



TOWN OF WARNER

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Select Board
Sam Bower, Chair
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Town Administrator Diane Ricciardelli
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Road Committee Meeting DRAFT Minutes

July 20, 2022, Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Warner Town Hall 5 E Main St
Main Floor Meeting Room – In Person

I. Open Meeting/Roll Call

7:03 pm -Tim Allen, Department of Public Works Director (DPW) opened the Road Committee Meeting
Attending: Chair Allen, Christine Frost Select Board Representative, Ed Mical Emergency Management Director (EMD), Jon France Fire Chief, Michael Cutting Budget Committee Chair
Absent: William Chandler Police Chief, Ken Cogswell
Others Present: (None Stated on the audio)

II. Paving Costs

a. Chair provided the following information for:

Poverty Plains and Schoodac Road projects:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Project Cost</u>	<u>Liquid Asphalt/Ton of July 1, 2022</u>
GMI	\$615,542.00	\$692/ton
R&D Paving	\$700,180.00	\$735/ton
Weaver Bros.	\$706,902.50	\$800/ton

Project Cost includes: Grinding hard top, finished grading compaction, 2 ½ in base hot top and 1 ½ inch on that. The Town is doing drainage.

Chair said he contacted GMI and R&D to ask how it would affect the project cost if after they started the work the liquid asphalt costs increased. He said both said price would increase. Chair believes the companies know he will not have the projects ready until September; if he had to choose now, he would choose Weaver Bros.; he knows their work, has been very satisfied with the way they work; he thinks Weaver Bros. is looking into the future and the others are using current costs.

Christine asked and Chair answered that he does not believe the companies will hold to their given prices. She asked if this was the bidding process. Chair answered that he has been over the project with each company and they will not give him a bid. Christine said then the choice must be based on other factors, not cost; with the state bid process "you go with lowest bid". Chair believed the Town's Bid Policy is to have 3 bids if the project is over \$15,000. Ed asked if that held if the companies are on the state list for approved companies.

Chair said his process is to be aware that he is spending taxpayer dollars. He said he does not believe any of the companies will give him a firm number – so if this is the bid process, then they won't bid. Mike said to justify the choice, "articulate" why you chose them. He said if it is Weaver Bros. then it sounds like the reason is based on

their projected costs vs the others who used current July pricing. Christine agreed. Mike and Christine both asked what would happen if the price of liquid asphalt decreased.

Chair said he would like to ask for a guaranteed date when the project will be completed, a time frame. He said that someone representing the Town's interest should be at the site when hot top is put on the ground checking for the correct temp and thickness. He felt the Town should pay for a neutral party to verify these. Christine added that a "maximum % of increase" should also be asked for; the Town needs to budget. She said the Chair should "go with who you are confident with". Mike agreed saying "someone will always ask why not the lowest bid." Christine said the choice is based on other factors, not just cost. Chair said the Town should also do what the state does – if the project is not done by the date given, then there are fines or penalties.

Christine said that Tim should go ahead with choosing and start the projects since September is only 5 weeks away. The others agreed. Jon abstained from voicing positively or negatively because he works for Weaver Bros.

III. Drainage

a. Culvert Material

Chair informed the committee that he bought culvert materials now rather than waiting until September or October to guarantee getting it. He said JAF no longer does state pricing; Lane Enterprise in Maine has the state bid for NH but couldn't guarantee delivery before October; Winwater in Concord had an \$8600 difference from the state price. Chair said he contacted Core and Maine, a company the water precinct deals with, and negotiated a reasonable price of \$6600.

After talking with the Finance Director, Chair explained that \$3K will be paid from his department operating budget with the remainder from the loan.

b. Ditching

Chair said the crew started ditching today, will continue on Monday and when finished, they will start replacing the pipe on Schoodac Road.

c. Engineering

The Chair said he talked to Engineer Mark Mosier about the 36 inch pipe that needs replacing on Schoodac Road and Mark returned with a cost of \$11K-13K. Chair said he gave him the approval to proceed.

Chair said that he based his Mosier decision on the price for pipe for the N Village Road Hazardous Mitigation Grant that Ed has been working on. He said Mosier will do the Plains and Schoodac Roads permit and design and should have permits by the end of August.

Christine asked about the timing of pipe delivery before road grinding starts and Mike asked about adequate staffing. Chair replied he is prioritizing. He said Ed Raymond was hired to mow the parks and buildings grounds and an ad is being put together to post for hiring 2 people.

Mike asked if Ed Raymond would be using the new mower. Chair said it was due at Knoxland Equipment, but it did not arrive, so he is looking at other avenues.

d. Capital Reserve Funds

Chair said he would like to request funds from the Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) to pay for the culvert design and permitting on Schoodac Road over Barclay Brook. He explained that the project has the potential to receive Hazardous Mitigation grant money but since it was not on the project list used for the road construction loan, that money is not an option. Chair added that if the grant is not approved then at least the Town will have the design work done.

Ed said he learned at the state yesterday they will start reviewing applications this or next week and then forwarding to FEMA. He said information was included in the grant application about the DES & Trout Unlimited tests which he was told was good.

Chair said if funds are not received then he would have to reschedule the work he has planned this year and the costs of projects next year will be adjusted as necessary.

Discussion for holding a Public Hearing to request CRF's followed; August 2, 2022, at a Select Board meeting, was set as the date if legal requirements can be met.

e. Pumpkin Hill Road

Chair began by saying that there are drainage issues on Pumpkin Hill Road and Old Pumpkin Hill Road to Mason Hill and have been for many years; he would like to resolve the issue since that portion is part of the Pumpkin Hill Road project. He explained the problem and said he had asked an engineer for a design to improve the situation.

f. Red Chimney Road

The committee discussed the possibility of having an appraiser or assessor assigning a value to land if it is needed in an easement for the Town. Christine said she will bring the topic up at the next select board meeting

The Chair said he has talked about grinding Red Chimney Road and maintaining it with grader 3-4 x's a year making it easier to plow in the winter and reducing the other issues it causes. He said he would start about 2100 feet into Red Chimney Road and go up to the intersection. The estimated project cost of \$20-25K is offset by benefits like less winter plowing issues to trucks saving time and money, etc and the removed road material going to the Town pit to be re-used on another project. The committee agreed with the Chair's plan.

Adjourn

Motion and all in Favor, Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Newman-Rogers
Admin Asst to the Select Board