

Approved on 9/13/2023

Town of New Boston Road Committee Meeting July 12, 2023

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Mark Suennen	Road Committee Chairman
	George St. John	Road Committee Vice Chairman
	David Litwinovich	Road Committee Secretary
	Benji Knapp	Road Agent
	William McFadden	Select Board Ex-Officio

Item 1: CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Road Committee was called to order by Mark Suennen at 6pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

The Committee reviewed the minutes of June 14, 2023. Bill McFadden moved to approve the minutes of June 14, 2023, as presented. George St. John seconded the motion. The committee voted 4-0 in favor (the Road Agent arrived just after the vote). George St. John clarified that although he and the road agent are open to the idea of using glass as aggregate if it would be economically viable, there is concern that the town would be able to use all the material it would generate. Bill McFadden expressed concern that the town could end up with a mountain of material it could not use. The Road Agent expressed he had the same concerns from his experience in his previous job. The applications where glass aggregate can be used are limited. It is the Road Agent's experience that selling excess glass aggregate is difficult.

Item 3: OLD BUSINESS:

a. No Thru Trucking along Byam Road / Wilson Hill Road:

Bill McFadden explained the Public Safety Committee is being reinstituted and is meeting on July 18. The committee consists of Police Chief Jim Brace, Fire Operations Chief Frank Fraitzl, Emergency Management representative Bruce McKim, the Road Agent Benji Knapp, select board Ex-Officio Bill McFadden, and a member of the public yet to be appointed by the select board. This committee will address the issues surrounding no thru trucking.

b. 2023 Road Work Status:

The Highway Department has begun work addressing drainage issues on Cemetery Road. This includes widening the road, adding curbs leading to culverts and catch basins, and adding loam over riprap. George St. John reminded everyone that the water runoff from Cemetery Road ends up draining into the middle of the field behind Town Hall. The Road

Agent reviewed the issues related to how all the runoff ends up in that field. This will need to be addressed in the future.

The Road Agent is looking at options for tree cutting on Christie Road later this fall.

The Road Agent is looking at renting a tractor to mow along the edges of roads. This is more economically feasible than hiring an outside contractor. Mowing is tentatively scheduled to begin in August.

A catch basin needs to be installed on Clark Hill Road.

The Highway Department continues to grade roads.

Bill McFadden questioned a charge on the accounts payable regarding the Bedford Road Culvert by Foxberry Road. The Road Agent stated that he needed to get up to speed on where that project was at.

Mark Suennen explained that once the town came up with its 20% of the engineering costs, that the balance of engineering and construction costs on the Tucker Mill Road bridge and Gregg Mill Road bridge would be covered by State and Federal funds.

There was some discussion on where the Dougherty Lane bridge project was at. The town had some bridge structures to be put in place at one point but there were permitting issues. Mark Suennen suggested that the Select Board should get an update from the engineer where the permitting stood. David Litwinovich stated that at one point the previous Road Agent had a low cost plan to replace the bridge, but after some coring tests were done, it was realized that the problem was larger than originally thought.

David Litwinovich left the meeting at 6:25pm.

c. Damages caused by recent rains:

The Road Agent stated that although there were some washouts on the edges of some roads, the town avoided significant damage. Bog Brook Road will need to be addressed as there was significant damage going back to Christmas of 2022.

Item 4: 2024 ROAD WORK PLANNING:

The Road Agent summarized the following roads are in need of paving (mostly topcoat), Cemetery Road, Meetinghouse Hill Road, Joe English Road (from Meetinghouse Road to McCurdy Road), 2 or 3 sections of McCurdy Road. If funds are available, the Road Agent would like to crack seal and chip Old Coach Road.

Bog Brook Road, Twin Bridge Road are on the radar for paving improvements and ditching improvements.

Bill McFadden asked about the need for a topcoat on Bedford Road. Mark Suennen confirmed that it was the consensus of the committee that any roads that had been base coated over the past few years should be top coated as soon as possible.

The Road Agent would like to make repairs to the road between Town Hall and Route 13 to improve drainage. The Highway Department would do the grading work and then it would need to be paved. George St. John reviewed the history of drainage issues around Town Hall and where things stand today.

The Highway Department ditched all of Clark Hill Road. The committee discussed how we interact with bordering towns concerning road maintenance.

Mark Suennen summarized that the committee should refine a plan to present to voters for road improvements in 2024. The committee discussed the CIP program.

The Road Agent stated that budgeting for sand and salt is going to be an issue this coming winter season. The committee discussed the best options to tackle this issue.

Item 5: NEW BUSINESS:

a. None

Item 6: NEXT MEETING DATES: September 13, 2023 at 6pm. October 4, 2023 at 5:30pm.

Item 7: ADJOURNMENT: Bill McFadden moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm. George St. John seconded. All were in favor.

Prepared by David Litwinovich

**Next Scheduled Meeting: September 13, 2023
Town Hall Conference Room
7 Meetinghouse Hill Road- New Boston, NH 03070
Phone: (603) 487-2500-www.newbostonnh.gov**