

TALES OF TINMOUTH

March-April 2025
Vol. 39 Number 3

Tinmouth
Vermont

Editors' Notes: *This issue is for March and April
Our apologies to those with March events.*

The deadline for submissions (news, items of interest, get well wishes, ads, etc.) is the 20th of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net) or drop it off at the Town Office.

Gail Fallar & Pat Psholka

~ Proposed Radio Tower Update ~

The Select Board would like to provide you with an update on the process for the proposed radio tower. The Town and the Planning Commission need to review the Town Plan and Zoning Bylaws to determine if this proposal is in compliance with them and advise the applicant of that.

There will also be a public meeting hopefully in mid April, once the company, Industrial Wireless Technologies, Inc., (IWT) proposing a 160' tower + 13' of antenna, radio tower at 440 Route 140 (across from the cemetery) conducts a balloon float (a 4' to 8' red balloon will be floated to the height of the proposed tower) in order to take photos - the company and anyone else who wishes too.

As a balloon float depends on the weather and the wind, the date may change, and so we would like to be able to notify you as soon as possible if that happens, of a new date and time. It is supposed be floating for a few hours to enable folks to see what effect it may have. This event will be done in the next three weeks and a meeting held a week or so after. If you would like to be notified about the date and time of the balloon float, please call or email the town office. 802-446-2498 or

tinmouthtown@vermontel.net.

They have provided assurances that they (IWT) will not file their formal application with the Public Utilities Commission (which decides whether or not to issue a Certificate of Public Good) until after the public meeting is held.

At the public meeting, IWT will present its plans, photos created from the balloon float simulating how the tower would look, and answer any questions.

We will keep you posted via Front Porch Forum and *Tales of Tinmouth* regarding the process.

As of April 6th, no word has been received regarding when the balloon float may occur. And so there is no public meeting yet scheduled.

~ TINMOUTH GREEN UP ~ ~ 2025 ~



Green Up Day is Saturday, May 3rd
By Doug Fontein

The Tinmouth Green Up Committee is teaming up with the Conservation Commission to create a fun and delicious Green Up. In hopes of bringing the community out on Green Up Day, we're doing some fun activities at the Transfer Station at the conclusion of the event.

Green Up volunteers will **meet at the Transfer Station between 8:30 and 9:00** to get bags and a section of road to clean up. We'll reunite at the transfer station at **11:00 for the GALA AWARDS CEREMONY (with prizes) and FREE ICE CREAM**. This is a family and kid-friendly event, so please bring your young ones so they can share the fun (and maybe learn a little about civic responsibility and protecting our environment).

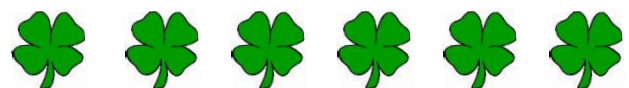
There won't be a Green Up activity at the school this year, so this is your kiddos' opportunity to be part of the team! People are also welcome to do DIY Green UP by getting bags from the Town Office and cleaning a section of roadside as your schedule allows. But we urge you to come with your family on Saturday morning to help build community momentum for this important and fun activity.

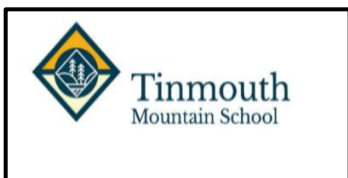
Please dress appropriately for the weather, including boots, work gloves, long pants and long-sleeved shirts (to help avoid ticks). For more info. On avoiding ticks, go to the Vermont Dept. of Health website and search ticks or use this link: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/tickborne-diseases/prevent-tick-bites-tickborne-diseases>

Any items too large (or too yucky) for your vehicle, we can pick up with a truck if you tell us where it is.

There is also the option of "adopting" a section of roadway in town and keeping it litter-free year round as you walk or drive on it. In addition to keeping your neighborhood beautiful, this will allow us to focus on other roads on Green Up Day to make sure we cover all the roads in town.

We hope to see you at Green Up on Saturday, May 3. Feel free to contact members of the Green Up Committee with any questions: **Doug Fontein 802-446-2928, Ed Hasenohr 802-446-2676, Nelson Jaquay 802-446-2367.**





~ March ~

Tinmouth Mountain School was rocking away on Valentine's Day. Our Valentine's Day dance was a huge success. The students, staff, and families all seemed to enjoy themselves, and the students even revived the classic "conga line." I felt it was the perfect way to celebrate the day and bring on the February break. We hope to have another parent luncheon this month for grades k and 3/4, the first one was with 1/2 and brought in so many parents we had to lay out more tables!

Our teachers in their PLC (Professional Learning Community) are working on math cycles. After reviewing school-wide data, we decided we should attack math; some of our cycles are on fluency/automaticity, offering different modalities for learning, assessment tracking, establishing math conversations, and building student independence. We come together at least once a month to discuss where we are, share new information, discuss changes we need to make, and the successes we and our students have had. On the other end, some of us have joined READVermont, an AOE initiative dedicated to improving literacy outcomes for all students. The educators working with the AOE and a job-embedded coach have each established a goal related to literacy and will work closely with their coach for the year, implementing evidence-based literacy practices and participating in professional development with other leaders and educators throughout the state. Not only are our students learning, our teachers are trying to stay in the know when it comes to academics.

Lastly, this month, I would like to introduce **Ms. Cheryl**. Ms. Cheryl is not only the Tinmouth bus driver of 27 years; she also assists in the 1/2 classroom, helping with small groups and offering more guidance to those who need it. This past year, Ms. Cheryl won support staff of the year for her willingness to go above and beyond; it is not uncommon to see Ms. Cheryl previewing lessons for the next day, prepping materials, checking on field trip itineraries, and stepping in when somebody may need an extra hand. You might not know that Ms. Cheryl enjoys Scandinavian mystery writers, baking, and traveling.

We hope you all have an excellent March and know we are all eagerly awaiting the warmer weather.

~ April ~

With spring comes state testing for our students in grades three through six. They have been taking the Vermont Comprehensive Assessment, which assesses

them in ELA, math, and fifth grade, and will take an additional assessment in science. We are all very impressed with our students' ability to navigate these assessments and respect the testing environment. Parents and schools will receive these scores during the summer, which the state uses for the national report card. More information on these assessments can be found here: <https://vermont.onlinehelp.cognia.org/>

March saw us inviting Wonderfeet and the UVM Stem Ambassadors into the school through the Alan Hochberg Science Fund. Alan was the father of one of our current students who passed away in the spring of 2024. Alan and his son's passion for science aided his family in deciding to create a one-time science fund that will support STEM activities at Tinmouth. We hope to compile materials related to STEM that students and staff can access and utilize in the classrooms. We will update you all as we progress with our STEM improvements.

Continuing our staff introductions, I would like to introduce you to **Joan Lattuca**. Joan is our ELA interventionist who we share with Clarendon Elementary. Joan also teaches first-grade shared reading. This is Joan's second year at Tinmouth, though she has been with the district for many years. When I asked Joan to share a few interesting, not well-known facts about herself, she said, "I love to sing and dance, even though I'm pretty sure most people will say I don't have a talent for dancing! I enjoy hiking and going to the beach." In her free time, she enjoys reading, especially mysteries. Lastly, she feels very fortunate to be with TMS's amazing children and staff.

My first year as principal is passing by very quickly; with that, we will have many end-of-year functions upon us in no time. I want to share that our 6th-grade graduation is set for June 5th, and we will confirm an evening time as we get closer. Happy spring!

Jenn Galusha-Brothers
Principal
Tinmouth Mountain School

"If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn." Ignacio Estrada

~ Front Porch Forum ~
Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors

Have you checked out Front Porch Forum yet? To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>. Or stop by the town office to sign up!! 200+ households have signed to date! Good way to discuss community issues, sell a canoe, give away a kitten, etc. If you are a second home owner you can use your 911 address.

Job Opening at the Town Office ~ Part-time position is available, 8 hours per week. Looking for someone with bookkeeping skills – familiar with payroll and accounts payables, attention to detail a must.

Please inquire at the Town Office for a job description and more details – 802-446-2498 or email tinmouthtown@vermontel.net.

~ Results of the Town Meeting ~

150 voters cast ballots, 125 in person and 25 voted early. There are 427 voters on the voter checklist.

Re-elected and running unopposed were
Moderator - Holly Ross; Select Board Member - Kevin Eaton; Auditor - Sandy Goyette, and Delinquent Tax Collector- Cat Yoder

In the two contested races:

Mill River Unified Union School Board Director/Member - Josh Squier 108, Michael Fallar 63

Lister - Rick Fallar 85, Carolyn Feury 59

The General Budget passed 131-12 and the Highway Budget passed 121-22. The Speed Cart Article was defeated - 85 no votes, 63 yes votes.

Mill River Unified Union School District - ballots are commingled from all four towns - budget passed **576 yes**, 434 no, and the Sinking Fund passed **702 yes**, 294 no.

~ 2024 Town Report ~

A big thank you to **Jennifer Trepal** for the great job she did preparing the 2024 Town Report. It was dedicated to Bob and Sue Lloyd for all the work they did for the sense of community in Tinmouth.

~ Dog Licenses Due April 1st ~



Vermont law requires all dogs, aged 6 months and older, to be registered by April 1st each year. A current rabies certificate is required. You can call the Town Office if you don't know if your dog needs a shot or not. Fees increased \$2 this year due to a new state fee to help create a new division in the Department of Public Safety for Animal Welfare. Fees are \$11 for neutered/spayed dogs and \$15 for those that are not.

You can also license them by mail if you wish.

~ Homestead Declaration ~

This is a reminder that you need to file an **annual** Homestead Declaration with the Vermont Department of Taxes, form HS-122. You must file this to qualify for the homestead education tax rate and to request a property tax adjustment if you are eligible.

You must also file form HI-144 (household income), **due April 15th**. This is required even if you do not have to file or pay state income taxes.

~ Annual Committee and Officer Appointments ~ ~ Vacancies – Positions Open ~

Some folks have decided to not seek re-appointment. *Thank you for your service and allowing others an opportunity to serve/contribute.*

There are openings on the **Zoning Board of Adjustment**, the **Equity and Inclusion Committee**, the **Energy Committee**, and the **Recreation Committee**.

A new **Health Officer** and **Deputy Health Officer** are also needed (these are nominated by the Select Board and officially appointed by the Vermont Department of Health).

If you are interested in serving on any of these, or any of the other annual appointments (see pages 3 & 4 of the town report) or need more information about the duties of the various committees, please call the Town Office at 802-446-2498 by April 10th. The Select Board will be making annual appointments that night.

Please consider serving your community.

The Recreation Committee is looking for younger folks with kids!

~ Library News ~

By Ruth Drachman, Librarian



We are announcing that there will be Story Hours for children at the library this summer!

Details will follow. Watch this space for more information next month.

We have lots of new books. Come and see!
We are there to help you on Thursday afternoons.

I know we are all waiting for SPRING and while you wait, **READ!**

Here are some suggestions.
These books are NEW to the Tinmouth Library.

~ For Adults ~

We All Live Here by Jo Jo Moyes, her newest book, the contemporary story of a woman and her unruly blended family.

Where The Sky Begins by Rhys Bowen, a story about a woman at the time of World War II, her survival during the "blitz" in London, England, and its aftermath.

The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah, Texas, 1921, In a time when marriage is a woman's only option, This is Elsa's story.

Varina, by Charles Frazier, A novel of the aftermath of the Civil War. Varina Howell is the wife of Jefferson Davis.



~ **Tinmouth Community Fund Grants and Scholarships** ~

By Todd Dennis

Grant and Scholarship Applications were due April 1, 2025 by 11:59 PM (Mark your calendar for next year.)

Info at: <https://tinmouthvt.gov/community-fund/>

As a resident of Tinmouth, you are eligible to apply for several grants or scholarships to enhance your personal learning, your business, help pay for summer camp for your kids, learn more about agriculture, forestry or music, or to provide scholarship funds to help with continuing education after high school! Complete your application today!

<https://tinmouthvt.gov/community-fund/> is the url for the Tinmouth Community Fund page on the town website: <http://Tinmouthvt.gov> Info on each scholarship or grant opportunity is available by clicking the appropriate link on the right side of the page. Our applications are straightforward and anyone on the Community Fund Board is happy to help you complete the form if you need help. There is a list of Board Members at the link above by scrolling down to the bottom of the page.

Applications are due April 1 by 11:59 PM. If you do not have access to a computer, please reach out for help and we can assist with the application process. Email for questions or help: tinmouthcommunityfund@gmail.com or contact a Board Member. If you received a grant last year, please complete the grant final report form before applying for a grant this year. We use this information to highlight projects that we have supported in our community.

Continuing this year is the enhancement of the **Susan McIntosh Lloyd Scholarship** which supports scholarships in the areas of music, forestry and agriculture. Sue was a longtime resident of Tinmouth and these were her passions. Her family created this scholarship to honor her memory. This scholarship is available for citizens to pursue a passion in one of Sue's areas of interest to take lessons or a training course. Consider the Master Gardener Course, or the Game of Logging, or beekeeping training, or music or voice lessons, or any other great opportunity you wish to pursue in one of these areas. This scholarship is available to Tinmouth residents of all ages and the application and more information is here:

<https://tinmouthvt.gov/susanmcintosh-lloyd-memorial-scholarship/> College bound students studying in one of these areas of interest may also apply.

History of the Community Fund

The Tinmouth Community Fund (TCF) was organized in December 1999 with the Vermont Community Foundation. The fund was created with funds remaining at the completion of the Tinmouth Community Center.

The Community Center received such strong community support, volunteer labor and a creative, collaborative, local construction model, that \$85,000 was left in the bank when the building was complete. This was the seed money for the TCF which now has assets of \$500,000. We award at least 5% of our assets annually.

The purpose of the Tinmouth Community Fund is to provide funding of needed services and facilities for the well-being of the citizens of and for the sense of community in the Town of Tinmouth.

Application Links - Due April 1, 2025 by 11:59pm

Community Fund Grant: <http://tinyurl.com/TCFGrant>

Small Business Grant:

<http://tinyurl.com/TCFSmallBusiness>

Continuing Ed Scholarship:

<https://tinyurl.com/ContinuingEducationScholarship>

Susan McIntosh Lloyd Scholarship:

<http://tinyurl.com/SusanMcIntoshLloyd>

K-12 Scholarship: <https://tinyurl.com/TCFK12>

Grant Final Reports

Community Fund Grant Final Report:

<https://tinyurl.com/TCFGrantFinalReport>

Small Business Grant Final Report:

<http://tinyurl.com/TCFSmallBusinessFinalReport>

~ **Community News** ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Penny Jaderlund, Mary French, and Thom Feury.**

Heartfelt sympathies are sent to family and friends of **Penny Bushee**, and to family and friends of **Chris Schmelzenbach.**

Congratulations and Welcome to **Addison Peterson**, daughter of **Adrian and Shalane Peterson**, born on March 17th !!

Congratulations to **Jeff Warfle**. He was recently named Chief of Police in Ludlow, VT!!

**Friends of the Rutland Free Library
April Book Sale**

10 Court St., Rutland, VT 802-773-1860

Friday, April 11 (10 - 4) and

Saturday, April 12 (10-2)

Public Always Welcome

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

Always a broad selection of rare and antique books.

All purchases by donation only. Limit of two grocery bags per family. No book dealers.

Proceeds to support library programs and collections and designated library projects. www.rutlandfree.org



~ **Tinmouth Community Church** ~
By *Cris Carabeau*

*"Fear is believing in the worst.
Faith is believing in the best."
~ Morgan Freeman*

Share your faith with us every Sunday at the Tinmouth Community Church. 9 AM All faiths welcome!

- Experience beautiful and thought provoking words from the Bible and relatable sermons by Rev. Rob Noble.
- Enjoy beautiful music.
- Relax in the comfortable and serene sanctuary.

After the service, join us for coffee and snacks in the Community Room. This is where we welcomed the Tinmouth Mountain School's library and music program. Come check it out!

~ **Nature Notes** ~

Lots of reports of robins, red-winged black birds, ducks, geese, all returning!! Peepers are peeping, snow drops have come and gone, daffodils are waving bravely in the snow!

Bear Alert – The Vermont Fish & Game Department advised removing all bird feeders as bears are coming out of their dens and they are hungry!!

Silent Fund Raiser for a local family in need.

The Mom in this family recently passed, the son stayed at home taking care of her for the past year or so. In lieu of a dinner or basket raffle, we are hoping to have folks donate to the Roy and Anne Wilbur Fund (which is under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church) to help this family get back on their feet.

If you are able to make a contribution, please send it to the Roy and Anne Wilbur Fund, c/o 515 North End Road, Tinmouth, VT 05773. Note in the memo, **Family Help**, all donations will be passed on to the family.

Your assistance is very much appreciated.

Rick & Gail Fallar & Friends of the Family



Old Fire House Spring 2025 Concerts

By *Cindy Pollock*

April 25 ~ Friction Farm

On **April 25 at 7:30**, join us to hear **Friction Farm**, a modern-folk duo. Aidan Quinn and Christine Stay, a husband and wife duo combine, storytelling, social commentary, and humor to create songs about everyday life, local heroes, and quirky observations.

Audiences lean into their music, laugh at their humor, and even sing-along. From ballads to anthems, their songs are filled with harmony and hope.

The duo are winners of the South Florida Folk Festival songwriter competition and have performed as official showcase artists at regional folk alliance concerts.

Doors open at 7 PM for the 7:30 PM concert. Suggested donation is \$20 per person: 90% of donations go to musicians and 10% to building upkeep. Coffee, tea, and baked goods will be served.

Please join us and bring your family and friends!

For any questions or further details, email old.firehouse.concerts@gmail.com

May 9th ~ Cosy Sheridan with Charlie Koch

Join us to hear **Cosy Sheridan and Charlie Koch!** Cosy Sheridan has been called one of our era's finest and most thoughtful songwriters. She plays a percussive bluesy guitar style, backed by the strong rhythms and harmonies of her bass player Charlie Koch.

Her concerts are wide-ranging, entertaining, and always tuneful. For the past three decades, Sheridan's music has regularly topped the folk radio charts as she has performed at coffeehouses, festivals, and concerts across the US.

A guitar student of instrumental luminaries Guy Van Duser and Eric Schoenberg, and a voice student at The Berklee School of Music, Sheridan brings a depth of experience to her craft.

The Boston Globe says of her: "She is a wonderfully lively, very funny, and enormously amiable entertainer with a keen and wicked eye for the excesses of our fast-food, tv-happy and noisome culture."

Doors open at 7 PM for the 7:30 PM concert. Suggested donation is \$20 per person: 90% of donations go to musicians and 10% to building upkeep. Coffee, tea, and baked goods will be served.

The Tinmouth Old Firehouse is located between the Town Office and the Firehouse, near the corner of Route 140 and Mountain View Road. Parking along the road, or across the street at the church.

You can follow us on Facebook for upcoming announcements. www.facebook.com/TinmouthOldFirehouseConcerts



16th Annual
Pie
for Breakfast
Saturday, April 12
8AM - 11AM
At the Middletown Springs School

Sweet Savory
 and Gluten free
 options!

\$10.00 Adult 13+
 \$5.00 Children 5-12
 Under 5 Free

Benefit for the
 Middletown Springs
 Public Library



Middletown Springs Public Library
39 West Street
PIE FOR BREAKFAST

Middletown Springs, Vt. –

The Middletown Springs Public Library is hosting our 16th annual Pie for Breakfast. On **Saturday, April 12, 2025**, from 8am-11am, library volunteers and trustees will be serving up all-you-can-eat pie for breakfast with tea, coffee, or juice. The slices are cut thin so it is easy to try many different varieties. There will be both sweet (such as pumpkin, apple, berry, chocolate) and savory (such as quiche, pot pies, pizza) pies to choose from, as well as gluten free options.

This delicious annual event is held at the Middletown Springs Elementary School. Come enjoy scrumptious pies, hot coffee, and good cheer, \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 5-12; under 5 are FREE. All proceeds benefit the Middletown Springs Public Library.

For more information contact the library at 802-235-2435 or middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com



🚩 🚩 🚩 **May 9 2025 - May 10, 2025** 🚩 🚩 🚩

Three shows:

Friday, May 9 @ 7PM

Saturday, May 10 @ 1PM & 7PM

Tickets: Adults: \$15 + tax/fees

Children under 18/Seniors over 65: \$12 + tax/fees

One of the most popular Disney movies of all time is capturing hearts in a whole new way: as a practically perfect musical! Based on the books by P.L. Travers and the classic Walt Disney film, Cameron Mackintosh and Disney's Mary Poppins delighted Broadway audiences for over 2,500 performances and received nominations for nine Olivier and seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The jack-of-all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910 and the troubled Banks family. Young Jane and Michael have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must teach the family members how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny who advises that "Anything can happen if you let it."

Mary Poppins is an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers and astonishing stagecraft. This show is a perfect opportunity to showcase a strong, iconic female performer, as well as unique special effects and illusions.

To Purchase Online:

<https://www.paramountvt.org/event/rutland-youth-theatre-presents-mary-poppins/>

<https://www.paramountvt.org/>

Box Office Open for purchases, Fridays, 11 AM - 6 PM, and ahead of ALL shows.

RYT will also have fundraising opportunities to contribute onsite to this wonderful endeavor. Come out and revel in the talents of our local youth! 🚩 🚩 🚩

~ **Meeting Highlights** ~

Complete minutes are available at the town office.

All highlights are edited by Ye Olde Editor.

Select Board (SB) ~ 2/25/2025

(Meeting postponed due to weather on the 13th)

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

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Michael Fallar, David Birdsall, Paula Bonazinga, Chris Martone, Marshall Squier, Doug Fontein, Cameron Lepley, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom and phone: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar, Ann Lundquist, and Travis Lepley

Citizen's Input ~ Paula expressed concern with Select Board communication to voters when there is a special election. She felt that many voters were not aware of the special election held in January. She asked that the SB at least send a post card to all voters, in addition to merely posting in 3 places and putting it in the newspaper. Board members agreed this was a good idea.

Transfer Station Attendant ~ Chris Martone – Transfer Station Manager – noted that attendant Charlie Wrobel had passed, he will be missed. He advised that he spoke with several interested folks. Board moved into executive session to discuss personnel issues at 7:11, Board exited at 7:20. Board voted to offer the transfer station attendant open position to Miles Fallar, and to create an additional position of substitute transfer station attendant, and to offer the substitute position to Paul Morris.

Highway ~

Eric reported the road crew has been 'playing' in the snow and wind. Obtaining winter road salt has become a problem, statewide, due in large part to storms in the southern part of the country also needing salt due to winter storms, which created a supply chain issue.

He noted the **sander** on the one-ton 550 truck was working, but now is not, gear box is broken. Discussed looking for a used sander for next year.

Transfer Station Retaining Wall Rebuild – Eric noted the estimate for replacing the retaining wall and roof over the roll-off container - \$7,800 was just for materials. He would like to wait until the salt/sand shed issue is resolved, to consider moving the location of the trash roll-off. Gail advised that repairs were needed now, there are big holes next to the roll off. Eric will add bigger rocks.

Sand Pile Overhang ~ Concern was raised over danger of falling sand when someone is trying to get some for personal use. Some large chunks are frozen at the top.

Financial ~

Bills and Orders ~ Board reviewed and approved financial reports and warrants.

Speed Ordinance ~ After brief discussion, Board voted to adopt the new Traffic Ordinance.

Pavilion Next Steps ~ Board discussed information from the engineer regarding the water issue, in the end decided 2 to 1 to forward that information to the Zoning Board of Adjustment as satisfaction of meeting the condition the ZBA had attached to the Pavilion's Conditional Use permit. The ZBA will decide if it meets its condition.

Sealing the 2024 Grand List ~ After brief discussion - there are no appeals or suits pending, the Board voted to Sign and Seal the 2024 Grand List. The Board of Listers had previously signed as well.

State Ethics Commission - The Town is required to appoint an employee as its liaison to the State Ethics Commission. Melody volunteered, she will report what training is required, at the SB's March 13th meeting.

Meeting Video Retention – David again expressed concern with retention of meeting videos on the Town's website and how the issue was being presented in the *Tales of Tinmouth*. More discussion in March.

VT's 250th Anniversary ~ Board signed a Resolution noting that Tinmouth will participate in the celebration. The Tinmouth Historical and Genealogical Society volunteered to lead the effort. The SB thanked them for their offer.

Notice Regarding a Proposed Wireless Communication Tower on Route 140 ~ Gail explained the process, the Select Board and the Planning Commission need to advise whether the proposed project complies with the Town Plan. There will be a public meeting for the company to explain their proposal and for everyone to ask questions and provide input. The proposal is for a radio tower with the possibility of a cell phone company adding its equipment at a later date.

Concerns regarding ill health effects of the micro waves and disruption of scenic quality have been raised. Cameron requested information about the process and ability to provide input.

Mail/Correspondence: The SBA advised that word has been received that the late Annie Robbins left instructions in her will regarding the Town – no more information until late summer.

Select Board (SB) ~ 3/13/2025

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

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum - Road Commissioner, Blake McKee-Allegiance Trucks, George Herrick, Doug Fontein, Ann Lundquist, Larry Carabeau, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom and phone: David Birdsall, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Kevin Molinari-Dimmick Group Peterbilt, Nelson and Betti Jaquay, Vito Macaluso, Rick Fallar, Annette Smith-Vermonters for a Clean

Environment, and a couple of folks who were just listening.

Kevin was re-elected Chair.

Highway ~

Eric reported the Class 4 section of Gulf Road was closed for the spring; lots of pothole problems; and he is working on getting the crack sealer here in May – to work on the paved roads.

Truck Bids – Board opened bids – received from Allegiance Trucks – International; Dimmick Trucks – Peterbilt; and AEW – Western Star. Bids were for cab and chassis for a tandem truck. Allegiance bid on two sizes. Trade-in value for the 2019 varied from \$30,000 (Allegiance) to \$63,000 (Western Star). There were lots of variables, warranty choices, availability, size, etc. So after discussion that included concern for tariffs, value for trade-in, the Clean Air Act, distance to dealership – for service, repair (basically the same for all), Board decided to review the proposals and have a special meeting on March 24th to make a decision.

Highway Annual Budget Plan & Certification of Road Standards ~ Board voted to approve and certify annual VTRANS requirement.

VTRANS Grant ~ Board gave preliminary approval to apply for a paving and culvert grant – details at the April Board meeting.

Proposed Radio Tower on Route 140 ~ Annette Smith-VCE, provided a video presentation regarding the process that the Town (Select Board and Planning Commission) need to follow to respond to the 60 day notice received from Industrial Wireless Technologies, Inc. (IWT) for a proposed tower in/near the old gravel pit. She explained how to navigate the Public Utilities Commission's website; that this was a 248A case with very a prescriptive state statute to be followed, and reviewed those requirements. The Town has to review its town plan and zoning to determine whether the proposal complies with those and advise the company of that.

Nelson and Betti expressed health concerns with the radiation, being less than 500 feet from it and the recommendation from a NH study is at least 1500 feet; concerns for keeping Tinmouth's rural character, and property values.

George advised that he had contacted the Jaquays at the very beginning and that they were okay with it then. He would not have proceeded with anything if they had objected. (The original proposal was for a cell tower, this is a radio tower – there is a difference with the microwaves, etc.)

Annette advised that the Town needs to get involved, hoped that the community would not become divided about it – some would like to have better cell service, but this proposal currently does not include cell providers.

After much discussion, **Board** decided to post a notice on Front Porch Forum and *Tales of Tinmouth* (via the

SBA) advising everyone about the process – an upcoming red balloon float and subsequent public meeting to allow the company to present its plan and answer questions; and to gather public input regarding pros and cons.

Board thanked Annette and George for their information.

Financial ~

Bills and Orders ~ Board reviewed financial reports and warrants, discussed remaining hours for the extra hired road crew member and highway expenditures. Board voted to approve all.

Pavilion Next Steps ~ Board was presented with information from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns regarding volunteers and insurance requirement. Board took under advisement. Will have an in-depth discussion about the pavilion group at the special meeting on the 24th.

Town Meeting 2025 – Gail reported the vote was 85 against and 69 for, the article about purchasing a speed cart. Brief discussion, the Board will speak with the County Sheriff about more speed enforcement.

Grant Policy Waiver ~ Gail advised that Tinmouth Community Fund is requesting a waiver from the Town's Grant Policy (requires Select Board pre-approval) for TCF grants applied for by Town Committees – maximum is \$1,200 and there is no match required. Board voted to grant waiver for this year. Board will consider changing policy at a future meeting, waiver is needed as the TCF deadline is April 1st.

Board voted to **re-appoint**: **RRPC** representatives – Judy Gilmore and Michael Fallar (alternate); **RTPC** representatives Judy Gilmore and Michael Fannin(alternate) and **SWAC** representatives Chris Martone and Gail Fallar (alternate). Board will consider other annual appointments at its April meeting, and authorized the SBA to seek input from current appointees regarding whether they wish to continue and encourage others to volunteer.

Board continued its 2025 reorganization.

Public Input: Tree Warden David Birdsall reported that the Emerald Ash Borer was recently discovered on Channel Road – need to think about a plan of action for road side ash trees.

Select Board (SB) ~ 3/24/2025 ~ Special

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

Others present:

Via Zoom: Kevin Molinari - Dimmick Group Peterbilt, Rick Fallar, and Sherry Johnson

In-person: Eric Buffum - Road Commissioner, Michael Fallar, Marshall Squier, Cathy Reynolds, Doug Fontein, Blake McKee-Allegiance Trucks, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

The first purpose of the special meeting was to review the truck bids. Board considered cost with trade-in and cost without, various warranties and their cost, availability, Peterbilt backed out features not listed in the specs – and how that affected their proposal. Lots of discussion about build times, delivery times, transmissions, warranty coverage, tariffs and their effect on availability of parts, keeping the 2019 truck (has 43K miles) as a spare, etc.

**** Allegiance bid \$174,845 with \$30,000 trade-in**

**** Peterbilt bid \$174,401 with \$49,800 trade-in**

In the end, Board voted to purchase the Peterbilt with no trade-in. Kevin M. noted that the truck had to be ordered by March 31st.

The second purpose of this meeting was to discuss the pavilion and the group that is proposing it.

Gail noted for the record that the Zoning Board of Adjustment – which met earlier in the evening- had approved the Conditional Use Permit for the structure, and that there is an appeal period.

Kevin noted that VLCT PACIF – the Town’s insurance carrier, advised that the Town needed to oversee the project – there has been no town committee appointed. And that volunteer equipment being used needed to provide proof of insurance – the Town’s insurance would not cover it.

Much discussion about how the SB would oversee – day to day decisions needed would be problematic due to the Open Meeting Law requirements.

In the end, the group who worked on the proposal, decided to be called the “Pavilion Project”. Melody was appointed as liaison to the Select Board and will keep the Board in the loop. The Board appointed Cathy Reynolds as the Clerk of the Works and Doug Fontein as the Project Manager, both volunteered their time and talent.

Discussion then turned to the wooden frame to be purchased from Marshfield and TimberFrame VT. A proposal to send an offer of less than the \$40K was discussed. Board agreed to send an offer of \$30K and authorized Kevin to negotiate up to \$40K if that was declined.

Website Committee ~ 3/19/25

Present were members Judy Gilmore and Gail Fallar in person, with Zach Bronzo, Jennifer Trepal, and Nancy Gucker Birdsall via Zoom.

Minutes of 1/8/25 were corrected to clarify that meeting videos are stored on *YouTube*, not the town’s *website*.

Annual Re-organization: Zach was re-elected Chair, Trish was nominated for Secretary.

Nancy advised that she is willing to help update and re-organize the website. Each committee/group that has a page or information needs to be contacted to get their input. It was suggested that this be an annual review and done in conjunction with the annual town report.

Nancy advised that one of the drop-downs on the front page needs to be removed to enable it to work better.

Members voted to ratify Zach’s action as Chair to add a Recreation Committee page. Zach noted that the committee process is slow, not being able to deal with a problem quickly. Members discussed what can be done by who (whom) – who controls the data on their page. Jennife suggested guidelines for what members can do and what the Committee needs to decide. Judy suggested quarterly meetings.

Nancy has posed a question about who has authority over the Tinmouth YouTube channel. This Committee or the Select Board? The Committee decided that the Select Board has that authority.

While waiting for an answer, she just created another Tinmouth YouTube channel for community events. The first video is about the story telling series. It was suggested that a link be added to the town website for that channel.

Cathy Reynolds requested permission be re-instated for editing the website. After brief discussion, Members voted to ask the Select Board to increase the committee to 7 members and to appoint Cathy as the 7th member.

Members were asked to check other towns’ websites for comparisons and ideas.

Members agreed that meeting videos linked on the website should be moved to ‘private’ after 1 year.

Planning Commission ~ 02/20/25

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Larry Carabeau, Judy Gilmore, Andy Gilmore, and Joe Buffum

Members present via Zoom: Ann Lundquist, Kim Harbaugh, Vito Macaluso, and Pat Psholka

Others: present in-person: Cris Carabeau and Gail Fallar Secretary

And via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Melody Squier, Nelson and Betti Jaquay

Members discussed the Notice of Intent to File an application with the Public Utilities Commission from Industrial Wireless Technologies, Inc, for a Certificate of Public Good for the construction of a wireless telecommunications facility at 440 Route 140. There is a need to research the process – this notice gives 60 days before the application is submitted. Does the town respond before or after the application is filed? It was noted that the Select Board and the Planning Commission need to determine whether this project complies with the current town plan.

Nelson expressed concern with the proposed tower, only 480 feet from his house there are health risks from the micro waves emitted. This is a beautiful valley, they have lived there 58 years, love this town the way it is, wants consideration. He thanked the PC for listening, it’s about health and the quality of life for them and the Town.

Questions regarding why it would be in the belly of the valley, height above surrounding trees, etc. Members were encouraged to come up with more questions and to review the town plan regarding this project. Kim advised the Town may need legal advice and technical support.

Vito suggested reviewing Annette Smith's "When a Tower Comes to Town" article written in 2022. It will be scanned and sent to members.

Judy, as Tinmouth's RRPC representative, reported on progress being made on the Rutland Regional Plan update. There were a few contentious moments at the recent RRPC meeting. The Plan has to follow state mandates/statutes or it won't be approved.

Members continued update of the Town Plan – still working on pictures – Ann has looked at some that Vito sent, she will forward her choices to be distributed to members. Gail advised she is still working on the listing, zoning and school sections to update the information.

Planning Commission ~ 03/20/25

Present were members Michael Fallar, Ann Lundquist, Joe Buffum, Andy Gilmore, Judy Gilmore and Larry Carabeau with Kim Harbaugh, Pat Psholka and Vito Macaluso on Zoom.

Others present: Gail Fallar, Sec. and Jeremy Gildrien-RRPC, Sherry Johnson, Melody Squier, Nelson and Betti Jaquay on Zoom.

Michael Fallar was re-elected Chair and Vito Macaluso was elected Vice Chair, Gail will continue as Secretary.

Members met with Jeremy Gildrien from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to review updating the Enhanced Energy Plan. The PC was asked to compose several paragraphs regarding information pertinent to Tinmouth. Existing maps were discussed, not all are needed, RRPC will provide updates due to change in mapping standards, but 2020 maps can also be included.

Members discussed the proposed radio tower across from the cemetery, Zoning Administrator Gail Fallar advised that the project does not comply with the Town Plan or Zoning Bylaws – its proposed location is in the Protection District, which only allows agriculture and forestry. There will be a public meeting with the Select Board, hopefully in mid-April once the company has conducted its balloon float. (A 4-8 foot red balloon is flown at the height of the proposed tower – 160 plus the 13 feet of antennae – to gauge scenic impacts.)

Recreation Committee ~ 2/10/25

With thanks to Martha Stanley, Sec.

Members present Robbie Leeds, Martha Stanley and via Zoom Colleen Balch and David Levant.

Also present in person community member Gail Fallar

Old Business

Tinmouth Channel Walk Review:

20 people took part. Members felt the event was a success from the response of those taking part in the event. The hot cider and cookies provided by Marshall and Melody, appreciated.

Tinmouth Cabin Hike: Date for hike March 2nd.

Open Gym:

Not a lot of people at the last event however it seems to be building interest. Robbie will consider events for March and April.

New Business

Nancy Birdsall is working on a Recreation Committee page for the Tinmouth Website.

The 5th and 6th grade teacher reached out to Robbie regarding teaching an Aikido class.

Brief discussion regarding State funding opportunities. What might be available. A community meeting was suggested to determine what people might want/need.

Recreation Committee ~ 3/10/25

Members present was Doug Fontein, via Zoom was Robbie Leeds, David Levant, and Colleen Balch. Others Gail Fallar in person and Marshall Squier by phone.

Hike to the town cabin was cancelled due to weather and rescheduled. Also discussed a hike up Morgan Mountain to view the Channel from there.

Members decided to apply for a Community Fund grant for life jackets to go with the kayaks stored in the town office basement. There needs to be a system developed for them to be used.

Members discussed ways to engage residents to gather input for what recreation opportunities/activities are wanted/needed.

Conservation Commission ~ 2/17/25

With thanks to Chuck Bronk, Sec.

Members Present: Ed Hasenohr, Doug Inkley (Zoom), Doug Fontein, Robbie Leeds, Colleen Balch (Zoom), and Chuck Bronk.

Public Present: Gail Fallar

Ongoing Business:

Ed reviewed the Vermont Town Forest Census. Data for Tinmouth is complete.

On the matter of spring trail maintenance, Ed noted that there are a small number of blow downs on the Ridge Trail, and that the Recreation Committee is planning a hike to the Cabin on the Purchase Loop March 2nd. All agreed that we set a work day for May 17th to re-blaze the Purchase Loop and to advertise the event in Front Porch Forum.

Doug F. produced a mock-up of the sign for the Purchase Loop which would include a hang tag regarding wet or dry conditions for bicycles. The sign would be placed only at the Upper Kiosk. Doug F. will share it with David Birdsall for approval by the land owner.

Green Up day is May 3rd. Details were discussed.

A survey of Black Ash is planned for March 9th at Doug F.'s house. It will include a demonstration of the use of pounded fiber slats of Black Ash in basket making. Robbie reported that approximately 20 people attended the Recreation Committee's walk to the Channel, led by Marshall Squier and David Birdsall.

Other Business:

Doug F. commented that before the next meeting, it may be necessary to erect the Amphibian Crossing Signs.

Members set the next regular meeting for April 14, swapping the third Monday to the Recreation Committee.

Tinmouth Community Fund ~ 2/26/25

With thanks to Martha Stanley, Acting Sec.

Present were members Jan Krantz, Melody Squier, Cathy Reynolds, Lisa Patry, Bess Lewis, and Martha Stanley, as well as public Gail Fallar.

Lynn Buffum resigned from the Board tonight. Board will need find someone to replace Lynn, for the remaining 2 years of her term at the annual meeting.

Minutes from: 4/22/24, 09/03/24 and 9/30/24 were reviewed and corrected before being approved.

Treasurer Cathy reported current balances at the Vermont Community Foundation and at the town office. Discussion followed:

- More grant money is available be given out.
- Ideas to increase applications as well as promote ideas.
- Grants of \$600 requires a 1099 to be sent, therefore a limit of \$599 has been set.

A solution could be a group or individual could apply through a Town committee. Whereby the grant request could be up to \$1,200. Would require approval from the SB in this case.

Board voted that an organization 501(C)3 can apply for a grant up to \$1,200.

TCF Scholarship/ Grant Allocations 2025

Board voted that \$19,000 be available for Continuing Education and \$9,800 for the Tinmouth Community Fund grants, this includes small business grants as well.

The Alan Hochberg Science Education Fund of which the Tinmouth Mountain School is the recipient. People have wanted to donate through Benevity. This group manages grants and donations that provide matching funds. The Board moved that TVF register with Benevity. That will allow on line giving and corporate managing. Cathy and Gail were authorized to sign paperwork to enroll.

Closing out old grants -

Currently when a grant has been awarded the applicant sends in a final report with receipts and a description of the project by 18 months after receiving the grant. Two years was suggested as a new protocol. Change needs to be reflected in the by-laws. Cathy and Lisa will

review by-laws , update and present to the board. After that by-laws will be sent in to the SB.

Pavilion

Board voted that donations for the pavilion will go into the Community Fund checking account. This will be transferred as needed to the Town to cover construction costs. When BGS grant money is received by the Town, it will be passed to the TCF for reimbursement.

Equity and Inclusion Committee 3/27/25

With thanks to Melody Squier, Acting Sec.

Via Zoom: Kim Harbaugh, Cynthia Pollock, Melody Squier, Rainbow Squier, and Todd Dennis

In person: Gail Fallar

Welcome signs: Rainbow made a display of a potential sign design that was available for comment at Town Informational Meeting and Town Voting day. There were many indicating they liked the idea and design. Three artists from town, Bess Lewis, Meredith Pratt, and Cris Carabeau also volunteered to provide art/design for additional signs.

Members discussed sizes and costs – homemade and contracted. Rainbow suggested we get together with the other artists and share ideas and sign shape, size, design. Also, if we should have a tiny “roof” cover over the top of the signs to help slow weathering. Once we have a design we can take it to some graphic places to compare prices.

Family Heritage Dinner Recap: Melody shared that the dinner of about 25 people, one joining from Middletown Springs, was very lovely. There has been lots of positive feedback from it. There were many countries, stories and recipes shared. Nancy Birdsall also filmed and put together a video memory of it on YouTube. We hopefully can continue this annually.

Fun Day: Discussion for date to put on the calendar for Fun Day this year. Set a tentative date for August 2nd. Melody will confirm with other organizations before posting on the Town Calendar.

Future Direction of Equity and Inclusion: Our purpose is not to become an event committee. Rainbow suggested for all to think about our mission as a committee and what we want to focus on.

Annual Reorganization: Melody Squier was elected Chair, Rainbow Squier was elected Vice Chair, no one volunteered to be Secretary: perhaps someone in Community is willing to volunteer?

Meetings held on the 4th Thursday every other month.

** **

“Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are, and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are.”
~ Augustine

~ Legislative Contact Info ~

The Vermont General Assembly is winding down. If you wish to contact your State Senators or Representatives, here is the info:

You can call the Sergeant-at-Arms at 1-800-322-5616 and leave a message, or use email addresses below.

Rutland-Bennington District –

Rep. Chris Pritchard: cpritchard@leg.state.vt.us

Rutland County Senators-

Sen. Brian Collamore: bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us

Sen. David Weeks: dweeks@leg.state.vt.us

Sen. Terry Williams: tkwilliams@leg.state.vt.us

You can also access the Legislature's website at www.leg.state.vt.us. There you can find who is on which committee, what bills have been introduced, track each bill's progress, review committee agendas, etc. There is a wealth of information available. You may also be able to watch debate live via video links.

Your input can be important in their decision-making. Let them know your concerns!



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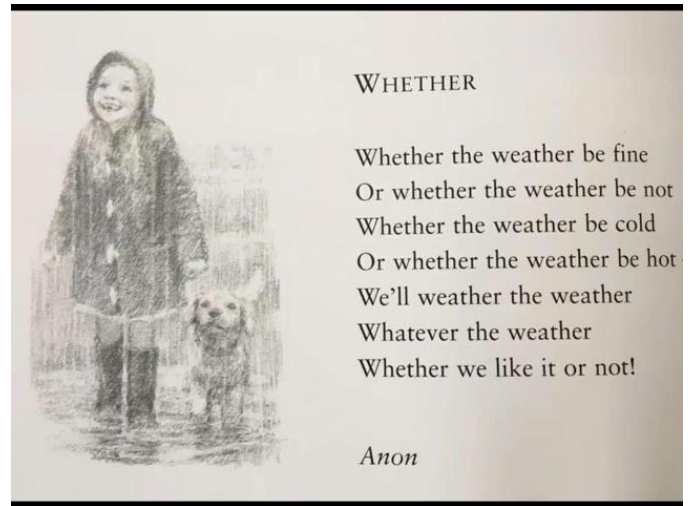
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Applicant:

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____
 Street Town State Zip

Phone: _____

E-mail (not your Mill River e-mail): _____

Acceptances: List the institutions of higher learning to which you have been accepted:

Written Statement:

In 100-200 words write an essay that describes your educational goals.

High School Transcript:

Please have the MRUHS guidance office include a copy of your transcript with this application.

 Signature of Applicant

Submit this application to the MRUHS guidance office on or before May 5, 2025



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Unified Union School District

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Registration Dates

(By appointment only)

Clarendon Elementary

May 23rd, 2025

Shrewsbury Mountain

May 16th, 2025

Tinmouth Elementary

May 9th, 2025

Wallingford Elementary

May 12th, 2025

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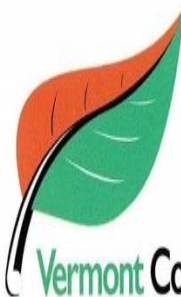
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~ May 2025 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department
Green-Up
Select Board
Spring Concert
Annual Plant Sale
Recreation Committee
Planning Commission
Historical Society Work Day
Tales of Tinmouth Deadline
Spring Concert
Memorial Day

Thursday	1st	7:00
Saturday	3 rd	8:30-9:00
Thursday	8 th	6:00
Friday	9 th	7:30
May 10 th – 18 th	Squier Family Farm Stand	
Monday	12 th	7:00
Thursday	15 th	7:00
Saturday	17 th	1:30
Tuesday	20 th	
Friday	23 rd	7:30
Monday	26 th	The Town Office will be Closed!

Fire House
Start time at Transfer Station
Town Office & Virtual
Old Fire House
12 McNamara Road
Town Office/Virtual
Town Office & Virtual
Town Office & Old Sheds
Don't Miss It!
Old Fire House

~ April 2025 Calendar of Events ~

Community Fund Applications Due	Tuesday	1 st	11:59 PM	(Deadline is past)
Community Grants/Continuing Ed Scholarships/Camperships/Business Grants				
Fire Department	Thursday	3 rd	7:00	Fire House
Recreation Committee	Monday	14 th	7:00	Town Office
Select Board	Thursday	10 th	7:00	Town Office & Virtual
Story Telling	Friday	11 th	7:00	Old Fire House
Conservation Commission	Monday	14 th	7:00	Town Office & Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	17 th	7:00	Town Office & Virtual
Easter Service	Sunday	20 th	9:00	Community Church
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Sunday	20 th		Don't Miss It!
Recreation Committee	Monday	21 st	7:00	Town Office & Virtual
Old Fire House Spring Concert	Friday	25 th	7:30	Old Fire House
Hazardous Household Waste	Saturday	26 th	8:30-12:30	Rutland Town Transfer Station
Historical Society Meeting	No Meeting in April			



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

~ Sunday Church Service ~ 9:00 AM All are welcome! ~

~ The Library is open Thursdays 2:00-5:00 PM ~ And the first Saturday of the month, 10-noon.

Craft Club ~ Mondays at the Old Fire House ~ 1:00-3:00 All Welcome!

**The Town Office will be CLOSED April 26th through May 3rd. We will re-open on Monday, May 5th.
Please plan accordingly. Email and telephone will be monitored.**

Special Meeting Regarding a
Proposed Radio Tower at
440 Route 140
Date to be determined,
some time in mid-April.
Watch Front Porch Forum
or call the Town Office for
details.

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