, and North End Road.

Members reviewed and updated Tinmouth's Traffic Ordinance.

Members compiled a list of recommendations for the Select Board:

- * Review the new draft traffic ordinance, have it reviewed by legal counsel, then adopt it.
- * Obtain and install speed feed-back signs for the school zone – all three directions.
- * Discuss more productive speed enforcement from the County Sheriff's Department.
- * Consider adding stop signs on Pent Road, Bliss Road and Journey's End Road.
- * Consider another speed study for Route 140 in various areas.
- * Flashing light for the stop sign in the center of town.
- * Education for the community regarding action to be taken regarding enforcement.

We would also like to remind people who have complaints about unsafe drivers to record information about the vehicle, the time unsafe behavior occurs and any other helpful data. Then that information should be reported to Rutland County Sheriff's Department at 802-775-8002. This information can help inform patrols and enforcement.

Respectfully submitted, *Kevin Eaton*, Chair

RUTLAND COUNTY SHERIFF

The Rutland County Sheriff's Department has been providing Police services to the town of Tinmouth for the last 10 years. Tinmouth is part of the four-town regional patrol made up of Ira, Danby, Middletown Springs and Tinmouth. This regional patrol provides 40 hours per week coverage to the above towns. Thus far in the 2023-2024 contract Rutland County Sheriff's Deputies have responded to thirty-one incidents, preformed thirty-three traffic stops issuing thirty-one tickets and six warnings in the town of Tinmouth. Deputies have arrested sixteen individuals in the four-town regional patrol, Tinmouth, Danby, Middletown Springs, and Ira; thus far most of these arrests have been driving under the influence of either alcohol or drugs. It is particularly important that the citizens of Tinmouth provide information and feedback to the Deputies concerning issues in your town. An effort will be made to address these issues as they arise. Deputies have received positive feedback from citizens on the successful impact the Sheriff's patrols have had on speed and criminal activity. I would like to say it is a privilege to work in the town of Tinmouth and thank the citizens of Tinmouth for their positive feedback and support. We hope to continue serving the citizens of Tinmouth for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted, Sheriff *David J. Fox*

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Tinmouth VFD would like to thank everyone for helping us have a safe year, for us and you. We continue to have a strong and active department. Our Game Supper returned this year, and it was a great success, thanks to all of Tinmouth.

Our mission is to be available to help with all kinds of emergencies. The best way for us to do this is to encourage everyone in the community to be as proactive as possible. Check and update fire detectors, have fire extinguishers on all floors of the home and in the kitchen, keep chimneys clean and debris and furniture away from wood stoves, and remember to keep a clear path to any door (inside and out) – you never know when you might have to escape out that door, or the fire department or rescue squad might need it to access and help someone inside.

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As First Responders, our first responsibility is to do no harm in our efforts to help others. Considering all of this, we do not want to put anyone at greater risk, that we may be trying to help. If you are a person that is considered high risk, please contact Chief Marshall Squier: 802-235-2718 or Sherry Johnson: 802-446-3307. This information remains within the department to help us identify and makes changes in our response so that we do not further compromise anyone's safety. If your situation changes, please let us know as well.

It is illegal to burn outdoors without a permit unless there is snow on the ground. However, Spring and Fall are the highest risk for brush fires, so do not burn without a permit, please! Call Fire Warden Glenn Merrill 802-446-2782 or Assistant Fire Warden Wheaton Squier 802-446-2082 for outdoor burn permits.

As Chief, I would like to thank every Firefighter past and present who has given and continues to give a part of their lives to help others. These members are all exemplary people and the personal satisfaction in helping others, and heartfelt gratitude expressed by community members is our only pay.

Chief Marshall "Mo" Squier, Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department

**TINMOUTH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND FUND BALANCE – CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 AND 2022**

		2023	2022
INCOME			
	Town allotment	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
	Grants	-	750
	Donations	5,851	2,647
	Supper	3,136	3,497
	Tag sale	2,559	2,415
	Gain on sale	2,500	-
	Other	186	283
	Total income	39,232	34,592
EXPENSES			
	Equipment purchased	8,859	7,775
	Dues	1,200	2,300
	Electricity	1,241	1,013
	Gasoline and diesel fuel	20	172
	Heat	770	3,294
	Insurance	4,751	4,835
	Office expense	-	88
	Repairs and maintenance	1,816	4,926
	Small tools	4,557	2,725
	Supplies	613	383
	Telephone	591	571
	Total expenses	24,418	28,082
NET INCREASE IN CASH		14,814	6,510
CASH, beginning October 1st		123,562	117,052
CASH, ending September 30th		\$ 138,376	\$ 123,562
CASH BALANCES:			
	Unrestricted	\$ 73,376	\$ 63,562
	Restricted – truck fund	65,000	60,000
	Total fund balances	\$ 138,376	\$ 123,562

Steve Goyette, Treasurer

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Tinmouth Conservation Commission (CC) had a great year of work, play, education and community engagement.

The commission was allocated its annual funds from the town budget. This was and will be used to pay for conservation projects in town and be controlled by the CC. Any funds not used in the budget year will remain in the Fund for future use.

Tinmouth's Green Up day was another great success with great thanks to everyone who came out to help clean up our town and to those who helped organize treats and prizes to celebrate all the hard work! The option is still open for those who can't make the date to green up on their own time prior to the event.

The Drachman Trail is still up and running. Built in memory of long-time Tinmouth resident, renowned pediatrician, hiker, and naturalist Bob Drachman, this is a one-mile loop trail of moderate difficulty for hiking, X-C skiing and snowshoeing. The trail, on Drachman property, starts on Crow Hill Road, 0.2 miles beyond the junction with the East Road. There is seasonal parking and a map of the blazed trail at the trailhead. Please, no use of this trail from snow melt until May 31 due to muddy conditions. Plans are afoot for a spur trail to a viewpoint, stay tuned. Tinmouth residents are welcome on the trail, call or email a CC member with questions on trail use.

The CC continues to coordinate with the Select Board and now the new Recreation Committee on recreation/conservation use of the town lot behind the transfer station. We've identified several potential uses for this plot, including planting and growing fruit trees, a disc golf course, a walking/bird watching path and picnic tables. In addition to these, future uses may include pickle ball and volleyball courts, community gardens and horseshoe courts. Please reach out with your ideas and thoughts on the matter!

The Tinmouth Mountain Cabin is again open for day and overnight use. Please call 802-446-2928 for overnight reservations and please use physical distancing and masks for any day use. The cabin is accessed via the Tinmouth Purchase Loop Trail. The cabin saw a rise in use this year. The resident porcupine is still at large, chewing through the toilet!

The Tinmouth Mountain Ridge Trail remains a popular out-and-back day hike to a lovely vista. The trail is about 2 miles round trip and quite steep in places although the switchbacks that were added recently have helped make it a more pleasant climb. Go to **Alltrails.com** for more information. There is also a kiosk at the beginning of the trail – north of the Community Center.

The literature trail Doug helped the Tinmouth Mountain School create is still up along the first section of the Ridge Trail. This allows walkers to read a book on their walk.

The CC is still in contact with the Tinmouth walking club on ways to create more trails throughout Tinmouth.

The CC had another successful nature photo-contest this year with many wonderful submissions. Folks enjoying their ice cream at Tinmouth Fun day cast their votes and got to enjoy the slideshow. Stay tuned for this year's announcement, we would love to see Tinmouth through your lens!

Thanks to everyone in town who has helped with Green Up, trail building and maintenance, cabin repairs and other conservation initiatives. You're invited to attend any of our meetings, generally on the 3rd Monday, every other month at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, *Rainbow Squier*, Chair

TINMOUTH COMMUNITY FUND

The Tinmouth Community Fund continued to support community projects, small business initiatives, and educational endeavors. In 2023 the Fund paid out Continuing Education scholarships of \$17,500, Community Fund grants of \$10,300, Small Business Grants of \$500, and K-12 camp scholarships of \$1,350. We received \$5,660 from individual donations, plus \$13,316 from the Tinmouth plant sale. As of the end of the 3rd quarter 2023, total TCF assets are increased to \$494,050. End of year statements are released in early February after this report goes to press.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the Tinmouth Community Fund. We appreciate any future support from your donation to TCF for future grants and scholarships. Your contributions remain at home, making Tinmouth a better place to live.

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The TCF Board consists of 9 members serving three-year terms. The current Board consists of Todd Dennis-Chair, Jan Krantz-Vice Chair, Cathy Reynolds-Treasurer, Helen Mango-Secretary, Melody Squier, Martha Stanley, Lisa Patry, Bess Lewis, and Lynn Buffum. The Scholarship Committee includes Cathy Reynolds, Bob Lloyd, Martha Stanley, Nancy Birdsall and Jan Krantz.

In 2022, the TCF Board decided to streamline the due date process for TCF grant and scholarship applications. Community Grant, Small Business Grant, Continuing Education Scholarships, and K-12 Scholarship applications are all due on April 1st. The TCF Annual Meeting will take place in June, prior to the Awards Night at the Tinmouth Community Center. As usual, we will elect three directors, share our progress from the past year, and make plans for 2025. We will advertise the Annual Meeting and Awards Night in advance. All are welcome!

Todd Dennis, Chair

Tinmouth Community Fund Board Members - Todd Dennis, Jan Krantz, Helen Mango, Cathy Reynolds, Martha Stanley, Melody Squier, Lisa Patry, Bess Lewis and Lynn Buffum.

2023 Community Grants

Equity and Inclusion (\$1000) for welcome signs
Fun in Tinmouth (\$750) fun free events
Old Creamery (\$750) upgrades and repair
Tales of Tinmouth (\$750) printing and postage
Tinmouth Operator's Manual (\$1000) printing
Imagination Library (\$300)
Tinmouth Blooms (\$750) free trees to residents
Community Center (Fresh Air Division-ie fans) (\$750)
Tinmouth Elves (\$750) Christmas gifts for youth
Tinmouth Elves (Outerwear Division) (\$750)
Supporters of Tinmouth (Fun Day) (\$750)
Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project (\$750)
Tinmouth Event Publicity (\$500)
Tinmouth Historical and Genealogical Society (\$750) Old Honor Roll Update and Repair

2023 Small Business Grant

Sumner's Property Maintenance (\$500)

2023 Scholarships

K-12 scholarships totaling \$1,350 for summer camp and travel soccer were awarded to: Sadie Martone, Mathias and Morgan Miner, Alana, Aliza and Isaac Smith.

Continuing Education Scholarships totaling \$17,500 were awarded to Julia Deppert, Sadira Majorell, Tor Majorell, Allison Nemeth, Elias Nemeth, Morgan Predom and Jaron Rochon.

Pam Garceau Memorial Scholarship of \$2,000 was awarded to Morgan Predom.

Susan McIntosh Lloyd Scholarship of \$1,500 had no applicants. Bob Lloyd has proposed expanding the parameters of the scholarship going forward.



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Tinmouth Community Fund

Balance 1/1/23	Town Checking Account	\$ 5,365.45
Revenues		
	Interest	\$ 11.80
	Donations	\$ 7,610.00
	Transfer from TCF Continuing Ed Fund (Plant Sale)	\$ 3,150.00
	Transfer from Vermont Community Fund	<u>\$ 4,250.00</u>
	TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 15,021.80
		\$ 20,387.25
Expenses		
	Community Grants	\$ 10,050.00
	Expenses/Re-Directed Donations	\$ 105.75
	K-12 Camp Scholarships	\$ 1,350.00
	Transfer to Continuing Ed Scholarship Fund	<u>\$ 1,080.00</u>
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 12,585.75
		\$ 5,051.50
Balance 12/31/23	Town Checking Account	<u>\$ 5,051.50</u>
* Not all grant checks were cashed, balance assumes they will be cashed.		

Tinmouth Community Fund Continuing Education Scholarship Fund

Balance 1/1/23	Town Checking Account	\$ 5,202.72
Revenues		
	Interest	\$ 48.84
	Donations	\$ 370.00
	Transfer from TCF (Donations)	1,080.00
	Susan Lloyd (VCF) Transfer	\$ 1,460.00
	Pam Garceau Donation	\$ 2,000.00
	Transfer from VCF	\$ 9,000.00
	2022 Grant Returned	\$ 750.00
	Plant Sale	<u>\$ 13,264.00</u>
	TOTAL Revenues	\$ 27,972.84
		\$ 33,175.56
Expenses		
	Plant Sale Supplies/Checks	\$ 325.35
	Transfer to TCF (Plant Sale Proceed Share)	\$ 3,150.00
	2023 Continuing Ed Scholarships	\$ 17,500.00
	2022 Continuing Ed Scholarship	\$ 500.00
	Pam Garceau Scholarship	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>
	TOTAL Expenses	\$ 23,475.35
		\$ 9,700.21
Balance 12/31/23	Town Checking Account	<u>\$ 9,700.21</u>
* Not all scholarship checks were cashed, balance assumes they will be cashed.		

Balance of TCF and TCFCESF funds/investments are held at the Vermont Community Foundation (VCF). The VCF asked the Tinmouth Community Fund (TCF) to collect all donations. The TCF Board of Directors decided that in lieu of drawing down interest, grants would be funded with annual donations and the balance sent to VCF. This leaves all principal and interest at VCF and helps grow the fund.

Gail Fallar, Town Treasurer
Cathy Reynolds, TCF Treasurer

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TINMOUTH COMMUNITY CENTER

The Tinmouth Community Center is a shared space with the School and citizens of the Town of Tinmouth. The building is available daily after 5:30 and weekends during the school year and then daily during the summer. The Center is available for public and private events. Currently the space is being used for pickle ball and volleyball routinely. The past year saw the Center being used often for private and public events. You can check the Tinmouth Tales or **Tinmouthvt.gov** for dates and times for events and availability. Contact Trish Warfle, Building Manager, at 802-236-3163 for use/ rental information as well as guidance.

The Community Center Board would like to thank the School, namely Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker, for her steadfast cooperation in helping us navigate the ins and outs of sharing this space.

Judy Gilmore, Josh Squier, Martha Stanley (Chair)

Community Center Board

Tinmouth Community Center Annual Report

Beginning Balance 7/1/22		\$ 2,284.17
Revenues:		
Interest	6.05	
Donations for Use	<u>1,690.00</u>	
Total Revenue	\$ 1,696.05	
Expenses:		
Salary, FICA, for Building Manager	<u>1,221.83</u>	
Total	\$ 1,221.73	
Balance 6/30/23		<u>\$ 2,758.39</u>

COMMUNITY CENTER AND OLD FIREHOUSE USAGE

The Tinmouth Community Center and Old Firehouse provide space for gatherings of all types.

This year from July through December (when I began as the new manager/coordinator) there were 14 Community Center rental events. These events included: birthday parties, baby showers, Town Fun Day, family gatherings, and Trunk or Treat. Town Meeting voting was held in March.

The Old Firehouse held 21 events. These events included: volunteer group training, the historical society annual meeting, wedding receptions, knitters’ group, a concert and Tinmouth Story Telling. The town Pizza Oven was also used 2 times.

The Community Center also continues to host weekly sports events such as: pickle ball and volleyball.

Thank you to all who have rented these spaces, we look forward to another year of celebrations and gatherings.

Respectfully submitted, *Tricia Warfle*, Building Manager & TCC Coordinator

COMMUNITY CENTER USE GUIDELINES

The Tinmouth Community Center is a Tinmouth community resource. Use of the facility is intended to engage, build and strengthen the greater Tinmouth community for historical, educational, cultural, social, intellectual and recreational enrichment. It is available only to Tinmouth residents or taxpayers, who must sign the rental agreement and make all arrangements with the Community Center Building Manager. Renters must be on site during the rental event and arrange for pickup and return of the key.

Please take a look at the detailed information for use on the town website:

www.tinmouthvt.gov/community-center/

Trish Warfle, Building Manager and TCC Coordinator, 802-236-3163

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RECREATION COMMITTEE

In 2023, The Select Board re-created the Recreation Committee at the request of Doug Fontein, Robbie Leeds and Colleen Balch, current members of the Conservation Committee. The Select Board established the Committee would have 5 members and the first course of action would be to survey the members of the Tinmouth Community about their Recreation based interests.

Two more members were appointed part of the Committee, Martha Stanley and David Levant. The first Tinmouth Recreation Committee Meeting was held on December 4th. In this meeting, the committee covered internal goals and appointed officers (Robbie Leeds – Chair, Colleen – Vice Chair, David Levant – Secretary). The Committee also discussed surveying the people of Tinmouth and creating a mission statement.

Robbie Leeds, Chair

TINMOUTH TRANSFER STATION

The Tinmouth Transfer Station is open on Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. There is a fee of \$2.50 per bag via punch cards that are purchased at the Town Office. Recycling disposal is free of charge to residents.

We can all do our part to keep Vermont beautiful by remembering the simple rules for recycling:

- (1) You can recycle empty and rinsed clean containers like bottles, cans, and jars; clean and dry paper and cardboard; aluminum, steel, glass, and plastics.
- (2) You cannot recycle plastic bags, textiles, or food products (please see note on composting below).
- (3) Scrap metal, batteries, and electronics do not belong in the trash or recycle bins, but you can bring them to the transfer station for disposal. We only collect small batteries at the TS (no car/truck batteries), we do have a container for scrap metal (a 30-yard container) and electronics (in gaylords/big cardboard boxes in the recycling shed).
- (4) Construction materials and demolition waste are not accepted at the Transfer Station.
- (5) Pharmaceuticals can be disposed of at your local pharmacy, police department, or hospital.
- (6) Hazardous Household Wastes (HHW) must be disposed of properly – you have to bring it to one of the special days that are held in April or September. Please see the Hazardous Waste Schedule on page 39.

For more information, please see the Acceptable Recyclables List on the Town of Tinmouth website at tinmouthvt.gov, or pick up the list at the Town Office or Transfer Station.

The Select Board decided that any unit that may contain Freon will no longer be accepted – this includes refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers. The town could not find a contractor to remove the refrigerant which is required by State and Federal law.

Starting in July 2020, all Vermonters were required to separate organic food waste from trash and recyclables. There is currently a composting bin available to dispose of organic food materials. The compost bin is located next to the trash dumpster. Thank you to Wheaton Squier for managing this at no cost to the Town!

If you have any questions for me, Charlie or Gunner, we are always happy to help. Remember: When in doubt Throw it out. It's better than trashing the recycle bin!

You may contact me as the Manager at 802-446-3433 with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted, *Chris Martone*, Transfer Station Manager

TINMOUTH POND MILFOIL PROJECT

The Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project (TPMP) completed another successful milfoil harvest on Tinmouth Pond ending August 11, 2023. The season was marked by early spring rains followed by seemingly nonstop rain much of the summer which contributed to vigorous invasive milfoil growth in the pond.

In 2023, we again contracted with AE Diving, www.aecommercialdiving.com for harvesting the invasive Eurasian Milfoil. Chris Sheldon and his professional crew capitalized on last year's plan and harvested a reported total of 16,920 gallons of milfoil in the three contracted weeks of diving; this is over twice as much as was harvested in the 2022 season. We have plans to again contract with AE Diving in 2024 as we have been pleased

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

with the progress being made in the milfoil battle. Depending on funds raised, we hope to be able to contract for at least three weeks again in 2024.

We also were able to renew our Harvesting Permit for another 10 years. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation oversees the permits and enforces the conditions, for instance mechanical harvesting is only allowed during certain time periods, at certain distances from the shore, and in certain designated areas.

The TPMP’s biggest challenge remains funding for the project. Milfoil harvesting in the pond remains mandatory; if left unattended, the milfoil growth could quickly render our shallow pond a quagmire. We are grateful to the Town of Tinnmouth, the State of Vermont and the Pond property owners who collectively fund this increasingly expensive project. The TPMP Executive Board is currently conducting a feasibility study proposing a pond specific tax district to equitably help fund the project. With roughly only 60% of pond property owners participating at various levels, we are looking for a way to equitably fund the project for the long run, thus ensuring the enjoyment of the pond for generations to come which in turn significantly contributes to the Town of Tinnmouth tax base. Please consider this when budgeting your donation for 2024.

A big Thank You goes to our 2023 TPMP Board & officers all of whom have donated many hours of their time and talents for the good of all pond homeowners. We are thankful for Vice President Holly Ross, Secretary Laurel Swenson, Treasurer Gail Fallar, Assistant Treasurer and Pond Frog Editor Susan Juckett, Financial Secretary Sherry Johnson, President Charlie Robbins as well as board members Jim Westbrook, Laurie Bepler and Tom Ewing.

We all look forward to the next year with optimism at Tinnmouth Pond!
Charlie Robbins, President

**Tinnmouth Pond Milfoil Project Treasurer’s Report
January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023**

Beginning balance January 1, 2023		\$ 30,899.70
Income		
Dues/Donations/Fund Raising	12,490.00	
Tinnmouth Community Fund Grant	750.00	
2022 VT State Grant - DEC	6,797.00	
Town Annual Allotment	2,500.00	
Sale of Solar Bees	5,000.00	
Uncashed 2022 Check	50.00	
Interest/Dividends	432.52	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 28,019.52	
Total of Income and Beginning Balance		\$ 58,919.22
Expenses		
Contracted services		
Divers	26,031.25	
DEC Harvester Permit Fee	175.00	
FOVLAP Dues	50.00	
P.O.Box/stamps/office supplies/other	364.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 26,620.25	
Ending balance December 31, 2023		\$ 32,298.97

Gail Fallar, TPMP Treasurer

HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

After a three-year hiatus, the Tinnmouth Historical and Genealogical Society is back in action to fulfill its stated purpose “to encourage and promote an interest in the history of Tinnmouth and its founding families; to collect, assemble, preserve information about Tinnmouth; and to share this information with individuals or organizations genuinely interested in the history and genealogies of its founding families”.

Activities in 2023 included Cheese Factory and Honor Roll articles published in the Tales of Tinnmouth, securing a \$750 grant from the Tinnmouth Community Fund to refurbish and add missing WW II veterans to the

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

Honor Roll, supporting the Tinmouth Old Creamery Committee in making the building more usable, and opening the Old Town Shed for the Town Fun Day.

In its roll of preserving information about Tinmouth, the Society received several boxes of Tinmouth history research papers from Dawn Hance, pictures and papers relating to the Valentine family donated by Rhonda Phillips, paperwork about the Eureka Cheese Factory donated by David Potter, and a broken headstone found in their garden donated by Andy and Asha McCullough. In addition to these donations, a plan drawn by Jack Szanto in the mid 1970's for restoring the town office building was discovered during work at the Town Office.

The 2023 Annual meeting was held on October 22nd at the Old Fire House with 15 members present. Archeologist Jason Rochon, who grew up in Tinmouth, gave a very enlightening presentation regarding the value of archeology.

Society Officers elected for two-year terms were: Stan Wilbur – President; Michael Fallar – Vice President; Vito Macaluso – Treasurer and Membership Chair; Gail Fallar – Secretary and Archivist; Nelson Jaquay and Cindy Pollock – Executive Committee At-large Members; and Cindy Pollock – Channel Editor.

The Society normally schedules three to four working or program meetings a year to collect and preserve Tinmouth's physical and narrative history. Suggested projects and programs for 2024 include reprinting the history Grant Reynolds wrote for the Tinmouth 4th grade class and distributing it to all 4th graders each year, getting all students involves in Tinmouth history, revisiting the blast furnaces on North End Road, working in one of the old cemeteries, touring historic homes, and sponsoring one of the Story Telling nights. The Society is always open to suggestions for programs or projects. The Executive Committee will be meeting in January to discuss and develop 2024 programs.

The Society currently has 56 members, with membership open to any individual or organization with roots in Tinmouth and any individual or organization which is interested in the history and heritage of Tinmouth or the genealogy of its founding fathers. Anyone interested in joining the Society should contact Vito Macaluso at v.mac@vermontel.net.

Sincerely, *Stan Wilbur*, President



Tinmouth Channel

**TOWN of TINMOUTH
2023**

VITAL RECORDS

BIRTHS

None

MARRIAGES

Hogan Abraham Ringger and Abigail Lynn Virkler, March 11, 2023
Zachary Adam Bronzo and Vanessa Borges Chaga Pires, May 6, 2023
Jeremy Jacob Perkins and Whitney Rose Carmen, July 17, 2023
Nathan Alan Andrews and Casey Renee Holtz, August 15, 2023
Shudder Luc Hurd-Burnell and Alyssa Raiche Dillon Eaton, September 25, 2023
John Galbraith Holler and Patricia Rose Cotter, October 20, 2023

DEATHS

Richard Henry Frederick, January 19, 2023
Sondra L. Laskey, April 9, 2023
Robert Ackley Noble, Jr, April 21, 2023
Arthur Usher, July 24, 2023
Wayne Anthony Bruce, August 2, 2023
Norman Joseph-Real Gagne, October 08, 2023

BURIAL PERMITS

Robert A. Noble, Jr, May 27, 2023

TINMOUTH CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Tinmouth Cemetery Association is a Vermont non-profit corporation formed in 1921. Trustees are Glenn D. Merrill, Stan Wilbur, David Gilmore, Bob Bradley and Laurie Phillips. There is an opening for an additional trustee. The only criteria is that the person own a lot in the Tinmouth Cemetery. Anyone interested in serving as a trustee please contact Glenn or Laurie.

The Association held its Annual Meeting in April 2023 and elected Glenn D. Merrill, President; Laurie Phillips, Vice President; Judy Gilmore, Treasurer; and Laurie Phillips, Secretary. Cemetery Administrative Superintendent is Glenn D. Merrill and Field Superintendents are Dave Gilmore and Bob Bradley.

The Trustees contract with F.A.S. Trucking to mow and trim the cemetery. F.A.S. also mows and trims the school, town and church yards. Wheaton Squier prepares graves and assists with burials. The elementary school students continue the tradition of placing flags on the graves of military veterans for Memorial Day.

There was one burial in the Tinmouth Cemetery in 2023: Robert A. Noble, Jr.

The Cemetery Association received \$3,300 from the town to assist with the cost of mowing. Other operational costs are funded from endowment account interest, sale of lots and burial fees.

Burial in the Tinmouth Cemetery is restricted to individuals or families with a connection to Tinmouth. To learn more about cemetery policies or to purchase a lot, please contact Glenn D. Merrill.

The Cemetery Association's annual meeting is normally the third Wednesday in April and is open to the public.
Glenn D. Merrill, President

BURIAL TRANSIT INFORMATION/PRIVATE BURIAL

Note: Burial Transit Permits may be issued to family members of a deceased person to move the body to another town. No law prohibits family members from moving the bodies themselves if they choose, as long as they have a permit. According to Title 18 V.S.A. Section 5201, the only restriction appears to be when certain contagious diseases are the cause of death, in which case the local health officer or Board of Health must approve the issuance of the permit first.

Families occasionally choose to set aside a portion of their private property for the burial of members of their immediate family. This is permitted under Vermont Law, as long as no health hazard is created. (Title 18 V.S.A. Section 5319). Questions you may have about establishing a private burial plot on your property may be referred to the Vermont Department of Health at 802-863-7275.

**Mill River Unified Union School District
2023**

MILL RIVER UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

TINMOUTH MOUNTAIN SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

To the Tinmouth Community,

The year has been one of steadfast progress. Teachers continued to implement a new literacy initiative district-wide and mathematics instruction has been refined through year round professional development. Additionally, our focus on outdoor education has yielded new opportunities to develop a sense of environmental stewardship with students.

Teachers work bi-monthly within professional learning groups and hone their literacy and mathematics expertise. This professional development has expanded beyond primary grades through to middle school grades. Student academic growth is evident within the classroom. This April, the state initiated a new annual assessment, which makes it difficult to compare annual academic growth over recent years. The first year any statewide test is implemented is a measure of how well it is administered and adapted and is not a measure of student achievement. However, local assessments given throughout the year indicated that students have made steadfast progress in mathematics and literacy.

We are privileged to have minimal turnover in teaching staff at Tinmouth Mountain School. Teacher shortages continue to be a national concern. Aside from our half-day special educator, Tinmouth has employed the same team of teachers for the past several years. We are fortunate.

The student population has remained stable. This year's enrollment includes 67 students this year. The need for additional classroom space is still a concern. The cost of building additional classroom space has become prohibitive. We are looking into expanding our facilities by renting space in the Tinmouth Community Church next door. We hope to relocate our 5th and 6th grade class to the church building in the fall of 2024.

Teachers continue to initiate community service projects including watershed monitoring, and gardening. Parents and community members continue to support the school through Four Winds, Harvest Festival, Winter Sports Program, and our most recent project – the Tinmouth Ice Skating Rink! Working with the Tinmouth community is critical to the success of the school. When parents and community members work with teachers and students, it develops a sense of civic collaboration and responsibility in all of us. The goal of community service projects is not only to give back to the Tinmouth community, but to develop agency (or student confidence in the notion that they can make a difference in their world). Teachers, students, and staff at Tinmouth Mountain School appreciate the support provided by community members including the Four Winds Program, Tinmouth Community Fund, Roundup, PTO and all the volunteers who facilitate our field trips and school projects. Thank you.

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker, Ed.D., Principal, Tinmouth Mountain School



**Tinmouth Mountain School
Sixth Grade Class of 2024**

*Left to Right, Back to Front: Alexandra, Dax,
Carson, Fiona, Tyler, Adelae, Liliana, Aliza*

**Mill River Unified Union School District
2023**

MILL RIVER UNION HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mill River Community Members,

Karyn Stannard and I are now in the second year of our respective roles as assistant principal and principal. This past summer allowed us some time to reflect on our first year and to hone in on some of the systems and structures for improving Mill River Union High School/Middle School.

Similar to most public schools across the country, we have felt the struggle of trying to find candidates to fill open staff positions. We entered the school year with an unfilled science position and with two unfilled school counseling positions. Currently, all three of those vacancies have been filled and we have also added a Rutland Mental Health clinician to our building to support the increased social emotional needs of our students.

Going into this school year we have updated our procedures around attendance and extra-curricular eligibility. Through these changes we have increased our expectations in a way that also seeks to provide as much support for our students as possible. Our new attendance procedures require documentation from the family when a student has been absent over 10 days from school and also starts our attendance meeting process earlier than in previous years. The focus for these attendance meetings is to work with families to figure out what is needed in order for students to show up to school. Attendance is crucial to a student's overall success at Mill River and we are committed to communicating with families and developing plans of support.

As for our extracurricular eligibility procedures, we have started requiring mandatory study sessions for students who were not passing classes during each reporting period. This has provided students with the opportunity to continue to be a part of the team while giving necessary time after school for student-athletes to focus on bettering their academics. We believe that extracurricular activities are a huge part of our students' development but we want to make sure that each student understands the importance of the work being done in the classroom as well.

There are a lot of positives that have already taken place this year, including our new woodshop program run by Ed Robbins, more field trips and community events being planned and organized, and our continued focus on developing clear pathways for communication between students, staff, and the community.

I am grateful to serve a community that is willing to have honest conversations about where we can improve and who have provided me with great feedback as we work to make Mill River High School/Middle School the best place for our staff and students.

Respectfully submitted, *Kaelyne Thompson*, Principal

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Dear Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth and Wallingford Communities,

First we would like to say thank you for the continued communication that you have maintained with the board throughout this year. It is much appreciated and helps us in achieving our goals as a district and board. Please keep the thoughts and ideas coming to us.

The Community Engagement committee has been working diligently on building a newsletter that will be going out quarterly to the school community for the purpose of keeping everyone up to date on what the board is working on. The community engagement meetings have changed a little bit and are now held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month right before the Board meeting.

The Policy committee is still working on updating all of the policies so they are clearer and matching the Vermont School Board Association's model policies. They are also working on a reorganization of the policies so they are easier to find; example: re-numbering all of the personnel policies so they are in one section and so on.

The Finance committee is always working extremely hard on the school budget and managing how we spend the school's finances. Please bear with us when we explain the budget and feel free to reach out with your concerns and thoughts.

The Building and Grounds committee has formed an amazing relationship with our new Buildings director and are working very hard on the 5 year plan. Unfortunately there are a lot of projects that need immediate attention as they have been looked over for years, so please bear with us.

**Mill River Unified Union School District
2023**

In closing, please continue to have patience, understanding and communication with the board as we are working through many changes. Please keep the lines of communication open with all members as we enjoy hearing from our community members.

Sincerely yours, *Andrea Hawkins*, MRUUSD Board Chair

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mill River Schools Community,

It is my pleasure to offer this report on behalf of the Mill River Unified Union District Superintendent’s Office.

Here we are heading into 2024! And again we’ve had an eventful year. **We are grateful for your support** as we’ve worked through several state level changes and held the course on our local work. While change can be beneficial, it is not always easy, and any success is only possible with everyone’s support.

This year, both Clarendon and Wallingford saw PCB (polychlorinated biphenyl) levels that required us to shift classrooms. Our staff, students, and caregivers supported this happening quickly and with the least amount of disruption to learning that we could manage. In the end, our students and staff will be safer and healthier. This summer remediation works will be taking place to make sure all of our classroom spaces are safely within regulated levels.

We have also been working through a challenging budget season as we have sorted through the implications of Act 127. This legislation is designed to better support students with the greatest needs by updating how funding is distributed to schools. We have worked hard to share information, to take feedback, and to present a budget that supports our students, staff and schools — while being mindful of how our choices affect the community. There has been much written this year about how schools are causing taxes to increase. We are proud to put forward a budget where the district tax rate is only projected to increase 0.99% — and the majority of that increase is due to increases outside of our control (like state negotiated health care plans).

Locally our goal has been to sustain the work that we started last year. We continue to focus on building trust and showing pride, and a large part of that work is continuing to seek out feedback from students, staff, and caregivers to improve our work.

Last year I wrote that we don’t need to be the best, but we do need to know that we’ve done our best. As I write this today, I am proud that we’ve worked hard to follow through on our focus—and that the plan is to continue that work with your help. There will always be times when not everyone agrees with our decisions, but we are committed to reviewing our mission, vision, and values (on the bottom of our website <http://mruusd.org/>) and making sure that we are always doing our best to fulfill them.

If you ever feel like you need more information about what our school district and its schools are up to, we want to help you to find the information you are looking for. Please do not hesitate to call or email any of us with any questions you may have. We’ll work hard to point you in the right direction and find answers if we don’t know them. We are committed to our students, committed to our schools, and committed to this community. Thank you for supporting all that we do on behalf of our community’s students.

Sincerely, *Brian Hill*, MRUUSD Superintendent of Schools

<http://millriverschools.org>

802-786-3998 x 244

**MEETING MINUTES AND RESULTS
Towns of Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth and Wallingford
February 23, 2023**

Present: Andrea Hawkins (chair), Nick Flanders, Josh Squier, Matt Goughberg, Len Doucette, Doug Earle, Sam Green, Cindy Van Dien (board members); Brian Hill (Superintendent), Stan Pawlaczyk (Business Manager); Pam Gallo (staff); Ashley Robinson (moderator); Patty Bartlett, Pat Bowen, Tom O’Brien, Dave Potter, Howard Weaver, Sara Kumm (Public)

Board Chair Andrea Hawkins called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ARTICLE 1 To elect the following officers: a. Moderator; b. Clerk; c. Treasurer.

Moderator Ashley Robinson read the article.

- a. Andrea Hawkins nominated Ashley Robinson as Moderator, Matt Goughberg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Mill River Unified Union School District
2023**

- b. Andrea Hawkins nominated Crystal Usher as Clerk, Sam Green seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Matt Gouchberg nominated Denise Patch as Treasurer, Sam Green seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 2 To authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money pending receipt of payment from district towns by the issuance of notes or orders payable not later than one year from date. Moderator Ashley Robinson read the article. Tom O'Brien moved to approve the article, Pat Bown seconded. Motion passed.

ARTICLE 3 To have presented by the Board of School Directors their estimate of the expenses for the ensuing year. This is a public informational hearing regarding the budget article. (See Article 4). Moderator Ashley Robinson read the article. Sam Greene motioned to approve, Patty Bartlett seconded. Motion passed.

ARTICLE 4 Shall the voters of the Mill River Unified Union School District approve the Board to expend \$19,826,555, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? (By Australian Ballot) It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$21,078.49 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 14.47% higher than spending for the current year.

Moderator Ashley Robinson read the article. This article is up for discussion only, to be voted upon by Australian ballot.

Public Comment: Superintendent Brian Hill presented, explained the projected tax rate is down 1.55% from last year, State spending up 8.92% from last year, student enrollment directly affects per pupil spending. Many factors that go into spending are out of the District's control, some of which are CLA, insurance costs, other district spending, Special Education, inflation. Through public forums this year, the District was able to assess what the community wants and expects as well as educate voters on how the proposed spending is determined. Tom O'Brien asked about interventionist positions and reductions in budget. Brian Hill explained that they were still staffed but had shifted to focus on reading instead of split between reading and math. Tom O'Brien and Dave Potter asked about student attendance and if it was still due to COVID related issues. Brian Hill explained that it is in part to COVID illness but also other factors like mental health. Len Doucette noted that attendance is critical for teaching and learning. He spoke of the Continuous Improvement Plan and that they are addressing attendance issues in addition to each school site. Pat Bowen asked about paraeducator retention. Brian Hill stated that any paraeducator that had wanted to stay was given the opportunity.

ARTICLE 5 Shall the voters authorize the District to transfer the audited unanticipated surplus funds remaining at the end of FY23 to the building sinking fund, not to exceed \$250,000? (By Australian Ballot)

Moderator Ashley Robinson read the article. This article is up for discussion only, to be voted upon by Australian ballot. No public comment.

ARTICLE 6 Shall the voters authorize the District to establish an athletics fund and transfer current surplus funds to this athletics fund in the amount of \$80,000, to be used to maintain district fields, replace outdoor bleachers, and expand elementary sports. (By Australian Ballot)

Moderator Ashley Robinson read the article. This article is up for discussion only, to be voted upon by Australian ballot.

Public Comment: Patty Bartlett asked if the money allocated would be to strengthen programs. Brian Hill explained that the money would only be allowed to be allocated to the areas mentioned in the article - maintain district fields, replace bleachers and expand elementary sports. Sara Kumm asked if the current coaches would be advised in the decision making of how funds were spent within elementary sports. Brian Hill confirmed that the spending would be overseen by the Athletic Director, Business Manager and himself but they would be seeking counsel from coaches.

The meeting was recessed at 7:46pm to March 7, 2023 (Town Meeting Day) for the purpose of voting by Australian ballot at the usual polling places in the District towns on the following business. Said ballots shall be brought to the Mill River Union High School Cafeteria following the closing of the polls in the District towns where they will be commingled and counted by the officers of the District towns.

**Mill River Unified Union School District
2023**

**Official Ballot Results
Mill River Unified Union School District
March 7, 2023**

Clarendon	322	Shrewsbury	251
Tinmouth	131	Wallingford	338
TOTAL	1042		
Article 4	YES 630	NO 408	BLANK 6
Article 5	YES 792	NO 241	BLANK 11
Article 6	YES 767	NO 263	BLANK 14
			SPOILED 0
			TOTAL 1044

Signed by Clerk Crystal Usher, March 7, 2023

See all agendas and minutes at: millriverschools.org

**2004 MEETING WARNING
Towns of Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth and Wallingford
February 22, 2024**

The legal voters of the Mill River Unified Union School District are hereby warned to meet at the Mill River Union High School Library on February 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. for the annual school district meeting to transact the following business:

- ARTICLE 1 To elect the following officers: a. Moderator; b. Clerk; c. Treasurer.
- ARTICLE 2 To authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money pending receipt of payment from district towns by the issuance of notes or orders payable not later than one year from date.
- ARTICLE 3 To have presented by the Board of School Directors their estimate of the expenses for the ensuing year. This is a public informational hearing regarding the budget article. (See Article 4).
- ARTICLE 4 Shall the voters of the Mill River Unified Union School District approve the Board to expend \$21,333,576, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? (By Australian Ballot) It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$13,019.22 per equalized pupil.
- ARTICLE 5 Shall the voters authorize the District to transfer current surplus funds to the building sinking fund in the amount of \$300,000? (By Australian Ballot)

The meeting will then be recessed to March 5, 2024 (Town Meeting Day) for the purpose of voting by Australian ballot at the usual polling places in the District towns on the following business. Said ballots shall be brought to the Mill River Union High School Cafeteria following the closing of the polls in the District towns where they will be commingled and counted by the officers of the District towns.

Approved by the MRUUSD Board of Directors in a public meeting and dated at Clarendon, Vermont this 3rd day of January 2024.

Andrea Hawkins, Board Chair

Crystal Usher, District Clerk



**Solid Waste Alliance Communities
2023**

Act 148 - Universal Recycling Law

July 1, 2020

- Haulers must offer food scrap collection to businesses, schools, transfer stations, and apartment complexes with more than four units.

July 1, 2020

- Food scraps are banned from landfills. 20 mile limit no longer applies.

July 1, 2017

- Transfer stations must accept food scraps.
- Generators of 18 tons of food scraps (1/3 ton per week) must divert if facility exists within 20 miles.

July 1, 2016

- Leaf, yard waste and clean wood are banned from landfills Haulers must offer leaf and yard debris collection.
- Generators of 26 tons/year (2 tons per week) of food wastes must divert if composting facility exists within 20 miles.

July 1, 2015

- Residential trash must be charged based on volume or weight. Recyclables are banned from landfills.
- Transfer stations must accept leaf and yard waste.
- Haulers and transfer stations must offer residential recycling at no separate charge.
- Recycling containers must be provided in all publicly owned spaces where trash cans are located.
- Generators of 52 tons/year (1 ton per week) of food wastes must divert if composting facility exists within 20miles.

July 1, 2014

- Transfer stations must accept residential recyclables at no charge.

SOLID WASTE ALLIANCE COMMUNITIES -

www.rutlandcountyswac.org

Pamela Lavoie Clapp, Administrator

Telephone: (802) 342-5701

Email: **solidwastealliancecommunities@gmail.com**

SWAC is composed of the towns of Benson, Chittenden, Fair Haven, Middletown Springs, Pawlet, Rutland Town, Shrewsbury, Sudbury, Tinmouth, and West Haven and serves a population of approx. 14,000 people. These towns work cooperatively to comply with State laws and mandates managing solid and hazardous waste issues in an environmentally responsible and cost effective manner.

In 2023, SWAC successfully complied with Year Three Act 148/ANR Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) requirements. The SWIP meets the requirements of the State's Material Management Plan and outlines how solid and hazardous waste will be managed in the SWAC towns for a five-year period. All towns in Vermont are required to be included in a SWIP. The requirements are extensive. The currently approved and adopted SWIP is available for review on the SWAC website. (**rutlandcountyswac.org**)

SWAC acts as a liaison to the State of Vermont representing the SWAC town's interests on issues such as legislation and rule changes, SWIP requirements, and Product Stewardship.

SWAC is a member of the Vermont Product Stewardship Council and Product Stewardship Institute. These groups have been instrumental in getting Environmental Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation passed in Vermont. The EPR legislation requires manufacturers to be financially responsible for the end of life collection of their product(s) thereby saving Vermont's resident's disposal/recycling costs. Active programs are in place for the collection of architectural paint, batteries, automobile switches, mercury thermostats, mercury lamps, compact fluorescent bulbs, and electronics waste. This year, the Vermont Legislature passed Act 58. Act 58 requires manufacturers of household hazardous waste products to set up programs to collect and pay for the disposal of their hazardous products. The new law will be phased in over a period of years and will help relieve the financial burden on the towns for hazardous waste disposal.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW): HHW collection is the most costly endeavor undertaken. SWAC

contracts with US Ecology to hold two HHW events. 5.25 tons of hazardous waste was collected from 138 households and 2 businesses. Products included oxidizers, acids, alkalines, reactives, pesticides, aerosols, flammable liquids, ammonia, mercury devices, latex, oil based, and flammable paints, asbestos, and antifreeze.

Thank you for participating in SWAC's efforts to properly recycle and dispose of solid and hazardous waste. To keep your communities HHW and solid waste collection costs down, remember to **Repurpose, Reuse, Repair, Refuse, Reduce, and then Recycle**. Consider buying less-toxic products that do not need to be disposed of as hazardous waste. If you do buy a product, use it up for its intended purpose, or give it to a friend, neighbor, or

Solid Waste Alliance Communities 2023

relative to use. Visit the SWAC website (What Do I Do With page) for locations where electronics, paint, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, and waste oil are accepted for FREE year round. No need to wait for the HHW events.

2024 HW Schedule - Saturday, **April 27**, Rutland Town Transfer Station, 218 Northwood Park; Saturday, **October 5**, Fair Haven Transfer Station, 175 Fair Haven Avenue. These event times are 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. These events are free to all SWAC residents. The SWAC website provides additional information on these events. Information can also be found on the Tinmouth Town website. Tinmouthvt.gov/trash-and-recycling/

Between events: Residents who are not part of the Rutland County Solid Waste District (RCSWD), such as Tinmouth, may purchase a non-district permit to utilize the RCSWD Gleason Road transfer station and hazardous waste depot. This permit allows access to the Gleason Road facility and provides drop-off of household hazardous waste, trash disposal at current rates, and access to recycling drop-offs. Permit purchase is available at the scalehouse or hazardous waste depot at the transfer station or at the RCSWD offices, located at 1 Smith Road, Rutland, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Permits are not available for sale on weekends at either location. Telephone 802-775-7209 for additional information and current rates.

Special thanks to town staff and transfer station attendants who kept operations going despite the difficulties involved. Many thanks to the SWAC representatives, many town clerks, and administrators. They spend countless hours assuring SWAC continues to run efficiently and cost effectively.

Your town was represented by: *Chris Martone, Gail Fallar*



Green-Up Day 2023



**Service Agencies and Citizens' Calendar
2023**

SERVICE AGENCIES

In an effort to save printing costs, Service Agency Reports have not been included. The following is the list of those reports. Full copies are available at the Town Office. Annual Allotments are included in the Budget on page 13.

American Red Cross	RSVP & The Volunteer Center
A.R.C. Rutland Area Advocacy, Resources & Community for citizens with developmental disabilities & their families	Rutland Free Library
Bennington – Rutland Opportunity Council, Inc. - BROCC	Rutland Mental Health
Child First Advocacy	Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District
Green-Up Vermont – Green Up Day	Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, Inc.
NeighborWorks of Western Vermont	Vermont Adult Learning Center
Poultney Rescue Squad	Vermont Center for Independent Living
Poultney-Mettowee Watershed Partnership	Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice	Vermont Old Cemetery Association
Rutland County Parent/Child Center, Inc.	VT Resource Conservation & Development Council Inc.
NewStory Center	Wallingford Rescue, Inc.

CITIZENS' CALENDAR 2024

February 24	In-person and virtual information meeting to discuss budgets, officers, and other business - Tinmouth Community Center	3:00 p.m.
March 5	Town Meeting - Australian Ballot Voting - officers, school budget, town budgets, and public questions - Tinmouth Community Center	8 a.m.-7 p.m.
April 1	Deadline for licensing dogs at town office	
April 1	Tinmouth Community Fund grant applications due	
April 15	Federal and state income tax due	
May 4	Green-Up Day	
April & May	Annual Tinmouth plant sale (check for dates in Tales and Front Porch Forum)	
June	Community Fund Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony	
July	Tinmouth Community Day (fun events, parade, pot luck)	
August 15	1st half of property taxes due	
October 26-27	Youth & Novice Deer Hunting weekend	
November 15	2nd half of property taxes due	
November 23	Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Dept – Wild Game Supper	
November 24	Community Thanksgiving Service	
December 31	Hunting and fishing licenses expire	

Community Calendar can be found on the Tinmouth website: www.tinmouthvt.gov
All dates will be confirmed in Tales and on Front Porch Forum



**Town of Tinmouth Meeting Minutes and Results
2023**

ANNUAL TINMOUTH TOWN MEETINGS

MEETING MINUTES AND RESULTS

Special Town Meeting January 12, 2023 (Minutes) and January 17, 2023 (Voting Results), 2023

The Informational Meeting was called to order by Moderator Holly Ross at 6:31, she read the warning (below) and then turned the meeting over to the Select Board. The purpose of the special election was to reconsider Article 1. approved at the November election. About 30 voters attended either in person or via Zoom.

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?”

Meadow welcomed everyone on behalf of the Select Board. She explained the process the Select Board undertook to give voters input regarding the Board trying to obtain access to the town garage parcel from Mountain View Road for the purpose of recreation on the town parcel. It was complicated and had a short turn around time to be properly warned in order to vote at the November election. The Board sent information to all voters explaining the opportunity.

There was much discussion about the process, what recreation opportunities might be developed, why adjoining landowners were not notified, what next steps would be, how to involve the public – gather more input. It was noted that the proposed location for the driveway was unsafe and would have to be relocated if possible or the deal would not go forward.

The procedure for voting was explained, if you want the decision from the November vote to stand, you would have to vote no on this article. If you want the vote to be over turned, you would have to vote yes. It was also explained that because the initial article was approved by 178 voters, there would need to be 2/3 voting yes to rescind that decision – 119 votes. The November vote was 178 yes and 104 no.

Meeting was recessed until voting on Tuesday, January 17th.

Results of Voting – 144 voters cast ballots, most of them early. 30 voters cast ballots in person. 76 voted yes, 67 voted no, there was one spoiled ballot. Article was defeated as 119 yes were needed to overturn the original vote.

Respectfully submitted, *Gail Fallar*, Town Clerk

March 6, 2023 Informational Meeting Minutes and March 7, 2023 Voting Results

The Informational Meeting was attended by 24 voters in person and another 12 via zoom. Cathy, as Select Board Chair called the meeting to order as Moderator Holly Ross was unable to attend. Meadow nominated Frank Sears to be Moderator. Announcements were made regarding the 5/6 grade bake sale, the fire department advised folks to check the batteries in smoke detectors, Green-Up volunteers needed, Town Fun Day volunteers needed, and the Library is open the first Saturday of the month. Rep. Robin Chesnut-Tangerman spoke briefly about issues in Montpelier and answered questions.

Frank read the warning. There were few comments about the budgets and the elimination of the office of constable. It was explained that the state now has more training requirement for constables, and that the Select Board prefers using the Rutland County Sheriff’s Department for law enforcement – and the Town already has a contract with them.

Cathy Reynolds was presented with flowers, words of appreciation, and applause for her many years serving on the Select Board. She had decided not to run for re-election.

The meeting was recessed until voting on Tuesday the 7th.

Voting on Tuesday, resulted in 131 voters casting ballots, which included 32 who voted absentee/early.

131 voters cast ballots, 32% of the 407 voters on the checklist.

Article 1. *Shall taxes be paid to the Treasurer, 1st half due August 15th and 2nd half due November 15th?*
120 yes, 10 no

**Town of Tinmouth Meeting Minutes and Results
2023**

Article 2. *Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$259,925 for general expenses of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024?*

114 yes, 16 no

Article 3. *Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$613,300 for highway expenses of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024?*

122 yes, 8 no

Article 4. *Shall the voters vote to eliminate the office of Constable?*

85 yes, 45 no

Article 5. *To elect all Town Officers now required by law.*

All officers were unopposed - there were two or three write-ins.

Moderator – 1 year term

Holly Ross

Select Board Member – 3 year term

Judy Gilmore

Town Clerk– 3 year term

Gail Fallar

Treasurer – 3 year term

Gail Fallar

Lister – 3 year term

Gail Fallar

Auditor – 3 year term

Ann Czar

Tax Collector (Delinquent) – 1 year term

Cat Yoder

Green-Up Day 2023



**Meeting Warning
2023**

**2024 MEETING WARNING
February 24, 2024 and March 5, 2024**

The legal voters of the Town of Tinmouth, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Tinmouth Community Center or virtually (please see link below) on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of being provided information and to discuss the articles to be voted March 5, 2024.

The legal voters of the Town of Tinmouth, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to vote at the Tinmouth Community Center on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to vote by Australian Ballot on Articles 1 - 34 Viz:

- Article 1. Shall taxes be paid to the Treasurer, 1st half due August 15th and 2nd half due November 15th?
- Article 2. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 221,850 for general expenses of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025?
- Article 3. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$634,800 for highway expenses of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025?
- Article 4. To elect all Town Officers now required by law.
Moderator – 1 year term
Select Board Member – 3 year term
Road Commissioner – 3 year term
Lister – 3 year term
Community Center Board Member – 2 year term
Auditor – 3 year term
Tax Collector (Delinquent) – 1 year term
- Article 5. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of extra paving?
- Article 6. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$800 to A.R.C. (Advocacy Recourses Community) for the purpose of support for those with developmental disabilities?
- Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$250 to American Red Cross for the purpose of support for its relief programs?
- Article 8. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$200 to of BROCC (Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council) for the purpose of providing assistance to persons living in poverty?
- Article 9. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$400 to Child First Advocacy Center for the purpose of support to children affected by violence and abuse?
- Article 10. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$50 to Green-UP Vermont for the purpose of helping organize Green Up day?
- Article 11. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$200 to NeighborWorks of Western Vermont for the purpose of home owner education and energy efficiency services?
- Article 12. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$175 to New Story (formerly Rutland County Woman’s Network and Shelter) for the purpose of assistance for domestic violence?
- Article 13. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$500 to the Poultney-Mettowee Watershed for the purpose of assistance to preserve natural resources?
- Article 14. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$820 to Poultney Rescue Squad for the purpose of emergency life support and transport services?
- Article 15. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$200 to RSVP and Volunteer Group for the purpose of services for elder community members?
- Article 16. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$500 to Rutland County Parent/Child Center for the purpose of providing child care and recreational services to young children?
- Article 17. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,285 to Rutland Free Library for the purpose of providing additional Library services to town residents?
- Article 18. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$550 to Rutland Mental Health for the purpose of serving residents with counseling, substance abuse and emergency services?
- Article 19. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$250 to Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District for assistance to preserve natural resources?

**Meeting Warning
2023**

- Article 20. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to Rutland Regional Planning Commission for the purpose of annual dues?
- Article 21. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$300 to Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging for the purpose of services for elder community members?
- Article 22. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,500 to Tinmouth Cemetery Association for the purpose of support for maintenance?
- Article 23. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Program for the purpose of assistance in control of invasive Eurasian milfoil?
- Article 24. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department for the purpose of fire protection and emergency response services?
- Article 25. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$200 to Vermont Adult Learning Center for the purpose of education and literacy services?
- Article 26. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$100 to VACD (Vermont Association of Conservation Districts) for the purpose of assistance for its dry hydrant programs?
- Article 27. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$80 to Vermont Center of Independent Living for the purpose of supporting citizens in need of assistance?
- Article 28. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$50 to Vermont Conservation Commission for the purpose of assistance to preserve natural resources?
- Article 29. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,825 to VLCT (Vermont League Cities and Towns) for the purpose of annual dues to support municipalities?
- Article 30. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$800 to Vermont Visiting Nurse Association for the purpose of providing assistance for its programs?
- Article 31. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$25 to Vermont Old Cemetery Association for the purpose of support for its programs with old cemeteries?
- Article 32. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$50 to Vermont Trails and Greenways for the purpose of support for its programs for trails?
- Article 33. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to Wallingford Rescue Squad for the purpose of providing residents with emergency life support and transport services?
- Article 34. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$250 to Vermont Farmers Food Center for the purpose of support for its programs for local agriculture?

Dated at Tinmouth, Vermont this 25th day of January, 2024.

Select Board Town of Tinmouth, Vermont

Meadow Squier, Chair

Kevin Eaton

Judy Gilmore

Saturday February 24, 2024 Informational Meeting ~ In person and Virtual – 3:00 p.m.

If you wish to participate via teleconferencing please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone at Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97744928600?pwd=Y1dYcmxNS0dPKzV5NnBzZ2JZMXh0UT09>

Meeting ID: 977 4492 8600

Passcode: 218462

You can also dial in using your telephone. This is NOT a tollfree number.

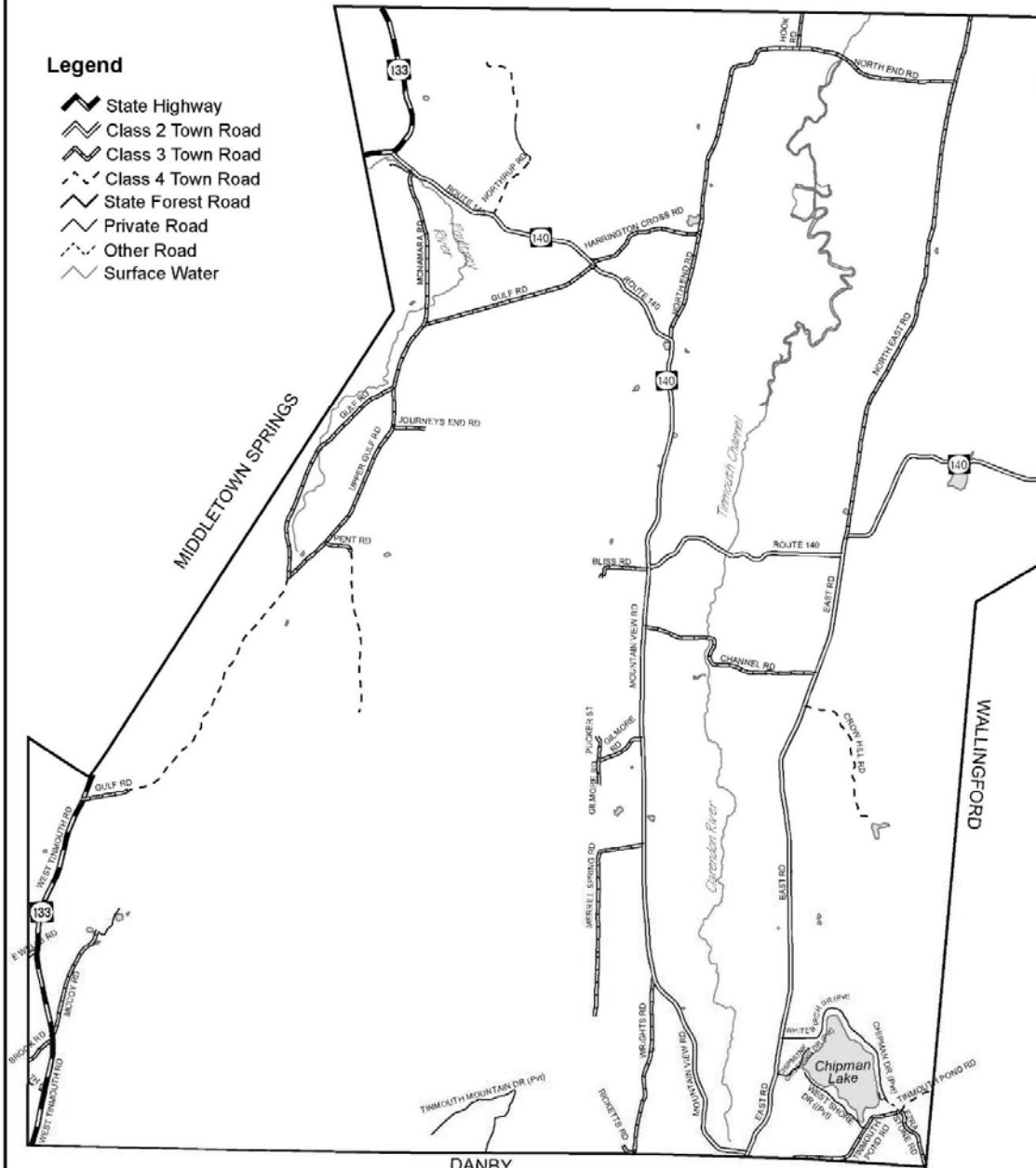
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 977 4492 8600

Passcode: 218462

Legend

-  State Highway
-  Class 2 Town Road
-  Class 3 Town Road
-  Class 4 Town Road
-  State Forest Road
-  Private Road
-  Other Road
-  Surface Water



TINMOUTH, VERMONT

December 2012

TOWN OF TINMOUTH
515 North End Road
Tinmouth VT 05773

Presorted Standard
US POSTAGE PAID
Wallingford, VT 05773
Permit #12

*Please bring this Town Report with you
to the informational meeting.*

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024 – 3:00 p.m. – Tinmouth Community Center
Discussion of Town and Highway Budgets, Public Questions, and Officers

~VOTE~

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024 – 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

TINMOUTH COMMUNITY CENTER

Australian Ballot Voting for Town Officers, Town and Highway Budgets,
School Budget Items, and all items on the Warning (see page 43).