

Approved

Town of New Boston Road Committee Meeting May 12, 2021

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Karen Scott	Selectman
	Mark Suennen	Road Committee
	Denis Pinard	Road Committee
	George St. John	Road Committee
	Mark Debowski	Road Committee
	Mark Siemiesz	Road Committee

Guests In Attendance: None

Item 1: CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Road Committee was called to order by Denis Pinard at 6:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes of April 21, 2021: The Committee reviewed the minutes of April 21, 2021. Mark Suennen moved the minutes of April 21, 2021 be accepted as amended. George St. John seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Item 3: OLD BUSINESS:

List of Roads slated for paving / repair

- List attached with copy of paving contract: The Committee reviewed in detail the paving contract containing the list of roads including measurements and compared it with the prioritized list/assessment of roads Mark Debowski prepared in April. The Committee is concerned it could take a couple years of saving to have funds available to ensure roads are repaired to a consistent standard. George noted traffic has increased over the years that was not expected and has deteriorated roads. The Committee reviewed in detail the four bids that were received. They would like to discuss it with the Selectboard and Road Agent. Karen noted Road Agent Allen Brown brought the bids to the Selectboard and recommended awarding the bid to Continental Paving. The budget has approximately \$875,000 available for paving including \$289,000 from the 2020 Highway Department budget encumbered for road improvements in 2021 and \$416,000 from the Highway Block Grant in previous years. Mark Debowski moved to recommend to the Select Board that they reconsider and re-evaluate the bids that were submitted prior to signing a final contract with the apparent low bidder as the Road Committee has identified material inconsistencies and would like to determine the best value. Mark Suennen seconded the motion. All were in favor. 5-0 Mark Suennen moved that if the Town has already signed the contract with Continental Paving, then re-evaluating the bids is off the table and all the town can do is move forward with the contract we have and ask if the Selectboard wants the Road Committee to assist the Road Agent in evaluating how to best apply the contract that is before us to the roads of New Boston. Mark Debowski seconded the motion. All were in favor. 5-0

- Core tests / quality control / various treatment costs: This will be discussed at the meeting with the Selectboard and the Road Agent.

Perma-Zyme Product: This is an additive for dirt roads the Committee discussed with Highway Department road crew member Charlie Byam in April. It is an environmentally safe enzyme that is added to water and then absorbs approximately ten inches to help the road bed materials stick together to form a concrete-like base. It also has dust prohibitive properties. After this is added to roads, they are not expected to need further maintenance such as grading for six to ten years. The product costs \$6,500 for five gallons. The product is guaranteed and if it doesn't work the company will give a refund. The Road Agent is considering a road to try this out such as one mile of Beard Road as it needs maintenance multiple times each year. The Committee noted some concerns for consideration but is interested in this idea and looks forward to receiving more information.

- Results of Sieve Test: Pending

Road travel stats from Police: Karen distributed the stats she has received to the Committee and is awaiting more from the Police that she will forward as well. Mark Debowski recommended the Committee consider asking the Police and SNHPC to monitor traffic counts on certain roads to help the Committee when it is evaluating roads that may need improvement.

NEW BUSINESS:

Priority Road Repair List based on review of spreadsheet information/What should be done for each road/Where should the focus be: Mark Debowski reviewed a spreadsheet he prepared while evaluating paved roads according to the standard practices of evaluating paved roads from the American Society of Testing Materials, ASTM-D-6433 revised in 2020. He recommended the Committee evaluate the paving material quantities the town will receive this year and then prioritize the roads to be paved as listed in the bid package and then begin prioritizing for 2022 to bring to the Selectboard by October for 2022 budget preparation and Warrant Article drafting. The Committee will consider this again once it is aware of the contract award status.

Tenax 3D Grid Information: Karen brought this information to the former Road Agent, no action was taken at that time. She recently discussed it with another person knowledgeable about roads and brought information to the Road Committee for consideration. Mark Debowski and George St. John noted it is a road stabilization product and have seen it used on paved road problem areas. It can also be used on dirt roads. Karen noted it is expensive but her contact indicated it is very successful in preventing mud issues.

Other:

Denis asked if the Highway Department updates the Selectboard and Town Administrator weekly on tasks that it is working on. If so, he would like to be included in the update communication process. Karen noted Department Heads send monthly updates to the Selectboard and Town Administrator. Mark Suennen noted the Committee may not want to be involved in the day-to-day operations of the Highway Department, instead it may want to remain advisory to the Selectboard to provide assistance and guidance to the Road Agent on the long-term health and safety of town roads and bridges. Karen noted the Road Committee has a mission statement specifying its role. She wants to make sure communication between the Road

Committee and Highway Department should continue, such as making sure the Highway Department receives the assessment Mark Debowski prepared as discussed at the April meeting. Mark Siemiesz recommended the Committee begin planning road improvements for 2022 with the Road Agent now.

ADJOURNMENT: George St. John moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. Mark Suennen seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Prepared by Maralyn Segien

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Town Hall Conference Room on May 27, 2021 (6:00 PM)
7 Meetinghouse Hill Road- New Boston, NH 03070
Phone: (603) 487-2500-www.newbostonnh.gov**