

SELECTBOARD MEETING
July 28, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Clark (Chair), Troy Revis, Jr., Anne Rider

TOWN OFFICIALS/STAFF PRESENT: Katie Buckley (Town Administrator), Dan Zumbruski (Road Foreman/Commissioner)

I. CALL TO ORDER 6:30 PM

II. NEW ADDITIONS

- Conservation Commissioner Appointment – Rory Seymour – Troy moved to appoint Rory Seymour to fill one of the vacant seats for the Conservation Commissioner. Anne seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

III. RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

IV. CHANGES TO AGENDA - None

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Selectboard Meeting – 7/14/2014 – Anne moved to approve the minutes as written. Troy seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Green River Feasibility Study
 - Alternatives Request – Steve Lembke – Steve Lembke had emailed the Selectboard regarding their decision to move ahead with a feasibility (alternatives) study. He would like for the rehab of the Green River Covered Bridge (GRCB) to be included as one of the alternatives. He provided the example of another historic covered bridge in Lehigh, PA that was completely rehabbed to handle heavier loads. He formally requested that this alternative be one that is explored by whatever engineering firm is selected. There was some discussion about how the wing wall relates to the abutment and if the wall would need to be rebuilt if the bridge were rehabbed to handle heavier loads. Addison Minott said that the opening to the bridge isn't large enough; Anne clarified that the issue with the bridge is more about load capacity than clearance, Dan Zumbruski (Road Foreman) and Jared Bristol (Fire Chief) agreed with Anne. There was discussion about alternate routes to use for travel in the short term. There was a dialogue about how much work can be done to the GRCB so that it maintains its National Register listing.
 - Define the scope of study and parameters – Katie had contacted 2 engineering firms (Dubois & King and Hoyle, Tanner & Associates) to gather information about the feasibility study. Both have very similar experience, availability and costs. Hoyle, Tanner & Associates is already under contract with the Town for the GRCB Rehab Project. Anne moved to contract with Hoyle, Tanner & Associates to perform a feasibility study to determine the alternatives for the Green River Covered Bridge with an amount not to exceed \$50,000. Troy seconded. Motion carried.

- Green River NW Wing Wall Reconstruction Project
 - Updates – The wing wall project took shape in 2009. It was compounded by tropical storm Irene. The bridge closure timeline for the project came as a surprise to Town officials. The Town had to commence work soon to get the bridge reopened for foot traffic by the start of school. The major funding for project sunsets December 2014.
 - Mike Hebert provided background and commended the Selectboard on the steps they have taken to date on the matter; there is a definite process that has to be followed and they are on the right track. Mike asked that the residents have patience. The residents expressed their distress in having to drive the detour routes. There was a conversation among residents requesting a foot-bridge to cross the river over and across private lands. Dick Clark explained that if the Town were to take this project on there would have to be permitting, and a process that would need to be followed to make it happen which would take a long time. Since the request involves private property and no Town land, it is something that could be done as a residents’ grass root project. The Town cannot endorse or support the foot-bridge project; the residents can do as they wish on private land. There was a lengthy conversation about the foot-bridge. Dick suggested that Steve Lembke call a Green River residents meeting to discuss this. Steve asked what the responsibilities of the Town are and what are those of the residents. The Town will post detour signs. Folks want immediate communication; a robo-call was suggested.
 - Michael Knapp inquired if there is any money in the wing wall project to pay for a foot-bridge across his land. Dick said that there is not especially since the foot-bridge is not a Town endorsed project.
 - Anne mentioned the new rules surrounding Open Meeting Law and how difficult it is for towns to navigate.
 - Mike Hebert will meet with Katie tomorrow morning to contact ANR to see if a foot-bridge is possible for a resident driven project.
 - The residents expressed their frustration with the sudden communication from the Town on the wing wall project’s bridge closure. They also were concerned with the lack of signage for the detours.
 - Andy Cotton asked if the Town could get technical confirmation that the reconstruction of the wing wall will support an upgrade in load capacity of the alternative chosen is to heavily rehab the covered bridge. Anne supported this idea. Katie will ask the Town’s engineer to confirm this.
 - Anne moved to mail an information letter that includes the current history of the project as well as upcoming projects. Troy seconded. All were in favor. Anne thought that the letter could go out by the end of this week.
 - Anne moved to appoint an advisory committee led by SB Chair, Town Administrator, a member of the Planning Commission, etc. to move work ahead on this project. Troy seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- Green River
 - Updates – Dick provided updates on decisions that have been made to date. The purpose of the study will be to determine what alternatives will be possible and eliminate what isn’t. Addison thought a VT firm, like Dubois & King, would be

○ PR 7/27/2014	\$ 5,419.65
○ TOTAL PAYROLL	\$ 10,456.28
○ <u>Warrant #24</u>	<u>\$ 57,854.27</u>
○ TOTAL ALL.....	\$ 68,310.55

Troy moved to approve the warrants for Payroll and Expenses as presented above. Anne seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter, 7/28/2014, Dan Ingold, Fence Viewer to Thomas Morrill

Anne moved to adjourn at 8:06 PM. Troy seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The next Selectboard Meeting will be held Monday, August 11th at 6:30 p.m. location to be determined.

Richard Clark, Chair

Troy Revis, Jr.

Anne Rider

DRAFT