

CLASS V ROADS STUDY COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 6, 2015  
MINUTES  
Approved

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM

Present: Bill Malcolm, Steve Williams, Mike Smith, Mimi Weinstein, Jim Jenks, Sue MacKenzie, Dan Brand, Greg Lange

1. Minutes of 9/15/15 were approved
2. Closing River Road: Engineers have advised to close the road. Discussed pros and cons of closure, complete vs "Pass at your own risk". Possibility of leaving it open as an emergency route. No matter what we do it will be abused. Under the right circumstances there is the risk of catastrophic failure of the bank and road. Recommendation to Selectboard: Limited Closure of road with conditions.

Discussion of next steps: Doing ledge probes to determine ledge profile. Suggestion to move road onto the ledge by blasting a shelf wide enough to accommodate the road. Need to know cost of blasting. May decrease cost by hiring contractors and using our highway dept.

3. Steve Williams will be the representative from the Highway Department.
4. "Curbside Chat" Article. We need to make do with what we have. National problem of lack of funds for infrastructure. Federal and state funding is not going to be forthcoming. Now we have to lower expectations until we can figure out how to restore our roads with funds available. Current taxes from our current housing arrangements (low density/spread out) do not support the roads that serve them. Debated whether to improve roads which would encourage speeders or leave them rough and discourage increased traffic and speeding. How best to handle road improvements, one stretch at a time or spread out throughout town. Discussed "browning of the roads". Need to figure out the cost of each. Would we save money by returning roads to gravel until we can afford to rebuild from the base. How long will it take to be able to afford.

Meeting adjourned 7:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Susan MacKenzie