

Selectboard Memo
March 30, 2015 SB Meeting

Road Foreman Report

- Road Foreman Garand will be at the meeting to discuss a variety of highway-related topics, including mud season, grant applications, and plans for winter sand

Discussion on Potential VTrans Structures and Paving Grant Program Applications

- Structures application for Murray Road culvert near Montpelier line
 - The last culvert on Murray Road before the Montpelier city border is a vastly undersized 48” segmented concrete pipe; this culvert serves as the conduit for a brook draining the watershed encompassing the area from the northeast corner of Cummings Road & North Street, including the southern parts of County & Center Roads, before crossing Murray Road and picking up the brooks draining south-central East Montpelier, and dropping down to the Winooski River just east of the Connor Contracting building on US Rte. 2; our design consultant Doug Newton has recommended two alternatives:
 - Aluminum pipe arch w/ aluminum headwalls & wingwalls: \$84,805
 - Open bottom aluminum single radius arch w/ concrete headwalls & wingwalls: \$133,422
 - We generally include an amount, in addition to the construction costs, for design, r-o-w, permitting, and admin costs – estimated at \$4,000 for this project (either version)
- Structures application for Quaker Road culvert near Brown residence
 - The town has included this culvert, a 24” steel tube that was overwhelmed during both the 2011 spring event and later that year during Tropical Storm Irene (you may recall the road acting as a dam, creating Quaker Lake on the north side of the road), in its structure grant applications since 2012 without success; the recommended replacement (another Newton design) calls for a 6-fold size increase at an estimated cost of \$70,000
- Class 2 Paving application for engineering study of the new Class 2 stretch along Quaker, Vincent Flats, Dodge, Lyle Young, and Templeton Roads
 - The board earlier this year decided to pursue a relatively low-cost highway engineering study of the Vincent Flats road area rather than request a full paving grant given that our paved roads are in such good shape as a result of the recently completed accelerated road paving effort; the intent is to get a potential plan to deal with the various issues caused by the heavy traffic on the Quaker Road to Fairmont Farm stretch
 - Evan Detrick of DuBois & King, Inc. (the firm that is currently designing the East Montpelier Village sidewalk project and did the scoping study for that project back in 2012) developed an estimate of \$20,000 for the study

Discussion on Winter Sand, Roadside Mowing, and Lawn Mowing Bid Processes

- Winter Sand:
 - Road Foreman Garand would like to test a granite sand blend (from Northeast Materials) next winter; perhaps purchase 1,500 cu yds and truck it ourselves [there is some 2,000 tons available at \$7/ton – this works out to a bit more than 1,500 cu yds at around \$9/cu yd]
 - There is around 2,500 cu yds of sand at the garage so, with the granite sand, we would have some 4,000 cu yds on hand; one option for 2015/16 would be to not do our normal bid process and, if necessary, self-haul some additional sand in late summer/early fall
- Roadside Mowing:
 - Requesting that we don’t put this out to bid this year; we’ve been getting very few (around 3) submissions and end up choosing the same person every year – we’re happy with the work and he’s a local vendor
 - Doug Grout, our long-time roadside mower, is willing to do the standard work for \$4,900 (up \$50 from last year’s \$4,850) plus the same hourly rate (\$75) for extra cutting

- Lawn Mowing:
 - Also requesting that we don't put this out to bid this year; same reasoning – we get very few responses and choose the same local vendor every year
 - Tim Frazier, our long-time lawn mower (he also does the spring grounds spruce-up, but not as part of this contract), would like a 2-year contract at \$7,470 per year (same as last year's rate)

Consideration of Annual Highway Financial Plan

- This is the mandatory (19 V.S.A. §306(j)) filing of the highway “budget” (really just a broad-brushed listing of revenue and expected expenses, including large projects, if any) and certification that the town will raise by taxes at least \$300 per town highway mile (19 V.S.A. §307; failure to meet the minimum results in loss of state aid); in our case we appropriate, discounting state aid, approximately \$540,000 for 62.25 miles -- \$8,640/mile
- Selectboard members need to sign the certification

Consideration of Local Emergency Operations Plan

- This is the mandatory plan we file annually with the state; little has changed from last year's version:
 - The state now mandates that a NIMS-qualified Selectboard member certify adoption of the LEOP; last year we had Bill George, our Emergency Management Co-coordinator, do the certification, but that is no longer allowed; Casey Northrup is the listed certifier of adoption for this year as he is the only board member who has taken the required National Incident Management System coursework
 - Other changes include adding Toby Talbot as a Emergency Management Co-coordinator and updating the U-32 leadership information
- Need a motion to adopt the 2015 LEOP

Consideration of Draft 2015 Town Meeting Minutes

- Town Clerk Conti presented the draft 2015 minutes at the March 16, 2015 Selectboard meeting and requested board members sign the approval page at the end; the request was tabled until members had an opportunity to review the draft minutes

Appointments

- Planning Commission recommends Jack Pauly for CVRPC alternate representative; Jack used to be the alternate before the team of Tim Carver and Julie Potter was put in place two years ago; Tim feels it's time for him to step down and Jack is willing to resume the alternate role

Town Administrator Report

- Planning Commission invitation to meeting to discuss zoning regulations
 - The PC would like to have interested Selectboard members come to a meeting in the near future to discuss potential alterations in zoning regulations (such as shifting the commercial/residential/agricultural designations along the state routes, loosening density restrictions in the village area, and moving forward with zoning changes to encourage the long-discussed growth area around U-32); potential dates include April 2nd, May 7th (which is the date of the PC hearing on the current proposed zoning regulation amendments), or May 21st
- Upcoming Schedule of Events:
 - April 13th Special SB meeting (in lieu of regular April 20th meeting)
6:30 p.m. at town office
 - April 16th Quarterly EMFD budget presentation
7:00 p.m. at ESF
 - May 4th Regular SB meeting
6:30 p.m. at town office

Zoning Administrator Report

- Finally a new application (see permit report); no DRB meeting currently scheduled