

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 10, 2023
Selectmen's Chambers
356 Main Street-Farmington, NH 03835

Board Members Present:

Charlie King, Vice Chairman
Penny Morin
Ann Titus
Doug Staples

Others Present:

Ken Dickie, Town Administrator
Ed Brannan, Highway Dept. Supervisor
Bob Gay, Highway Dept.
Jason Lauze, resident

Board Members Absent:

Gerry Vachon, Chairman

1). Call to Order:

Vice Chairman King called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (King, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (King, Titus, Staples, Morin-aye) at 5:32 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 5:49 p.m.

3). Reconvene Public Session:

Vice Chairman King reconvened the public session at 6 p.m.

Mr. King said Chairman Vachon was not able to Chair the meeting tonight so in his absence he will be chairing the meeting.

4). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

5). Public Input: None

6). Review of Minutes:

January 24, 2023-Public Session- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Titus, second Morin) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0.

April 3, 2023-Non-Public Sessions A-E- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Titus, second King) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0.

Motion: (King, second Morin) to seal the Non-Public Session D minutes for one year as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the board passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (King, Staples, Titus, Morin-aye).

7). Old Business:

Bridges- Mr. Dickie said they talked a little bit about the timeline submitted to the board by Hoyle Tanner & Assocs. and as they can see it stretches out to 2025 and he is trying to mitigate some of that time. He said he has already reached out to NH Dept. of Environmental Services to try to set up a meeting with them and try to bring the wetland permits back in a half of a year because according to Hoyle Tanner it could take up to a year and he is trying to draw that back to within 1 year instead of 2 years out.

Mrs. Morin asked when we put in the temporary bridge if there are wetlands permits that they could continue with since it was a temporary bridge.

Mr. King said it's not like it's a new permit and it should be current.

Mr. Dickie said it should be but he has to meet with them to see what they need to do and if they can expedite it or how they need to handle that. He said he started with an e-mail, they replied today and he has to get back to his supervisor and set up a time to meet in Portsmouth. He said he would update the board and then he will work with Hoyle Tanner to try to draw that back in.

Mr. King said from the start of this which was 04/07/23 and they have 10/27/25 as the completion date and he needs to be convinced that they can't get everything going this year and get out it to bid so they can break ground next year. He said he that is what he would like to see as a target but he would also like to see an estimated cost breakdown of this so they can figure out how much of this is going to engineering services, permitting, the actual construction and based upon the dollar amount he is considering having it put out for a second look. He said we have 2 other engineering firms under contract with the Town and they could take that information and ask them what they think. This is a big investment it's going to be \$1.6 million he said.

Mrs. Titus asked if they would do that to see if they could get a better price.

Mr. King said he wanted to look at the total scope, the timeline and where they see the costs are because without a breakdown we don't know how much of this \$1.6 million is for engineering. He said there are a lot of lead time items here and he would like to see the costs associated with them.

Mrs. Morin said she would like to see the timeframe also go around the school schedule because if they have to close that bridge to think about not starting in April.

Mr. Dickie said he told him that he was hoping to get it to a pre-cast house and let them pre-cast it and get it ready over the winter so come spring time it's ready to be put in place.

Mr. King said Mrs. Morin makes a good point and it should be timed along the summer. He said he knew they wouldn't set it in high water so they wouldn't be setting it at this time of year because of the elevated water levels and they would wait until later in the season. He asked Mr. Dickie to let the board know when he gets that information.

Mrs. Morin said she was disappointed to see how long the timeframe was.

Mr. King said he was too especially where they have multiple sections like preliminary design which is 100 days, final design which is 80 days, submission to the Town is 1 day and we have 14 days to comment. He said its 200 days of work and they give us 14 days to go up or down. Mrs. Morin said they have the bridge report which pretty much says what they need so she didn't know what other research was needed.

Mr. King said they have the preliminary engineering to get to a good price and asked why they wouldn't move directly to final design besides solidifying the concept of the preliminary design which would be a group meeting with us and maybe somebody from a state agency if we need them involved. He said they would say this is what we're going to do, ask if anybody has any issues with it and then move forward to the permanent design.

American Rescue Plan Act Fund Update- Mr. Dickie said everything highlighted in yellow on the spreadsheet he gave them is what was expended and he put that over in the completed projects. He said the only thing he didn't have as a completed project was the fence that was put up at the Rec. Dept. and he will add that in but it is in the Funds Spent to Date (\$389,274.71) off to the right.

He said what they have remaining unspent is \$340,725.29. He said projects they have earmarked are the shed at Fernald Park, the Rec. Dept. ramp, bridge repairs, water study (mostly completed, \$46,750 spent out of the total \$50,000), recycling (to go along with the warrant article approved at Town Meeting for \$100,000) and he added the river maintenance because he assumes when the audit is done on the levee in May they will need some maintenance done on the levee. He said with that in there they still have some undesignated funds in the amount of \$114,581.29.

Mr. King asked when that needs to be spent by.

Mr. Dickie said he thought it was by 2026 and he would verify it.

Mr. Staples said he thought they have to be designated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026.

Mr. King asked if the \$46,000 for the water study should have been highlighted.

Mr. Dickie said yes and he is just waiting for the final payment to come in and then he can move everything over as covered.

Mr. Staples said if you go back and check the meeting minutes he would find that the Rec. Dept. fence was supposed to come out of the Rec. Revolving Fund because he, Mr. Vachon and Mrs. Titus made the motion to take out the bushes and the Director wanted the fence to try to save them so that was to come out of the Rec. Revolving not this fund.

Mr. Dickie asked if he meant the ramp for the Rec. Dept. He then said he misspoke earlier and the fence he mentioned was the one on Tappan Street and he stands corrected. He said it was for Tappan St. for the safety issue and they spent \$8,500 out of the ARPA funds to cover the Tappan St. fence.

Mr. King asked if that would be subtracted from the remaining \$114,000 in undesignated funds.

Mr. Dickie said no it was already expended and he forgot to put it on the spreadsheet. He said the funds spent to date is under Fund 20 and that's already in the finance system under Fund 20 and that dollar value of \$389,274.71 already accounts for that fence.

Mr. King asked where they stand on the Rec. Dept. ramp (for Town Hall Building) and he knew they paid for some outside engineering.

Mr. Dickie said they spent \$1,000 on the engineering and they have \$30,000 set aside for that and that is what has been spent so far.

Mr. King said they have that plan and asked if they have put it out to bid.

Mr. Dickie said he would have to get back into it as he hasn't seen it in a while. He said the Building Inspector went to inspect it to make sure their plans were adequate and then they were going to put it out to bid but then things started going haywire and he hasn't gotten back into it yet. He said the Bldg. Insp. approved the plans and they need to get it out to bid and get it done.

Mrs. Titus said it was a big issue on Election Day.

Mr. King said if they have time left on the undesignated balance he is fine with waiting because they've yet to get to a plan for the recycling building which they may need some additional revenues there and setting some aside for the river maintenance/levee repair if they have any extra after the recycling project that would probably make sense as to where to put it.

Town Well Project Funding Request- Mr. Dickie said he included an e-mail he received from Emery & Garrett Groundwater Investigations and Underwood Engineers and they are looking for \$200,000 in advance to get things going with the engineering and get things moving on their side. He said we have a bank account designated strictly for water that has about \$250,000 in it and he was looking for permission to pay EGGI and UE the \$200,000 they are looking for to get that project moving. He said when the ARPA funds are available and they seal the deal with the state in August that \$200,000 would be replenished from the ARPA funds so you're not minimizing the account down to \$50,000 as it would be replenished to its original amount.

Mr. King asked if this account was one of the Town's Trust Funds or not.

Mr. Dickie said it's titled a trust fund but it's not it's just sitting there as earmarked for water.

Mr. King said he was not opposed to starting them off but they have not seen an estimated cost analysis on this project either so for them to oversee this they would like to see the cost breakdown because if they are going to give them \$200,000 he wants to see what that gives us and their timeline. We're just not going to start spending out of a \$7.2 million bucket without knowing what each item is supposed to be he said.

Mrs. Morin asked if they wanted to table this matter until next week.

Mr. King said he would like that to allow Mr. Dickie to get the cost breakdown for the board and they probably have an estimate for the whole thing but it would be nice for the board to know where the large costs lay because they don't want to over spend on engineering right out of the gate not knowing what their expectations are for their timeline.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to table this until next week passed 4-0.

Campbell Commons Update- Mr. Dickie said he gave board copies of the e-mail where Town Attorney Keriann Roman responded to whether or not the Town takes on the lights (after a resident questioned if they should have been taken over after the passage of the warrant article to take over the water/sewer infrastructure at Town Meeting).

Mr. King said the attorney's opinion sounded like they were never transitioned to the Town so they are in limbo and the assoc. has indicated they want to have a board meeting to see if their membership wanted to keep them. He said based on asking the legal question it doesn't appear the Town is required to take them and he is fine with waiting to see what their opinion is. He asked Mr. Dickie to communicate this to the Assoc. President and tell him the board has tabled this discussion until they hear back from him.

Community Power Agreement- Mr. Dickie said they were from Somersworth and the company is out of Nashua and they made a proposal to work with the Town to get the citizens of the town a lower electricity rate. He said where it looked like there was some interest they waited until after Town Meeting and said they were going to come back. He said they submitted this Memorandum of Understanding and he forwarded it to Att. Roman and she highlighted the changes needed in red and he verified that those changes had been made to make sure we are okay.

Selectmen said they didn't get version of the MOU with the Attorney's highlights and recommended changes.

Mr. Dickie said he would forward it to the board. He said he sent it to Att. Roman to make sure this was fit for the Town and she came back with some wording and he sent that to the company and said we are not going to entertain it until they have what's in red from legal counsel in there and make those changes and then he would present it to the board. He said he would forward that e-mail to the board and they can validate that the changes were put in that Att. Roman recommended and whether they're interested.

Mr. King said they would put it on next week's agenda as it didn't go out in their packets.

Mr. Dickie said Att. Roman stressed that they make sure they get a committee going on this because it is a lot of work as apparently she has been involved with one before and they will see this in her e-mail.

8).New Business:

DPW Discussion- Summer Hours- Mr. Brannan and Mr. Gay came forward and Mr. Gay said they came before the board like they do every year to ask them to change their hours to four 10 hour work days a week.

Mr. King said he was off the board for a couple of years and asked what their schedule was typically for work days.

Mr. Gay said it was Monday thru Thursday.

Mrs. Morin asked what if it rains on Monday and they don't get a whole lot done if they would

work Tuesday thru Friday.

Mr. Gay said no it would be Mon. thru Thurs. and they would work out in the rain.

Mrs. Titus asked what their hours were.

Mr. Gay said before they were 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. but with the new contract they negotiated it would 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mrs. Titus asked what if they have an emergency on Friday.

Mr. Gay said someone is on call 7 days a week.

Mr. Staples said there was a lot of hesitation in years past but they finally got it passed last year to let them try it full time and asked how that worked out.

Mr. Gay said it worked great.

Mr. Brannan said he was here just for the very end of it so he really can't speak on it.

Mr. King asked Mr. Staples what he meant by full time.

Mr. Staples said before it was at the DPW Director's discretion to have them work so if it was going to be a good week and he had planned a lot of road work he could bring them if they approved they could come in the following week and they could work 4-10's but other than that it stayed at five 8 hour days.

Mr. Gay said for example when they had the street sweeper come in they were here for 40 hours and they did four 10 hour days with that guy and the same with catch basin cleaning.

Mr. King asked if during the rest of the summer if they were working 5-8's.

Mr. Staples said that is what they used to do unless the Director wanted them on 4-10's for a week it was 5-8's.

Mr. Brannan said that seems confusing.

Mr. Staples said it was very confusing.

Mrs. Morin asked Mr. Brannan what his druthers (preference) were in this matter.

Mr. Brannan said if they want to do the 4-10's he is good with it and hopefully he can do it but he is not part of their agreement so technically that would be a question that the board would have to answer for him. He said in the past he has enjoyed it, it gives you an extra day off during the week and in the summer time usually they don't have a lot of events where you have to come back in, maybe a tree down once in a while.

Mr. Gay said he didn't think they had one single event last year on a Friday.

Mrs. Morin said we have a lot of things in the works.

Mr. Staples asked Mr. Brannan with everything they have on their plates if it would be more beneficial to have them work 5-8's or to have them work the 4-10's.

Mr. Brannan said the 4-10's is better and if you did the math they would be on it for 6 months and they actually would save about 3 weeks' worth of work on the job for one man. He explained on a Friday you would taking time in the morning to get set up, a 20 minute lunch and then breaking down at the end of the day and if you do it in a 4 day work week you are saving that hour or so of time and putting it towards actual work.

Mr. King said that's providing the weather cooperates.

Mr. Brannan said if it's raining that bad there is other stuff that can be done so it really doesn't matter if it rains unless it's an extended period of rain which if that happens then they are going to be out in rain working anyways.

Mrs. Titus asked if they get a 30 minute lunch break and two 15 minute breaks.

Mr. Dickie said it's a standing 8 and a standing 10 with the new contract wording so they get a paid 20 minute lunch but that's all they get. They're not to go back to the garage and they eat their lunch where they're stationed he said.

Mr. Gay said they get one 15 minute break around 9 a.m.

Mrs. Titus said there is a lot of work to be done and asked if they think they can do it. She said these roads need to be fixed and it's going to be 90 degree weather out and asked if they were up for that.

Mr. Gay said they did it last year and had no problem with it. He said he talked to all the guys and they're all for it and when he drafted the letter they all signed it saying they were in agreement with it.

Mrs. Titus asked for the length of the 4-10's schedule.

Mr. Dickie said it would be from May to November.

Mr. Brannan said and then you're into snow season and at that point the clocks have changed and you'd actually be coming to work in the dark and it doesn't make sense after that.

Motion: (Morin, second Staples) to allow the 4-10's from May 1 to November 2;

Discussion: Mrs. Titus said if there is an emergency on a Friday they have a on-call guy and asked what if they had to have the whole crew come in and if the whole crew would come in to do a job.

Mr. King said you have to call the people you need to come in and whether it's a Friday or a Saturday it's the same thing.

Mr. Brannan said regardless of the day of the week if these guys are available and needed that's their job requirement.

Mr. Gay said if they know they are getting a huge storm on Friday they guys are going to know to stick around because they may be needed.

Mrs. Titus said she wasn't here last year for the 4-10's and she is not totally for it but they are kind of selling it and she wants to see how productive they are this year.

Mr. Brannan said they are not working any more hours nor are they working any less it's just that Friday on the 5th day they're not taking that time to set up, break down and another 20 minute lunch that you are paying for.

Mrs. Titus said she knew it's a new crew but she didn't want to leave her house at a certain time and see them all at Cumby's going to get a drink or at 6:45 a.m. going to Aroma Joe's getting a coffee like she has seen in the past. She said it doesn't look right and it gives the guys a bad rap because she hears it all the time and she has seen it. If you're willing to put the 10

hour days in and do that I don't have a problem with it if the work gets done she said.

Mr. Staples said they could put it in the motion or he thought that it's part of their contract that with a 1 or a 2 week notice they can pull them back off the 4-10's and put them on 5-8's with just the notice.

Mrs. Titus said she would like to see how much work they can get done with the 4-10's in that amount of time and compare it.

Mr. Dickie said he supports the 4-10's but will he weigh out their productivity and what they are able to accomplish.

Mr. King said they do have a lot of work left to do this summer and they always do but he would like to see a plan from Mr. Brannan on what they can reasonably get done and what they need to farm out. He said he wanted to avoid getting to the end of year with stuff not getting done and try to get done early, get the trucks ready early, get ready for snow and not biting off more than they can chew and being realistic. He said he has reservations about this but it is up to the crew to be as productive as they can around the weather.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

Mr. King said Mr. Brannan brought up himself with this issue and that he may need to make himself available of Friday depending on what is going on.

Mr. Dickie said he has had a discussion with him and his preference is to keep him on 5 days a week and let him use Friday to catch up on the paperwork he can't get done during the week.

Mr. King said he has to schedule some time because right now he gets paid for overtime. He said if we need him and he can't build some flexibility during the week to keep his hours to 40, it's going to be case by case, he is going to have to work with Mr. Dickie on it. He said he wanted to see him there first thing in the morning to make sure everybody is going in the right direction and dealing with the issues.

Mr. Dickie said he told him if he needs to work extra during the week and get caught up on Friday and if he needs to leave early, to leave early to try to compensate and keep it within the 40 hours.

Mr. King said work is priority and some stuff is going to fall on a Friday like a meeting and he is just going to have to do his best to work around it.

Mr. Brannan said he figured that with the position and his question was whether he is there first thing in the morning to make sure they get going or hang around at the end of the day.

Mr. King said he needs to work that out with Mr. Dickie to figure out what makes sense.

Mr. Staples asked if that was a worry of his.

Mr. Brannan said not really and as he has mentioned previously they are doing much better. He said if he had the flexibility they're not going to know and he doesn't have to necessarily tell them he is going to be there at 6 a.m. and he could be out where they are supposed to be working at 6:30 a.m.

Mr. King repeated that he thought he should work that out with Mr. Dickie.

Mr. Gay thanked the board and then left the meeting.

Poor Farm Road- Mr. Brannan said they have another sink hole there and they got it filled in and the road technically is closed and the signs are up at the ends. He said they moved the barricades out of the way so local traffic could get through and they are monitoring it daily. Mr. King asked if they have a failed culvert that's eroding.

Mr. Brannan said the culvert is gone and there are probably 2 or 3 ft. on the bottom that is not there.

Mr. King asked if it's an old metal culvert and for the size.

Mr. Brannan said it is a 48 inch metal culvert. He said there is a considerable amount of water going through it right now and he has to check with NH DES. He said Mr. Gay is certified as a culvert maintainer and that does cover up to 48 inches.

Mr. King asked why they would be contacting NH DES.

Mr. Brannan said because of the amount of water and the watershed and there are certain parameters they need to be careful with. He said even though he's certified it only covers a certain range and once you get into the water you are touching on another avenue of the whole process.

Mr. King asked if putting in a culvert is the best repair for this case or if he thought it should be a box culvert.

Mr. Brannan said it would either be a plastic culvert or a concrete box culvert and 1 of the 2 would work.

Mr. King said they probably don't have 48 inch in stock and asked if Eliminator has any.

Mr. Brannan said yes and for 40 ft. its \$5,400 and Lane Enterprises has the state bid for that pipe and 40 ft. from them is \$2,200. He said Eliminator has it in stock and at Lane it's at least a month wait and they were very specific about saying "at least a month". I'm guessing it's a popular product he said.

Mrs. Morin said after all of the heavy rains we've had recently.

Mr. Brannan said it could be just the rain but people get behind on stuff and he didn't think this was the only town that has put off stuff like that. He said once you get into that size culvert it's a 6 or 8 hour job putting a culvert in across the road to multiple days. It turns the size of the project considerably bigger plus the amount of water you deal with he said.

Mr. King said he saw in the e-mail there was talk of putting some plates down.

Mr. Brannan said it is up to the board if they want them to do that and that they don't have any plates. He said it's up to the board on how they want to do it but it washed out once and it could happen again. He said allowing more than the local traffic and smaller vehicles over it would be questionable in his mind and he didn't know if he would open it to all traffic or require the Police and EMS to take a chance to go that way and if it decides to collapse they either going to get stuck or they're going to have to turn around.

He said the plates would be sufficient to support them if they were going over it but he

wouldn't open it to heavy trucks and he would limit it to emergency vehicles, buses and oil trucks. He said plates are available to rent or to purchase.

Mr. King asked what it cost to rent them.

Mr. Brannan said Sunbelt is a little more the first month and then cheaper as you go on and United is a little cheaper up front and more expensive as you go along. He said if it was for a month it would be between \$1,750 and \$1,900 for 4 weeks.

Mrs. Morin said they would pay that to Eliminator anyway.

Mr. Staples said they might as well just buy the culvert from Eliminator and put it in.

Mr. Brannan said they still have to get a permit if needed and at least check on it.

Mr. King said he thought they could be in a gray zone here because of the emergency nature and they could just do it and say the road was impassible. He asked if they were to put a 48 inch culvert in there if he was confident they can successfully place that and put in headwalls to make it better than it was before.

Mr. Brannan said they have 40 ft. right now and he would lengthen it a little bit. He said at one end there is enough room but the other end is pretty close to the road but to lengthen it you have to add a 20 ft. section of pipe.

Mr. King said or a piece of pipe.

Mr. Brannan said they don't sell pieces of pipe.

Mr. Staples asked if he contracted some of the neighboring towns to see if they have anything small lying around.

Mr. Brannan said he hasn't done that yet and 48 inch pipe is pretty uncommon for a municipality to hold on to. They may have it but chances are slim he said.

Mr. King asked for the location of this culvert.

Mr. Brannan said it's at 58 Poor Farm Road.

Mr. Dickie said it's about ¼ mile off Ten Rod Road and there is a pretty heavy stream that comes down through there. He said it is just before where the Ellis' trailers were on the left hand side set down in.

Mr. King said that runs down behind the old Glidden farm down into Baxter Lake. He returned to his earlier question and asked if it makes sense to investigate putting a box culvert in there and what he thinks the cost of that would be.

Mr. Brannan said he is not sure but it would be more money and they would have a better product in the end but plastic is not going to rot away. He said the only problem with plastic is there is a lot of flow there right now and if they were to do it right now in-house they would have to rent pumps to divert the water and ideally he would like to see the water slow down before they attempt it. He said if they were using concrete they could probably deal with some water passing through while you're doing it but at this point if they tried to put a piece of plastic in there it would probably float right down the river.

Mr. King said they may not be able to install until the water subsides.

Mr. Brannan said with plastic unless they spent some money on pumps and so forth.

Mrs. Morin said with anything they put in there they would need the pumps.

Mr. Brannan said they would have to pump some but with concrete they could put the stone bed down and set the concrete on top of the stone and there's not going to be enough water to float that or move it.

Mr. King said there might be some local construction people that have plates they'd be willing to rent us. He said Barron Bros. has some and he didn't know who else they could ask.

Mr. Brannan said unless it's a sizable company you're probably going to see them doing the same thing we're doing.

Mr. King said they could ask the question and it might save us on delivery. He said it sounds like they may need to cover it until they are ready to do it anyways.

Mr. Brannan said for 2 months they are looking at \$3,000.

Mr. King said even for 3 weeks and asked if they were okay with leaving it as is for 3 weeks.

Mr. Brannan said if it was closed.

Mr. King asked if there is enough room to get around it where it is.

Mr. Brannan said it's open so they can get through and they just have barricades there. He said when they went there Friday morning the barricades were moved and they were going through anyways.

Mrs. Morin asked if they could post it as "Pass at Your Own Risk".

Mr. King said if they keep moving the barricades sooner or later somebody is going to go through it.

Mr. Brannan said if it collapses again somebody is going to be stuck. He said literally there was a hole there and you could see the tracks where they were driving practically into it. He said if they were going to block it off he would just put a couple of Jersey barriers there and make it so they cannot move them.

Mr. Staples asked if it is collapsing in the same spot.

Mr. Brannan said somewhat.

Mr. Staples asked if there is room to put them on one side and if that would be better,

Mr. Brannan said the first time it went from one side of the road to the other and he is not exactly sure where the water came from and if it was just high water in the culvert that caused it. He said he didn't think it was there before and that they missed it and it was right on the edge of what they did the last time.

Mr. Staples said the last time a lot of this stuff was frozen because they were pounding their way through it so they could have missed a pocket.

Mr. Brannan said he doubted it and he doesn't think there was a hole there when they were there the first time. There was some snow there after that storm but not enough so we would have missed that he said.

Mr. King asked if there was enough room to put a 2 ft. temporary culvert next to it and just fill

in the holes until we can get a permanent fix. He said that one is failing and sooner or later somebody is going to pound it in.

Mr. Brannan said putting one that is 2 ft. taller beside it is not going to prevent that one from collapsing so they are still going to have to worry about that.

Mr. King said at least as it collapses they can fill it right in.

Mr. Brannan said if it collapses they're digging it right out and let the water go.

Mr. King said he didn't think this problem would get solved tonight and these guys would have to work with Mr. Dickie and come up with a solution and get done whatever makes sense. He said if they think they have to ask NH DES then they have to ask them.

Mr. Brannan said he was not comfortable just doing it.

Mr. King said they have to get somebody out there ASAP to look at it. He said it has been that way for a long time and maybe putting plastic in is good for another 30 years but they have to make sure that each end work is good.

Mr. Brannan said one thing with lengthening it is they'll have more room for headwalls and one side is pretty close and if they extended by about 5 ft. they'd be fine. He said if they wait for Lane its \$1,100 and if they go with Eliminator its \$2,700. He said Eliminator has been good at having materials but you pay for it they're not the cheapest place around.

Mrs. Morin said but if they have to rent plates and wait what they are going to pay in rental fees is going to come up to the price they would pay at Eliminator.

Mr. Staples asked if that culvert is something they would be able to use somewhere else if they hold onto it.

Mr. Brannan said he was going to mention that and he wouldn't be surprised to see that they have some more in town.

Mr. Staples said there is one by Mrs. Morin that they worked on that is junk.

Mrs. Morin said that one is failing as well.

Mr. Brannan said there are 3 of them on his radar needing replacement and potentially upsized on Russell Lane.

Mr. Staples asked if Russell Lane was a private or a Town road.

Mr. Dickie said it is a Town road.

Mr. King said his thoughts are to have Mr. Brannan work with Mr. Dickie and figure out what they are going to do.

Mr. Brannan said the other option he and Mr. Dickie discussed is to purchase plates then you have them but that is pretty pricey too at \$4,600 a piece for 12' x 8' x 1" steel plates.

Mr. Dickie asked instead of renting them if it is worth purchasing them based on any issues they have in town with sewer or water where they have to leave a hole and put a plate over it.

Mr. King suggested they try Quality Flame Cutting in Fremont as they have plates in stock so they may be able to give us a competitive price and they deliver. He said they are going to have to do something and get a plan if they have to block it permanently or get out there every day

to check on it.

Mr. Brannan asked if they want him to put the barricade back across it.

Mr. King said that is something he and Mr. Dickie have to figure out because he hasn't been out there and hasn't seen how bad it is or how bad it looks. He said there was a safety concern of somebody getting into it and to post the road on either side.

Mr. Brannan said the problem is that when it does cave in they aren't going to be watching and most likely would be detected the next day.

Mrs. Morin asked if his preference is to close the road.

Mr. Brannan said from a liability standpoint.

Mr. King said they better not close that road until they have a plan because the minute they close it everybody will be screaming what is the plan. He said if they can keep it safely passable with postings but if they can't, they can't but they can't make that determination here.

Mr. Brannan said as far as closing the road they have his opinion but that is not a decision he is making that is up to the board.

Mr. King said Mr. Dickie can make that determination and he will have to go out there with him and assess it himself, make a determination and come up with the best plan to get it replaced. He said they could go with road postings first and if they don't feel that's good enough they could block the road and then figure out if they need to contact NH DES and compare that cost to a box culvert if they can get pricing on that.

Street Sweeping- Mr. Brannan said the RFP's were sent out and they are all due back by April 14 and he has received one. He said he didn't know if it was from the same one they used last year and he tried to find out but the available records are scattered.

Mrs. Morin said he could look back through the meeting minutes too.

Mr. Brannan said he could go back through the expenditures in the budget too.

Mr. King said the Finance Administrator might be able to help him with that.

Potholes- Mr. Brannan said they will be patching potholes in town on Wednesday and possibly Thursday and they are going to try to devote 1 or 2 days a week to getting those done, at least the majority of them. He said they are monitoring Poor Farm Rd. on a daily basis.

Crushing- He said they will be getting some RFP's out for that.

Paving- He said they still have to look at Cross Rd. and Dick Dame Lane and see what kind of work they need before they get paved like culverts and if the road needs to be rebuilt.

Mr. King asked if they are going to repave Dick Dame Lane.

Mr. Staples said that road is brutal.

Mr. King asked if they are going to start paving shouldn't they have that as part of their total scope of work for the season before they say they're going to pave this and pave that.

Mr. Brannan said that was what was figured on and Cross Rd., Dick Dame Lane and the Dodge Cross Rd. apron were the 3 that were planned on right along.

Mr. King asked when that was approved to be next on the list but he may not know that

answer.

Mr. Brannan said he couldn't tell him that because that was before he was involved.

Mr. King said his point is based on everything they have going if that still makes sense. He said that is why he thinks it needs to come to the board when they are looking at his work product and what he plans to get done for the year. He said these are the roads that were slated to be paved and if he still agrees with that they would get the RFP's out for paving.

Mr. Brannan said they are probably 2 of the worst roads and he was sure he could go around town and find other roads that are equally as bad.

Mrs. Morin said he could also find some streets in-town too.

Mr. King said he wanted to look at the rebuild and repave line and asked if it was \$325,000 or \$425,000.

Mr. Dickie said it is \$350,000 plus we get north of \$140,000 from the Highway Block Grant.

Mr. King said they could earmark that for additional paving. He said they need to look at the scope of what they have to expend, what makes sense and put on the subcontract this makes sense for you to do this summer and what needs to get done that is in neither bucket like road side mowing, ditching and the ditching hasn't been done in the last couple of years.

Mr. Brannan said the ditching and the mowing are things they need to do and they need to look at outside contracts for paving and reconstructing the roads. He suggested that they do the trimming on those roads before they rebuild them.

He said they were on Cross Road Friday afternoon because a tree fell and got hung up in the other trees. He said they had to shut that road down and get a tree company to come help them get it down because one end was 15 ft. in the air and the other end was probably 20 ft. in the air and was also over a shed on private property. He said if you are going to rebuild the road it's worthwhile to go through there and take out anything that may need to be done in the near future anyways.

Mrs. Morin asked if the tree that came down was on our property.

Mr. Brannan said it broke off on one side of the road and landed in a tree on the other side and was suspended over the road. He said they got somebody in there, got it all taken down and cleaned up and the extra half hour to clean up the debris was worth it and everybody's happy.

Ditching- He said they are going to do their ditch work and shoulder gravel is another one that might be worth putting out to bid.

Mr. King asked about edge repair and that some areas like coming down Meetinghouse Hill Rd. just past Dottie Bean's place the shoulder gravel has washed out and undermined the road.

Mr. Brannan said they fixed that and hopefully it will hold up but they still have to go back and widen it out a little bit. He said there places on Ridge Rd. where they are driving off the edge of the pavement on the outside of the curve and breaking it up and there are places that just need a little shoulder gravel. He said doing that with an excavator or a backhoe would be tough and time consuming and if they could get somebody with a shoulder gravel machine they could go

along and cover a pretty good area pretty quickly. He said he got 2 quotes for that and one is a little pricey and one is definitely much better.

Mrs. Morin asked if what he is giving them now is their scope of work for the summer.

Mr. Brannan said part of it and this is stuff that needs to get done more so than anything else. He said he would refine it and come back with something more to the point in the near future.

Mr. King said to start with a broad plan and if they want any specifics they will ask for them. He said that way they can get the stuff out that needs to go out to bid.

Mr. Brannan said this is stuff they need to get done. He said 2 of the dump trucks need to go out for repairs of the exhaust leaks in the manifold area and he has had exhaust work done on motors before and sometimes it goes good and sometimes it goes horribly bad and he didn't think it was something they should be taking on in the shop. He said it is hard to get a fixed quote because you never know just how involved it will get.

Mr. King said he would like to say he has all kinds of good choices but he didn't know of one.

Mr. Brannan said he will try and there is DiPrizio's, Allegiant (Liberty) and Les Leery is right in town.

Mr. King asked if he reached out to Les Leery to get a quote.

Mr. Brannan said he hasn't gotten a quote and he didn't know how far he would go with a quote on it.

Mrs. Morin suggested that he get a price range for the work.

Mr. King said maybe it makes sense to get a rough estimate from DiPrizio's and Les Leery and asked if they have ever used the Liberty place on Rt. 11.

Mr. Brannan said they would be doing mostly warranty work and some of the computer stuff.

Mr. King said they could certainly entertain somebody else giving them a quote and he should reach out for another vendor.

Mr. Brannan said that covers the stuff they need to get done now and the biggest thing is Poor Farm Road.

Mr. King advised him to work with Mr. Dickie and he will decide what has to be done because it has to get done.

The consensus of board was to agree with Mr. King.

7 Lincoln Street Closing Extension- Jason Lauze said that as they can see from his e-mail he still intends to purchase the property but he has a lot of stuff going on. He said he asked for an extension of the closing date to Friday, June 2 because Mr. Dickie asked for a fixed date so they could line it up with the lawyers and make sure they have a date to close.

He said that would give him a few more weeks as he has some work travel and they just sold one house and he has a lot of stuff moving. He said he would honor the bid price he submitted and a few weeks would be helpful if possible.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to extend the closing date to Friday, June 2;

Discussion: Mr. Dickie said he reviewed it with the Town Attorney and based on how they

worded the Request for Bids the board can extend it and he got it all cleared through Att. Roman.

Mr. King said it wouldn't be the first time they extended a closing on a property based on circumstances.

Mrs. Titus said Att. Roman is their legal counsel and she said it was okay.

Vote: the motion passed 3-0-1 (King abstained).

Transfer Station- Mrs. Morin said somebody at the Transfer Station said they are no longer accepting propane tanks.

Mr. Dickie said he would have to look into that.

Mrs. Morin said they are still mentioned on the Town website as being accepted.

Mr. Staples asked if she was talking about propane tanks or the little Coleman tanks.

Mrs. Morin said she was talking about the Coleman tanks.

Mr. Staples said that is because those are becoming extremely hard to dispose of.

Mrs. Morin said it stills says on the website that they are accepting them so maybe they need to be a little more descriptive there. She said it says its \$1 per 1 lb. tank and \$2 for up to 20 lbs.

Mr. Dickie said he will ask the Transfer Station Supervisor and if they are not accepting them he will let the board know and in the meantime he will have it removed from the website until they get confirmation.

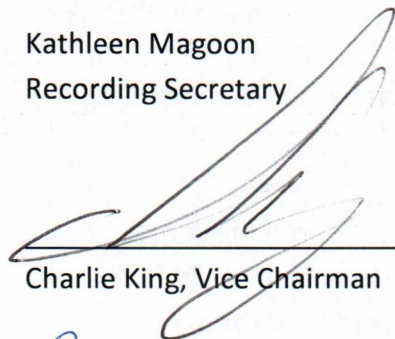
Mr. King said they need to make it consistent and if someone comes in with a tank and it says they're taking it for \$1 they're taking it for \$1 until they change the posting.

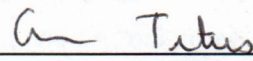
9). Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2023

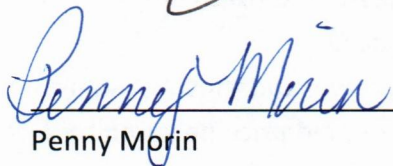
10). Adjournment:


Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to adjourn the meeting passed 4-0 at 7:11 p.m.

Kathleen Magoon
Recording Secretary



Charlie King, Vice Chairman

Ann Titus

Penny Morin

Douglas Staples