

**Town of Tinmouth
Select Board
Thursday, February 8, 2024
Meeting Minutes (Regular)**

Members present (in-person): Kevin Eaton and Judy Gilmore (Meadow was absent for medical reasons)

Others present:

In-person: Michael Fallar, Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Barry Cohen-Rutland Free Library Board of Trustees President, Barbara Noyes-Pulling-Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC)-Planner, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom and phone: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Marshall Squier, Melody Squier, Rick Fallar, David Birdsall, and Nancy Gucker Birdsall

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

Members reviewed the **agenda**, moved Barry to the top.

Minutes of 1/11/24 were approved as corrected (changed *not to hold* to *not hold*) and 1/25/24 with the corrected spelling of *Framers* to *Farmers*. Kevin moved, Judy 2nded. Both voted in favor.

Citizen's Input ~ -0-

Letter of Support ~ Barry, as President of the **Rutland Free Library** Board of Trustees (and a Tinmouth resident), requested a letter of support from the Select Board for a grant the RFL was applying for from the state for renovations for the building – it has lots of structural needs. The grant request is for \$1.5 million, for capital improvements. The Board of Trustees hope to raise \$7M for the renovations. Revenues sent by Tinmouth, Ira, Mendon, Rutland Town and Rutland City support library programs, are not part of building repairs. Kevin moved to approve sending a letter of support, Judy 2nded, both voted in favor. Kevin was authorized to sign for the Board.

Rutland Regional Plan Update ~ Barbara advised the RRPC was beginning to gather input regarding the update of the regional plan – efforts will include gathering information on a wide variety of topics. They are going to have a survey available online or on paper, visiting all towns, holding community meetings, etc. Once data is gathered it will be compiled and a new plan presented. RRPC understands that Rutland County has a wide range of towns, small to Rutland City, all concerns need to be addressed.

Barbara was asked about the RRPC's position on the Legislature taking away a town's right to plan for zoning, setting lot sizes, not allowing voters to approve, etc. She noted it was above her pay grade – she will relay the questions to the RRPC's Executive Director, but folks could express their concerns on the survey.

Highway ~

Eric reported the road crew is working on the insurance company's safety list (most are done); have been working on grader repairs and repairs to the old town garage. A fire alarm system (suggested by the insurance company's report) was discussed, Eric was asked to get quotes, possible insurance company grant program may help cover some of the cost.

Gail advised the tree cutting safety grant paperwork was delayed yet again.

Board discussed VTRANS grant programs, after brief discussion - which section of Route 140 needed attention first (Crampton's Woods came to mind), Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to apply for a paving grant (max is \$175,000), both vote in favor. Eric and Judy will take a drive around.

Request for reimbursement for TAP grant expenditures ~ Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to approve. Both voted in favor.

Update on **Buzz Blade for tractor** – Eric reported it will not arrive until late spring.

Financial ~

Board reviewed FY24 reports and Bills and Orders. Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to approve reports and the following Warrants. Both voted in favor.

Bills and Orders ~ Payroll warrants #28 dated 1/15/24 for \$4,024.93, #29 dated 1/22/24 for \$2,200.15, #30 dated 1/29/24 for \$3,963.481, and #31 dated 2/05/24 for \$2,209.89; and **Accounts Payable** warrants #29 dated 1/18/24 for \$20,308.58, #30 dated 1/22/24 for \$7,704.43, and #30 dated 1/31/24 for \$14,736.29.

Potter’s Brook Culvert Grant - SBA reported \$36,000 state grant reimbursement was received.

Federal Surplus Property Program ~ Board agreed by consensus to ratify action by Eric and Gail to apply for eligibility to participate in this program. Eric noted no graders are currently available. Eric left the meeting at this point.

To-Do List ~ Board reviewed and updated To-Do list, will look at highway section at its March meeting. Kevin and Judy volunteered to help with work on some of the items – list of ordinances, timeline for annual committee reports to the SB, etc.

Clarendon Select Board Request ~ Board reviewed letter from the Clarendon Select Board requesting to survey voters on town meeting day regarding possible school consolidation in the Mill River Unified Union School District. After brief discussion, Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to allow it. Both voted in favor.

Needs Assessment Update ~ SBA reported that Gregg Poelker-McKee, RRPC, had met with the Planning Commission and will meet with the Recreation Committee next week to discuss possible topics for questions.

Cell Phone Charging ~ The Fire Department requested permission to establish a charging station for cell phones in the Old Fire House. During the last power outage, there were several folks who drove to the Town Office to use the free WiFi, so it was thought it might be helpful to provide a way for someone to re-charge cells phones in an emergency. Sherry Johnson has the equipment and will set it up. After brief discussion, Judy moved and Kevin 2nded to approve the request, both voted in favor.

Feedback Forms ~ None

Members Concerns ~

Correspondence ~ None not already discussed.

Next meetings are February 24th at 3:00 at the Community Center – Informational Town meeting- and March 14, 2024 at the Town Office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant