

CLASS V ROADS STUDY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, August 21st, 2018
4 PM
TOWN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM

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

Agenda

- Approval of Minutes from 8-7-18
- Follow ups from the last meeting:
 - Frank: Letter re Hewes Brook
 - Karen: USACE/GSI
 - Sue: Driveway at 278 River Road
- Project Reports:
 - Hewes Brook Bridge
 - River Road Reroute
 - Grant Brook
 - Baker 1
 - Pony Hill
 - Pavement Preservation: Pinnacle Hill Road

The meeting was called to order at 400 PM.

Minutes – The minutes from the 8-7-2018 meeting were approved.

Letter to Mr. Emery – Frank has written a letter to Mr. Emery asking to be allowed to use his property for temporary bridge use during the Hewes Brook Bridge reconstruction should the Town need to use it. (With the closed portion of River Road likely being reopened before the Hewes Brook Bridge is reconstructed, this will probably not be needed.) Frank has submitted the letter to the Select Board for approval.

Geostabilization International (GSI) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Karen reported that GSI has stated that it is fine to share the proposal about stabilizing the Connecticut River bank near Carola Lea's house. Karen has left a voice mail message with Chris Hatfield of USACE to begin discussion of the potential project. Sue commented that \$335K is a high price for just the soil nailing stabilization of the bank. Based on questions from Frank and Sue, Karen noted that the Town of Lyme will be responsible for tree clearing as well as placing geotextile and a rip rap cover the toe and the bottom two feet of the stabilized slope. Sue said that the USACE will cost share 65/35 (USACE/Lyme) of the entire project. Additionally, she is thinking that they (USACE) would incorporate soil nailing stabilization provided by GSI into the overall project. This approach is a way to save the road.

Driveway at 278 River Road - The owner of this driveway has complained that Nott's excavating has ruined their driveway by turning around heavy equipment in it. He wants the 15' apron replaced immediately. Notts will do the work and the Town will pay for the asphalt. Dennis Thompson of Northern New England Field Services will be talking to the owner (Mr. Schwarz) to determine whether NNFS could build a turnaround on the opposite side of the road

from Mr. Schwarz's driveway (this pertains to the closed portion of River Road reconstruction). There is no room inside the gates to turn any equipment around. Steve reported that Reggie from Nott's obtained his permission to turn around in the driveway. Bret pointed out that the asphalt won't cost very much money.

Hewes Brook Bridge – The contractor, Hanson Bridge, has been asking whether the Town will proceed with this contract. By way to background, Sue stated that the original cost estimate for the bridge replacement was \$150K, but the bid came in at \$350k. The Select Board has asked for another proposal without the use of the temporary bridge. The current plan is to proceed with reconstruction of the bridge (after the closed portion of River Road opens).

Progress on the reconstruction of the Closed portion of River Road -

Sue announced that the Town was notified by NH DES on August 20th that they have to have a complete Phase 1A Archeological study done on the complete reconstruction route. Right Angle Engineering has contacted a qualified firm that will conduct this study.

In another issue related to the reconstruction, the well casings are being placed into the ledge (bedrock) and grouted. Helical anchors will then be attached to the well casings. The depth to bedrock is a lot greater than had been anticipated. Boulders were mistaken for bedrock during the geotechnical site investigation. The current work is a lot deeper than was anticipated, and the contractor feels that adequate stability can be obtained by drilling 6 feet and not 10 feet into bedrock. The quoted price for the job includes an average depth of 26 feet for the casing placement into bedrock. Anything over that will incur additional costs to the Town. Because of the increased depth required, they are also increasing the horizontal spacing slightly to help curb construction costs. This was followed by discussion about whether an analysis was performed and who would be responsible and/or liable should a failure of the stabilizing system occur. Sue also said that one pole of the power lines needs to be moved in order for the casing placement to continue (the drill rig needs access).

Sue reported that the utility company responsible for the power poles measure the elevation of the poles. They claim that the utility poles have dropped 2 feet in elevation. The Committee agrees that the poles do not appear to be leaning, and if the claim is true, the slope is sliding down sloped bedrock (ledge).

Sue invited the rest of the Committee to take a boat ride on Friday at 1PM to do a bank survey of the River.

The (DES) permits are still on hold, and the Town should have them by the 1st of September. Bill asked if the Select Board had met with DES, and Sue said yes. No tree cutting or any major clearing can be done until we obtain permits, and permits won't be granted until an Archeological study is complete. The contractor (NNFS) is getting ready to start construction as soon as the permits are granted.

Sue also clarified that the Town purchased an easement for the purpose of the road being rerouted.

Grant Brook slope reconstruction – Sue reported that the contractor should be back this week to finish the "edges" and take care of the driveway at 278 River Road,

Baker 1 culvert replacement/repair - Sue reported that NNFS has proposed that the culvert be re-sleeved. She clarified that water is not flowing under the steam pipe culvert. If we sleeve it, all of the work can be performed from one side of the road, including fixing the headwall.

Pavement preservation/placement - Steve reported that the estimates for repaving are \$68K for Acorn Hill Road and \$99K for Pinnacle Hill Road. Sue said that the Town will put repaving out to bid for Pinnacle Hill Road. She mentioned that a culvert needs to be replaced on the Mulvihill driveway.

Storm damage report – Steve reported that most of the work required in response to the recent thunderstorm is grader work.

Potential source of bridge reconstruction funds – Steve reported that NH Municipal has about \$10M available for bridge reconstruction – for reimbursement up to 80% of the costs of bridge reconstruction.

Emergency road repair funds - Steve asked about emergency road repair funds for the Town. Sue reported that last year's storm resulted in about \$100K of spending from emergency funds. Steve said that the Highway Department is low on emergency supplies such as extra culverts. Sue said that if FEMA reimburses us for work performed last summer, the emergency funds used will be replaced.

There was some discussion about increasing the size of our culverts. Some of the culverts are perched on top of ledge (bedrock), so this presents a challenge in increasing the size. Bill asked if more than one culvert can be placed side by side. Sue and Steve said that these are problematic in terms of plugging but that we do have some.

Other Business – Bill asked about movement on the bank in front of Carola Lea's house. Karen said that the tell-tale had been broken after about 1/4" of movement had been noted. Frank said that he had replaced and repaired the tell tale on August 11th, and Karen said that there was again (as of August 21st) about 1/4" of movement.

Frank asked about how long the Select Board wants to monitor the Connecticut River elevations. There was some discussion about what the River elevations have been and should be. And whether the water elevation slopes between Lyme and Wilder Dam. Bill asked about how the flowage rights were purchased, and Sue said that flowage rights were purchased from individual landowners. Bret said that the flowage rights are not granted to uniform water elevations among the various individual properties. There was some discussion about why the water levels are so high.

The meeting was adjourned at 450 PM.

/s/ Karen Henry