

CLASS V ROADS STUDY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, July 17th, 2018
4 PM
TOWN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM

Present: Sue MacKenzie, Dan Brand, Karen Henry, Frank Bowles, Mike Smith, Bill Malcolm, Steve Williams

Agenda

- Minutes from 7-3-2018
- Closed Portion of River Road (reconstruction)
- Hewes Brook Bridge
- GeoStabilization International Proposals
- Other Business

The meeting was called to order at 408 PM.

Minutes – The minutes from the 7-3-2018 meeting were approved as revised (2nd Draft became the final copy).

Closed portion of River Road – Sue said that the negotiations were ongoing with David Roby on the closed portion of River Road; however, they are stalled at this point. Mr. Roby insists that the Town pay for the land required for road construction. Mr. Roby has rejected two monetary offers for the property. Instead, he has suggested that the Town and he agree on an appraiser and convey the property to the Town for the appraised price, not to exceed a set amount. Karen made the motion that the Roads Study Committee “officially” support the course of action that the Select Board has decided to take. Frank seconded it. There was considerable discussion of this topic. One of the challenges is that Denis Thompson needs \$160,000 to purchase materials at this time, and the Town cannot make that commitment without a signed agreement with Mr. Roby. Bill recommended to go back to court with the eminent domain question. Mike suggested that the Town go back with a final offer that includes a court date. Karen withdrew the motion.

Hewes Brook Bridge – Frank suggested that perhaps Mr. Emery is seeking compensation or something else in particular and offered to write a letter asking him whether there is anything specific that he would like from the Town in return for the use of his land during construction.

Rest of River Road – Sue said that there are 12 areas of concern. Three to four have been repaired. One is being repaired and about five to six are on the verge of collapse. Mike suggested that we prioritize them. Sue also noted that the ongoing job near Grant Brook is going very well.

Geostabilization International (GSI) Proposals – Sue stated that she thought that the proposal for the South end of River Road is very expensive and thus, a “non-starter.” (This proposal file was named “River Rd. @ Pole #229 Final”) Steve and Karen pointed out that they estimated that the bank can be stabilized for 10 to 20 percent of the cost proposed by GSI.

There was discussion primarily focused on road stabilization near North Thetford Road (Carola Lea's house fronts on this – the filename of the proposal is titled "River Rd. @ Corolla Final"). Frank pointed out that these proposals require a lot of work on the part of the Town. He also asked where the USACE (US Army Corps of Engineers) "is" with this project currently. Sue asked Karen if it OK to share this proposal with USACE, suggesting that the two organizations (GSI and USACE) could work together on this project. Karen offered to ask Perry if we can forward the proposal to USACE, and also offered to facilitate communication between GSI and USACE regarding this proposed project. Karen pointed out that Perry Kairis indicated that GSI would be willing to work with USACE. Sue pointed out that if USACE takes this project on, Lyme's portion of the cost would amount to about \$175,000. She also said that the engineer with whom she has been speaking said that he was open to suggestions on this potential project.

Mike stated that he thinks that this (the road in front of Carola Lea's house) is the most vulnerable portion of River Road – at highest risk for failure and road closure.

Sue pointed out that the gravel section of River Road between East Thetford Road and North Thetford Road has three areas that are failing, and the bank is about 35' vertical. Sue said that the Town should be educated about this portion of the road. She also said that if the contract for the reconstruction of the closed portion of River Road is awarded to Northern New England Field Services (NNE), there will be large rocks available (from the ledge excavation) for bank stabilization which led to the next topic....

Closed Portion of River Road (again) - There was some discussion about whether the Town needed a performance bond from Northern New England Field Services. Frank said that he was uncomfortable with the lack of performance bond protection on a project of this magnitude and uncertainty.

Sue stated that Denis Thompson is ready to begin work on this project now. He has had to hold up due to the ongoing negotiations with Mr. Roby.

Other business – Re: Gravel Roads project - Karen asked whether the Town might reconstruct a small section of Dorchester Road (near the Townline with Dorchester) this summer to help prevent mud season degradation.

Steve said that he has learned about chip sealing in Weare using fiberglass and would like to go observe chip sealing in Weare on July 26th.

The meeting was adjourned at 5PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7th, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Karen Henry

