

April 25, 2014 Select Board Minutes, Groton Community Building (Approved)

Select Board: Nathan Puffer, Gary Lamberton, Peter Lyon

VAOT District Project Manager: Shauna Clifford. Road Commissioner: Brent Smith

The meeting started at 8:00 AM

Shauna reviewed options that could be considered to cover damage that occurred in the most recent storm. Brent estimated that the total cost was in the range of \$10K to \$15K. Shauna will meet with Brent toward the end of May to complete a site visit to determine if the assessments are reasonable.

Shauna provided copies of "The Orange Book" for everyone that is a handbook for local officials. Shauna also gave the Welton Bridge Project closeout checklist which needs to be completed by the Town. Nathan gave an update on the meeting he had with Red Dufresne on the overpayment with the conclusion that it will close out for the Town on budget. Shauna complimented Nathan on his approach and effort to resolve the question with the Engineers.

General discussion took place on Codes & Standards and the associated impacts on matching State and FEMA funds with Shauna recommending that the town adopt its own standards. Brent had submitted updates on both maintenance and slope last year that everyone continued to support. Peter made a motion, seconded by Nathan certifying that the revised standards are being followed in the current year. The motion passed unanimously and the Board then signed the form with the certification.

Peter asked if Shauna could help with an Engineering and construction solution to the drainage problems on Ricker Mills Road where the silt flows into Rt 232 causing potential environmental problems. Shauna said that she would meet with Brent on site to try and identify some solutions.

Shauna completed a review of the road mileage for the Town's with one change with was to reduce Seyon Road by .89 miles. Since the Town is reimburse at a rate of \$1500/mile this would create a small reduction in the State Aid. The Powder Spring Road bridge project remains open and has approximately \$12K of work left which will be completed this year over a three week period by Brent and Phillip.

General discussion took place on the Boulder Beach Road Culvert project. A complete replacement would last approximately 50 – 75 years and an Invert repair (instead of new) would last 20 – 25 years. Shauna recommended considering making it a two phase project with the first phase being "Design/Permit/Bid Package Preparation" and the second being Construction. Shauna felt that the initial construction estimate of \$500K could be lower if managed appropriately.

Shauna reported that the VAOT in partnership with Caledonia County Conservation District will be offering a two day training session (one in class room and one in the field) for River & Roads Training.

Brent reported that the Conservation District has been a large help with Class 4 Roads in providing solutions to water quality issues. Brent also reported that there will be one State project this year which is the paving of approximately one mile of Powder Spring Road with 1.5" shim overlay. It was estimated that this project would cost approximately \$100K.

The Board thanked Shauna for all of her support to the Town. Her advice and council has been greatly appreciated!

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 AM

Gary Lamberton, Chair

Prepared by Peter Lyon