

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 26, 2023
Selectmen's Chambers
356 Main Street-Farmington, NH 03835

Board Members Present:

Gerry Vachon, Chairman
Charlie King, Vice Chairman
Ann Titus
Doug Staples
Penny Morin

Others Present:

Ken Dickie, Town Administrator
Ed Brannan, Highway Dept. Supervisor

1). Call to Order:

Chairman Vachon called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

2). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Morin temporarily left the meeting to assist with the minutes for the Conservation Commission meeting taking place at the same time as this meeting.

3). Public Input: None

4). Review of Minutes:

June 12, 2023-Public Session- No errors or omissions

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

June 19, 2023-Public Session- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Staples, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0-1 (Vachon abstained).

June 19, 2023-Non-Public Sessions A-D- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Titus, second Staples) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0-1 (Vachon abstained).

June 19, 2023-Non-Public Session E- No errors or omissions

Motion: (King, second Staples) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0-1 (Vachon abstained)

5). Old Business:

Hornetown Road Bridge Update- Mr. Dickie said the borings are done but he has not gotten the results yet. He said he has been working with Hoyle & Tanner and Tighe & Bond trying to get the second assessment going and he received anything back on that. He said the surveying is done and they drilled the test holes and as he stated last week they struck bedrock at 25 ft.

He said he e-mailed Josif (Bicja-Hoyle Tanner Sr. Engineer) asking for some input on a rough design and what the results were and when he gets it he will put it in the board's meeting packets.

Mr. King asked if they were planning on excavating all the way to bedrock based upon finding it at 25 ft.

Mr. Dickie he believes they were to get the support they need.

Mr. King said so they are going to excavate, rebar, anchor and tie to that.

Mr. Dickie said yes.

Mr. Staples asked if he asked the other engineers what they thought.

Mr. Dickie said no because they weren't at the site when he got there and he just reached out to Josif looking for his input.

Mrs. Morin returned to the meeting.

New Town Well- Mr. Dickie said he sent Matthew Deterling who works for NH Dept. of Environmental Services the strategic planning grant report that James Emery (Emery & Garrett Groundwater Investigations) finished for us. He said right now the NHDES has all the paperwork they required to move forward to give us the American Rescue Plan Act funds and approve us for the loan so they have been working to get that part of it done.

He said the aerial study was completed by Underwood Engineering and they are moving forward on the engineering side of it and James is helping him with the paperwork making sure that we stay on track. He said according to Mr. Emery it's still up near Wells #4 and #5 near the cemetery that they're still targeting as the potential site and he explained to him what is going on with Well #6 and that there's a potential back in that area for another well.

Mr. King said hopefully they're not going to proceed on that unless they are directed to by the board.

Mr. Dickie said it would come from the board not from them. He said he wanted to remind them that that is kind of a backup because he already explained to him the situation we are in with Well #6.

Mr. King said that may have slightly better potential but strategically to have a well on this end of town feeding from both sides is the best case and fixing our infrastructure in between. He said that's why it costs so much money because all that infrastructure is being updated along with the well.

He said when we get closer to planning on replacing that infrastructure are there areas where they should repair any sewerage or other underground utilities at the same time and if there is they will need to find some money for that but it would make sense if we're going to be tearing up the road to replace the water. We have some aging infrastructure and we also have some drainage issues coming down Main hill he said.

He said there was a drainage study that was done about 10-12 years ago and if they dig that out it will point to some of the areas with deficiencies and these are the areas we may want to

target for more than one thing at the same time whether its drainage, sewer or fixing the water he said. He said he believes that study might have been done by Underwood also.

Mr. Brannan said they have the study that was done in 2010 but he was not sure if it was done by Underwood.

Mr. Dickie said they looked at some maps and what the proposals were and what size pipes they were going to put in, etc.

Land Auction- Mr. Dickie said he hand-carried a \$20,000 check down to auctioneer Paul McInnis today so he has that and the application for us to be there in-person and it starts tomorrow at 11 a.m. He recommended that they be there around 10:30 a.m. or so and the procedure is they are going to do each individual lot and then they are going to start linking them together and it could come back around to start auctioning individual lots again and however they get the highest bid is how they are going to go with it.

Mrs. Titus asked if he knew how many people were going to be at the auction.

Mr. Dickie said no and the only thing he asked was about our lot and right now we're the only one that has submitted paperwork for that lot. They can do it tomorrow or they can be online so we don't know. Up until 2 p.m. this afternoon we were still the only one for Lot A he said.

Mr. King asked who was going to represent the board and if they would have Mr. Dickie go by himself or have somebody else go with him. He said he is across the street and that he could go.

Mr. Vachon said he didn't have the time to go right in the middle of the day.

Motion: (King, second Morin) to authorize Ken Dickie to bid on behalf of the Town passed 5-0.

Mr. Vachon asked Mr. King if he would be able to accompany Mr. Dickie to the auction.

Mr. King said yes.

Consensus of the board was to have Mr. King accompany Mr. Dickie to the auction.

Levee- Mr. Dickie said he sent their request to have the Army Corps of Engineers to do the study on the levee and he got an e-mail back saying to forward this to Alexander Serotec to notify them that we as Farmington were accepted by ACE for them to move forward to start coming with what it would potentially cost and what the project would look like per our agreement with them.

He said he forwarded this to Mr. Serotec who is part of FEMA to notify them that the ACE will be doing our mitigation study for the levee and they thanked us for the update and said that the LAMP process was completed with the recommendation of the natural flooding preliminary maps showing this scenario are currently estimated for late summer release following there will be a 90 day appeal period and a 6 month adoption period so the updated mapping will likely become effective sometime in 2024 as they reported when they were sitting there with Tighe & Bond.

He read from FEMA's perspective a levee can be accredited at any time with a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMAR) or a Letter of Map Revision (LOMAR) which can be submitted at any time for review to accredit the levee. He said the timing of the CLOMAR or LOMAR would

determine how it best fits into the overall mapping schedule for the county. He said if a finalized LOMAR is received before the 6 months of the adoption period it would be incorporated into the maps and if it's received later it would be issued as a LOMAR updating map after the effective date.

He said it says per their May 15 phone call their recommended approach would be for the community to submit a CLOMAR to verify the levee and repairs upgrade would protect against a 1% flood event before any construction and the ACE was also on this response as well. He said so they have been notified that our plan is to go through the ACE and have them do our mitigation risk assessment on the levee and they will act as a blocking agent to FEMA to now put this CLOMAR/LOMAR together to allow us to get this assessment done.

Mr. King said it seems like we may have time for the ACE to at least assess this and then put mitigating steps in place to have it not lapse.

Mr. Dickie said that's correct. He said all FEMA is going to want to see is that we have a plan to meet their criteria and what that process is.

Mrs. Morin asked if there was a time line attached to that process too so if FEMA has a time line for the ACE for those steps we have take.

Mr. Dickie said he is assuming there would be he just has to wait and see what the ACE sends to us. He said first they would have to review what the cost is going to be because it's a 50% split so if its \$200,000 we're responsible for \$100,000 and if that is what we approve then they go forward with it and keep going with their assessment. We'll see what they come back with, what the steps will be, what the timeline is and what the cost is going to be he said.

Mr. Staples asked if anybody has reached out to the state to see what kind of studies and research they did and why they put their bridge so much lower than our levee.

Mr. Dickie said that is a question that our engineering firm Tighe & Bond has been requesting to the state through the NH Dept. of Transportation and the NHDES.

Community Power- Mr. Dickie said right now he has a committee of Tim Brown, Jason Lauze, Russell Longchamps and himself. He said he sent an e-mail to Emily Mans who is heading up the committee for Community Power looking for a kickoff meeting and getting a date. He said once he has that he will forward the e-mail to the board to see if they want to participate.

He said he attended a seminar in North Conway one of the 6 that he attended and it was on this Community Power and there were 4 communities that came together (Keene, Swanzey, Wilton and one he couldn't recall) and went at it as a team. He said it took about a year and a half for them but there was another town who said 1 ½ years was the first pass through they did the other town in 2.5 months.

He said they have it in place and they are aiming to have a warrant article if we support this that will go to the voters for Community Power in March. He said the state changed some rules and amended the current RSA's and there used to be an opt-in but the state changed it to an opt-out. He said he was not sure where they would land the ship with us but they said with this

opt-out it's as easy as an e-mail, a phone call or a letter in the mail stating you don't want to be part of this. He said that Keene and the other towns decided that by 2039 they wanted 100% of their power coming from new energy so that's what their goal was and that is what is in their contract so you can set it up how you want your community power and where you want it to come from and those are the decisions they'll have to make as a committee.

Mrs. Morin asked at what point they would reach out to other communities around us to see who wants to be part of this.

Mr. Dickie said he wanted to bring that up if there is any benefit to us if there are more communities. He said it sounded like once they had more communities it gave them more bargaining power and they were able to get a cheaper rate. He said he will reach out to New Durham and Middleton and he learned today the Milton is already headed down the path so maybe they will want to collaborate with us and get some surrounding communities together if that can help us get a lower rate.

Mrs. Morin suggested contacting Rochester too as a larger community with more buying power which could mean a lower rate.

Mr. Dickie said he would contact Emily Mans and ask if there is any benefit in that for us and if there is and the board is okay with it he will start making phone calls.

Update on Dirt Roads and Ditching- Mr. Brannan said they have been out grading dirt roads and hopefully the rain holds off this week so they can continue. He said Meaderboro Rd., upper Ten Rod Rd. and upper Paulson Rd. have all been done and hopefully they can get back on Poor Farm Rd., Reservoir Rd., Sheepboro Rd. and then lower Ten Rod Rd. He said he hasn't heard much about the roads on this side of town but he was sure Dodge Cross Rd. as well is going to be getting rough especially with this rain that is going to tear them up.

He said they are still moving forward with the ditching and it will probably be another day and a half on Ridge Rd. and then they can get over towards Meetinghouse Hill Rd and a section of lower Ten Rod Rd. He said if they can get out there with the grader and the loader and do some ditching with the grader and do the shoulders at the same time they might be able to do some that way. He said that might be tough as the crew doesn't have much experience doing that so they have to be careful not to tear up the paved roads with the grader.

Mr. King said from what he has seen in our ditch lines especially along Ten Rod Rd he is going to find some rocks in there that are going to be problematic. He said depending on where he wants to try that technique some roads are not going to be very favorable. He said for instance when they rebuilt and repaved Ten Rod Rd. maybe 18 years ago there are some large rocks that were dug out of there that were pushed to the edge and he was sure there were more rocks in the ditch line and some roads may be more tolerant of that.

Mr. Brannan said you have to pick and choose your areas usually if you're going to do it with a grader you want to make sure you have a ditch and chances are there's not going to be anything sticking up too high.

Mr. King said on lower Ten Rod Rd. you have no visibility because the brush hasn't been cut in about 4 years. He said last year he notified the Highway Dept. Director and he took a picture of a 2 inch oak growing in the ditch line and said this is how long it hasn't been maintained and it didn't get done last year so there are certainly some obstacles in there. He said he didn't know how they were going to grade that out with all that vegetation,

Mr. Brannan said it gets a little rough but it can be done. He said the problem is with the trees not being trimmed he is running into that with the excavator it's making it tough doing ditching. He said there are some pretty good size limbs sticking out there and you have to be careful with the lines and you have to pick and choose where you're going in so it slows that down as well. He said the trimming is a big issue and this town is way behind. He said there is \$10,000 in a trimming budget line and they took a little bit out of for some take downs.

Mrs. Morin asked if that is something they hire out for.

Mr. Brannan said that is something that usually gets subbed out because the trimming is higher and the roadside, the trees coming out of the ditch is usually something that is done with a mower and they are also way behind on that. He said he didn't know where they would rent one and they need to take a serious look at maybe buying something to do it. He said they got a price on one for the trackless and you can get them to go on the front of a loader so you don't necessarily have to buy a dedicated machine for it. He said the trimming and the roadside mowing is something that needs to be done and they are very far behind on that and it doesn't look like it has been done for a number of years.

Mr. King said it may have been done in some sections but where he lives it hasn't been done in at least 4 years.

Mrs. Morin asked if we have anything currently that we mow the sides with because if we don't have anything it probably hasn't been done in quite a while.

Mr. Brannan said they have the mower that goes on the skid steer but it doesn't go on the Tool Cat because the set up isn't strong enough to support the mower. He said they could try it but he didn't think that was the intended purpose of that particular unit and that it's more to do field work.

Mr. King asked if it offsets to the ditch side.

Mr. Brannan said it will offset to either side and you can lift it and you can tilt the head of the mower so you can swing it to the side and tip the mower up but you can't drop the boom to get into the ditch. He said he could put it on there and try it but he didn't know who he would put in it between trying to get the roads graded and the ditches and shoulders done. That takes up everybody we have and I don't know of anybody we can hire that will do that particular type of work. There used to be a number of companies where you could rent equipment but they've all gone away. Most towns have resorted to just buying something he said.

Mrs. Morin asked why buy something that they don't have anybody to man it. She said she didn't want something just sitting there they're going to look at because we don't have enough

people to run the machines.

Mr. Brannan said hopefully they can get some people in and they do have a couple of applicants but they don't have a lot of experience in the field so it may or may not work out.

Mr. King said up to \$5,000 was approved for the roadside gravel and asked where they stood with that.

Mr. Brannan said for the shoulder graveling they got a quote from 2 companies. He said one of them also bid on the paving and in talking with that gentleman he didn't think \$5,000 would get them through the day with that company. He said the company is R & D Paving and they figure they are going to put out \$12,000-\$15,000 worth of gravel a day at the price they are doing it.

Mr. Staples said that isn't the one they approved anyway.

Mr. Brannan said what they're basing it on they're the only one that gave us a quote on doing any paving for the roads that we have.

Mr. King said a couple of meetings ago they approved MGB to do \$5,000 worth of that so he assumed they would have scheduled them to do that. He said that quote wasn't before them when they made that motion.

Mr. Brannan said he was waiting to hear back from MGB and he was giving the board a heads up that the \$5,000 is probably not going to go that far.

Mrs. Morin asked if the Town is providing the gravel.

Mr. Brannan said no and they got quotes from both of them and we were not going to supply the gravel with either one of them.

Mr. King said the reason they approved up to \$5,000 is that is what we can do without putting out for formal bids or waiving the requirement so it was let's do this amount and see how it works out to get a feel for how far \$5,000 goes and get some of that work done. He said if they quantify that this does 2 miles of road then they know they need to have this much to do the rest and that way they can estimate it.

Mr. Brannan said R & D quoted doing the shoulder gravel for Dick Dame Lane, Cross Road and a short stretch on Dodge Cross Road. He said they are telling us it's not even going to take a day and they are over \$10,000 on that.

Mr. Staples asked if that is part of their paving quote.

Mrs. Morin asked if that is for the paving and the shouldering.

Mr. Brannan said yes for those roads and typically when you do the paving on those roads you do the shoulder gravel at the same time and usually the company that does the paving will do the shoulder gravel. He said to give the board a reference, the prices are really close.

Mr. King asked how many linear feet or miles they quoted for paving.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't quote it that way he quoted it by the cubic yard and he was not sure what the mileage is. He said he would say it would be close about a mile and Cross Rd. is about ½ of a mile.

Mr. Vachon said that's to the center line so it would be times 2 for both sides so if Cross Rd. is a

½ of a mile that would be 1 mile. So they are looking at about 2.5 miles for that price he said. Mr. King asked if they gave him a number per yard or ton because that's how MGB quoted it. Mr. Brannan said they quoted it per cubic yard which is \$52 but this number here is with us supplying the gravel and if they supply it it's \$64 per cubic yard.

Mr. King asked what MGB quoted.

Mr. Brannan said theirs was \$55 a yard with them providing the gravel. He said the difference is the other quote has their flaggers included and with MGB the flaggers are extra so that would be another \$90 an hour. He said he hasn't done the actual calculations on them but he thinks they will find they are somewhat close together.

Mrs. Titus asked how many applications he has gotten in and when they could see them or get interviews for them.

Mr. Brannan said hopefully the second one comes in and he spoke with a gentleman here Friday afternoon and he seemed quite interested. He said they have one gentleman they still have to sit down with so it will probably be at least a week or maybe 2.

Mrs. Titus said the School St. pothole is getting larger and deeper.

Mr. Brannan said they were going to try to take care of that tomorrow and they have another one at the Fire Station they have to get done.

Mrs. Titus said in the whole downtown area there are a few including one on Garfield St. and Bunker St. still has issues.

Mrs. Morin said it looks like that bridge on Bunker St. is starting to develop a hole on top again.

Mr. Brannan said he would make a note of that.

Mrs. Titus said the one on School St. people are going over onto people's private property now because it's so bad. She said a couple of people on Meaderboro Rd. called her to thank the board and the road crew.

Mr. Brannan said he has Brian Biosvert coming in and he will try to get one of the guys from the Water Dept. to work with them to take care of some of them and right now the best they can do is put some cold patch in them. With this rain we're not going to be able to put out hot top. It doesn't work very good when you try to put it in a hole with water in it. We can try to get some of the water out but cold patch has more tar in it so it will stick better he said.

Mr. Staples asked when he borrows the Water and Sewer Dept. guys if he is keeping track of their hours so it comes out of the Highway Dept. or if the rate payers are paying for it.

Mr. Brannan said that comes out of their budget they don't bill the Highway Dept.

Mr. King said they are going to have to track that.

Mr. Staples said the Highway Dept. should be paying for them while they have them because other than that the water and sewer people are paying for their guys to go do town work.

Mr. King said it might make sense to have Water/Sewer Dept. Supervisor Chuck Tiffany keep track of that because it's his budget he has to watch out for.

Mr. Dickie said he would speak with Mr. Tiffany tomorrow.

Mr. King said if Mr. Tiffany is loaning his guys to the Highway Dept. he needs to document the hours and then they need to reimburse his budget for it.

Mr. Staples said it was brought up to him after someone saw a Water Dept. guy working at the Transfer Station and he said he was pretty sure they should be keeping track of their hours.

Mr. Brannan said that comes out of the Transfer Station budget.

Mr. Staples said and when they come and plow for him and work for him it should be out of the Highway Dept. budget.

Mr. Brannan said when they plow for them it comes out of the Highway Dept. budget but not when they do other work for them.

Catch Basins-Mr. Brannan said the bids for this are between \$175 and \$230 an hour and they got 3 bids from MGB, Bellmore and Eastern Pipe. He said he didn't think Bellmore has done them before but they are a very reputable company. He said MGB was the cheapest at \$175 an hour, Bellmore was \$215 an hour and Eastern Pipe was \$231 an hour and the budget is \$13,300.

Mr. King asked who did it last year.

Mr. Brannan said he believes it was Eastern Pipe but he wasn't sure.

Mr. Vachon asked how many catch basins they plan on cleaning.

Mr. Brannan said he wasn't sure.

Mrs. Morin asked how many were in the bid.

Mr., Vachon said it is bid by the hour.

Mr. King asked if they listed the equipment they are doing this with because not everyone is using the same type of equipment.

Mr. Brannan said he thinks they all use the same type of truck basically a vacuum truck with a jetter on the front. He said MBG has 1 truck, Bellmore has at least 2 and Eastern Pipe has 2.

Mr. Vachon said Eastern Pipe is also Wind River and they have a ton of vacuum trucks.

Mr. Brannan said it actually came in as Wind River DBA Eastern Pipe.

Mrs. Morin asked if they have more trucks at a higher hourly rate they would get it done faster.

Mr. Staples said they are still charging you per truck per hour.

Mr. Vachon said the Eastern Pipe drivers move pretty fast because their drivers get incentives for finishing projects so they usually do from 25 to 35 in a day.

Mrs. Morin asked how many catch basins we have.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't know what the total is but 170 or 175 is the number that comes to mind.

Mr. Vachon said they usually do about 80 a year.

Mr. Brannan said they do about ½ of them each year but he couldn't tell them which ones they've done. He said Eastern Pipe also gave them a unit price of \$65 a piece and their quote is \$14,784 total. He said if they were going to stay at the \$13,300 in the budget to divide that by \$65 for the number of basins they could do for that amount.

Mr. King asked when they quoted \$14,784 how many catch basins they quoted.

Mr. Brannan said they quoted 64 hours because that's the way this was written up.

Mr. Vachon said \$65 a piece at \$13,300 is 204 basins.

Mr. Brannan said \$14,784 is for 64 hours but they also but they gave a per unit price of \$65.

Mr. King said if they did \$65 per basin times 175 is \$11,300.

Mr. Brannan said he thought they raised that line.

Mr. Vachon said in Somersworth they go by the unit price because by the hour they start dragging their feet they do 2 or 3 an hour vs. if they're getting paid per basin they get done a lot quicker. So you may pay more per hour but they are going to move and shake and get them done because they have to go on to the next project he said.

Mr. King said some of the basins are going to be a lot of work and some of them are going to be almost no work.

Mr. Vachon added that's why if they go by piece work so if he has one 3 ft. deep or one that's 15 ft. deep he pays the same unit price it doesn't matter how much they suck out of a basin its unit price.

Motion: (King, second Morin) to go with Eastern Pipe at a per basin cost of \$65 not to exceed \$13,300;

Discussion: Mr. Staples asked if the low bidder gave a per unit price.

Mr. Brannan said no.

Mr. King said Eastern did it last year and based on Mr. Vachon's feedback he is comfortable paying them a per unit price. He said he believes Bellmore has quoted in the past but he didn't think that we've used them.

Mr. Staples asked if Bellmore had a per unit price.

Mr. Vachon said nobody did except Eastern. He asked if there was a spot for the per unit cost when they put out the Request for Bids and the other 2 choose not to put a unit cost on it.

Mr. Brannan said that's correct. Eastern was the only one that put a per unit cost there he said.

Mr. Vachon said he was comfortable with that then.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Mr. King asked Mr. Brannan to get a list together so when they show up we know where they're all at so they're not hunting for them.

Mr. Brannan said they have maps for them.

Street Sweeping- Mrs. Morin asked where they are with the street sweeping.

Mr. Brannan said he should hear from that company the first of July. He said with everything else they have going on they have nobody to put with him. He said this machine will go back at the end of this month so that will free up somebody to work with him because he is most likely going to need a truck just to dump into and depending on how busy they are he may come with more than 1 unit.

Mr. Vachon said Eastern may show up with more than 1 truck too. He said he may want to

touch base with them when they call for scheduling and ask how many trucks they are sending. Mrs. Titus asked when he gives them the maps for the catch basins if they're going to be able to read it and understand it.

Mr. Brannan said he hoped to get out there first and identify where all the basins are because it's possible that some of them are covered. He said they will probably get a list by the street with the number of basins on the street.

Mrs. Titus asked if they go and check that they did all of them afterwards.

Mr. Brannan said they will have one of our guys with them.

Mr. Vachon asked if he has an inspection report for basins when they're popping them and checking them and if not he has a template he can send him.

Mr. Brannan said he has seen them before just not here. He said he believes the drainage study has all of that too.

Mr. Vachon said they need something more up to date because a lot of deterioration can happen since that study was done 11 years ago. He said he would send him a template that has spaces for how many pipes, what kind of pipes, depths of the pipes, their condition and a small spot to draw how the pipes come in vs. the street.

Mr. Brannan said hopefully they'll be able to keep up with them doing it. He said in regards to the drainage study talking with the engineers when they were walking the levee they would like to take a peek at that because there is a lot of grant money out there to deal with that stuff so we may be able to work with them and get that updated through a grant.

Mr. Vachon said there is a lot for storm water mitigation it's a hot thing right now.

Mr. Brannan agreed and said we can certainly use some help on ours.

Paving- Mr. Brannan said R & D Paving was the only one that bid it and the total for those 3 roads was \$322,833 and the budget shows \$350,000.

Mr. Staples asked if that includes the shoulder gravel.

Mr. Brannan said for those roads yes.

Mr. King asked how many contractors they sent the request to.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't have the list with him but there were a number of them.

Mr. Dickie said it was sent to 10 or 12 contractors.

Mr. Vachon asked if he sent it to the "big 3" Brox, Pike and Continental.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't think Continental was on the list and gave him the 1 bid they received to review. He said they've been doing it for a number of years in town and they're pretty fair. He said they still have to look at those roads to see what they need to do to make sure they're ready for that. He asked if they are accepting their bid.

Motion: (Morin, second King) that we waive the bid requirements;

Discussion: Mr. King said they solicited 10 pavers and only 1 responded and he wanted that noted in the record.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to go with R & D Paving for \$322,833;

Discussion: Mr. Brannan said it is a per ton quote so that number may not be firm.

Mrs. Morin asked if it should say not to exceed \$350,000 which is the amount in the budget.

Mr. King said they estimated at \$322,000 and the last time they sent out a request for paving it actually was under so hopefully this is a little under. He said he didn't want to put a max of \$350,000 because then they're going to keep track and then stop with 200 ft. to go. It should come close to that and if it's a little over we'll have to deal with it he said.

Mr. Staples asked if they could give them a friendly reminder to watch the driveways when they are shouldering and keep the ground pavement out of our ditches. He said they were good last year but the year before they had some trouble on Meaderboro Rd. when they dumped a bunch of grind in the ditch and the resident complained and they got a little upset so when they graveled they threw the gravel down his driveway and all over the mailboxes.

Mr. Vachon said that was when the sweeper was out there and they were slinging mud everywhere because it was raining and covering mailboxes with gravel.

Mrs. Morin said that didn't sound intentional.

Mr. King said also one year they were slow to gravel a shoulder.

Mr. Brannan said on off days, bad weather days they do the shoulder gravel because a lot of times they take away from their paving crew.

Mr. King said one time it stretched way beyond a couple of weeks so they want to make sure that they back that up as soon as possible because that edge is pretty tender.

Mr. Brannan said when he worked in Middleton one thing they would always do as soon as the paving was done if there were dirt driveways on the pavement they would go through and back up the pavement for the dirt driveways and mailboxes because they know that typically they are not going to be there the next day or 2 and its usually a week or 2. He said once this gets done they will back up the driveways and places where they can pull off the pavement so they can protect it. I will do my best to get them there and we will at least take care of any place where people are going to drive off he said.

Mr. Vachon asked if they put in a disclaimer that the price is dependent on when they actually pave.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't see it but he assumed they have something to cover themselves.

Mr. Vachon said for a couple of years the price of liquid asphalt has fluctuated.

Mr. Brannan went through the bid and then said they reserve the right to impose a fuel escalator due to fuel price changes which is pretty much going to dictate the price of the asphalt. He said right now that's probably in our favor because fuel prices tend to be dropping a little bit.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Salt Contract- Mr. Brannan said the salt contract came back with a \$2.75 increase.

Mr. Vachon said that is a lot better than last year when it was a 31% increase.

Mr. Staples asked for the new tonnage price.

Mr. Brannan said the new tonnage price is \$71.59 and it was \$68.84.

Mr. King asked if they need a motion to accept that price.

Mr. Vachon said they are part of the coop and that's the coop price.

Motion: (King, second Staples) to accept the salt bid at \$71.59 a ton;

Discussion: Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Brannan if he could make the \$2.75 increase work in his budget.

Mr. Brannan said he thinks they have enough to get through this year. He said hopefully that is all in the new budget as there is close to 300 tons sitting there.

Mr. King asked how much salt they go through in a season.

Mr. Brannan said last year it was 1350 tons.

Mr. King said so they have about 25% of their annual usage in house.

Mr. Vachon asked what the budget line is for the salt.

Mr. Brannan said last year it was \$89,500 and they actually spent \$92,800.

Mr. Vachon said at that cost at 1350 you get \$97,800 so that's why he was curious.

Mr. Brannan said he would plan on 1350 which is 150 more than they budgeted for but the weather is going to dictate it.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Dickie confirmed the salt budget is \$89,500 and they are over budget by about \$8,000.

Mr. Vachon said at that budget and at that cost that's 1250 tons and he said they usually budget for 1200 so it's right about there. It just depends on the winter he said.

Crushed Gravel- Mr. Brannan said they have to at least do their screened sand.

Mr. King asked if he had any quotes.

Mr. Brannan said they only got one.

Mr. Vachon asked how many people it got sent to and if it was at least 3.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't have that number with him but he thinks it was sent to 6 people.

Mr. Staples asked who submitted a bid.

Mr. Brannan said the only bid was from Custom Crushing.

Mr. Vachon asked if we have used them before.

Mr. Brannan said yes but a company named Earth had been doing it recently and they contacted him about it about 2 weeks after the closing date. He said Custom Crushing quoted \$325 a ton for screened sand and it comes out for the 3500 tons at \$11,375.

Mr. King asked if all they were going to have them do is the screened sand.

Mr. Brannan said he wouldn't mind having them do some 4 inch base gravel with some of the crushed gravel money. He said that wasn't part of the bid and the way the RFP is written up should be changed. He said it says coarse crushed gravel and fine crushed gravel and coarse crushed is 1.5 inch and fine crushed is ¾ inch. He said there is no need to have both and most towns are using ¾ inch- 1 inch on their dirt roads and very few places use 1.5 inch anymore so

why it is even on there he didn't know.

He said it should be 4 inch base gravel that way when you build your road you want to put 1 ft. of solid base gravel and then the fine that you can grade. Why it's like this I'm not sure he said.

Motion: (King, second Morin) to waive the bid requirements and award the bid to Custom Crushing for \$325 a ton for 3500 tons of screened sand passed 5-0.

Mr. King asked when he thought they would be on site.

Mr. Brannan said he wasn't sure and he did call and leave a message today so he has to get back to him. He said the big is whether they can try to produce some of the 4 inch gravel.

Mr. Vachon asked him to see if he can get us a price for it.

Mr. Brannan said they charged us \$495 a ton for the crushed gravel so he would assume it will be a fair amount less because it takes a lot less equipment to produce it.

Mr. King asked him to let them know when they are going to be here because he might want to go out to the pit with him and Mr. Dickie and have him show them some of the things they talked about at a previous meeting. He also asked him when he gets back to the company to get some numbers to add some 4 inch crushed gravel per ton and get back to the board with those numbers because they might say they're not going to be here until August or in 2 weeks.

Mr. Brannan said it would be nice to see them show up fairly soon especially if they have to do any major construction on Cross Rd. as there are some areas on that road that could use major work-dig it up and put some good solid gravel in there because his guess is somebody just threw some dirt on top of what was there and called it a road.

Mr. Staples asked for the cost per yard to hire them to bring it in.

Mr. Brannan said for the 4 inch gravel it's probably going to be in the \$10 a ton range. He said if you have the material it's definitely cheaper to produce it. He said the 4 inch minus you tend to want that to be cleaner and sharper so it drains better. He said the ¾ inch crush is what you really want to pack hard and you want your base gravel to drain well and it has to be structurally sound it can't be sand. Typically the 4 inch is better draining but it's not going to pack as hard but you can still get your compaction out of it he said.

Mr. King said ours is bank run gravel crushed and Brox's is all rock crushed.

Truck Repairs-Mr. Brannan said they did get a used front end for the 10-wheeled truck and it ended up being cheaper than rebuilding ours and is guaranteed to be all good by Camerota Truck Parts so they opted for that and that's in stock. He said they have the exhaust partially torn apart on the truck and they need to take a good look at it and see if they can figure out why it is burning through all the gaskets. He said they may have to have some parts planed and he might have an idea for somebody to do that.

Scrap/Sale of Equipment-Mr. King said at a prior meeting they talked about getting rid of some of the equipment at the yard and asked if it is the red Ford 9000 or is it blue.

Mr. Brannan said it's blue one and they have the little electric car that he didn't know what it was used for.

Mr. King said they got it for free and they used it very little.

Mr. Staples said he thought they were all supposed to be listed.

Mr. Brannan said they are going to pull the sander off the truck because it's a stainless steel sander and they last. He said the truck itself probably isn't worth keeping and it hasn't been moved in a long time and it would probably take more to get it up to snuff than it's worth.

Mr. King said we have enough trucks that need repair they don't need to pull one out of the woods and add to it. He said there are quite a few tons lying around there that could go somewhere else.

Mr. Brannan said they have the 10-wheeler, the electric car and there's also a low bed trailer. He said he would try to get an idea what the trailer weighs and if they can get more than scrap price they need to sell it.

Mr. King said somebody expressed an interest in the electric car to him about a month ago and he thought they decided to get rid of that. He said they should take what they need and then unload the rest to scrap, auction or the highest bidder.

Mrs. Morin asked if they need to vote on that or if they already did.

Mr. King and Mr. Staples said they thought they already did.

Mr. Brannan said they voted on it before he was in this position.

Mr. King said the Police cruiser didn't go and they are going to take that to scrap.

Mr. Dickie said the Town mechanic is going to take what can be salvaged and then they are going to send it to scrap.

Mr. King said if there is anything they need for their other Police vehicles they should take it off now whether it's a seat or a door, etc.

Police Report- Mr. Staples asked if anyone read the Police Chief's report and thanked Detective Matt Embrey for all his hard work in catching the kid who was behind all the 911 calls for the school shootings.

Mr. King said he dittoed that and that he did speak to Chief Orlando last week and asked him to thank the Lieutenant for not accepting no. He said he also recognized that he went above and beyond and did an excellent job.

6). New Business:

IDM Open House- Mrs. Titus asked if all the boards got an invitation to the new business on Rt. 11 and there is an open house for the Selectmen and some of the other boards.

Mr. King said the dept. heads were invited too.

Mrs. Titus said the open house is on August 4 from 4-9 p.m. She welcomed the new business because that is what we want on Rt. 11 business and there are some employees there from Farmington which is nice and thanked Mr. King. She joked they should now make sure they have expensive taxes for him.

Mr. King replied he has already gotten his first tax bill and asked if he could pass the hat.

Mrs. Titus said it is nice that he did something with that property and thanked him for coming

to Farmington.

Mr. King said almost all of his employees work in Farmington and besides him and Mrs. King he has 3 others.

Tea Party – Mrs. Titus said the Rec. Dept. with the Woman's Club put on a Tea Party and about 25-30 people attended. She said it was really nice to have a community event with the Woman's Club and the Rec. Dept. working together and the funds were donated to the Rec. Dept. because they put a really great job on. It was just nice to see families there and a couple of little girls with their moms and it was just a really nice event. Sometimes we have to work together to make things successful she said.

Mrs. Morin said it wasn't just moms and kids some of the older generation came out as well and enjoyed the tea party and the Rec. Dept. did an amazing job. The decorations were incredible and it was really well done she said.

New Members Needed - Mrs. Titus said some of the boards are not getting a quorum of their members and asked if they wanted to put something on Cable TV Channel 26 asking for alternate members. She said they had a meeting of the Economic Development Committee but they didn't have a quorum of the members but they did have a presentation by representatives from the Walden Renewables solar power company but they couldn't vote on anything.

Mr. Dickie asked if they didn't have a quorum because they don't have enough members or because people couldn't make it.

Mrs. Titus said there were people who couldn't make it and there are people who are no longer on the EDC.

Mr. Vachon said the Conservation Commission also needs members.

Mrs. Morin asked if the Budget Committee is full now.

Mr. Staples said the Bud Com is not full.

Mr. King asked if this town needs to consider having a small stipend for board members to cover their costs to and from meetings. He said he didn't know what other towns do and at times they have needed additional people to participate and asked if they should look at what other communities do for a stipend even if it's a couple of \$100 a year.

Mrs. Morin asked if there is an opportunity to reduce the number of members on some of the committees. She said some of it is governed by the RSA's but for the EDC when she was on it last year they considered reducing the number of people on it because it was 9 to 11 people.

Mr. King said that may make sense for some boards and maybe the EDC could go down to 5.

Mrs. Titus said they would have to change their bylaws.

Mrs. Morin said they had to have a quorum to change the bylaws and that's where they were stuck.

Fire Dept. Safety Issue-Mrs. Titus said there was a call and the Fire Dept. was coming out one day last week early in the morning and one resident coming to the Valley View School pulled over to the side but the other 2 people behind them decided they had enough time to beat the

fire trucks and go around the people that pulled over and kept going. She said this resident was a little bit nervous thinking it could have been an accident just waiting to happen because the fire trucks were coming out with red lights and if somebody wants to beat them it could have caused an accident.

She said her thought was to put up like the blinking lights for crosswalks maybe a red light that goes on when the fire station gets a call and people need to stop. She said with a grant something like that should happen because it's an accident waiting to happen.

She said if people see a red light by the fire station that goes on when there's a call maybe they'll stop. These people were afraid that somebody was going to get hit or the fire truck was going to hit the people that were passing the other cars that pulled over she said.

Mr. King said he would like to hear the Fire Chief's thoughts on this.

Mrs. Titus said it might be an issue for him and there must be a grant out there for this and he is good at looking up grants.

Mr. Dickie said he would have Chief Reinert look into it.

Mr. Staples said people that would run in front of a fire truck would run a red light.

Mrs. Titus said in this case they wanted to beat the fire truck and sped up and it's an accident waiting to happen. She said she didn't know if it's a also problem on the Police side.

Mr. Vachon said they'll have Chief Reinert see what he can figure out.

Town Budget-Mr. Staples said he got an e-mail from a resident that was looking for the 2023 Town budget on the Town website and she was unable to find it.

Mr. Dickie said they posted the monthly budget report and it has the overall budget in it.

Mr. Staples said she was looking for the entire budget that passed at Town Meeting.

Mr. Dickie said they post the budget report monthly and it has the overall budget on it.

Mr. Staples asked where it was posted to.

Mr. Dickie said he believes it is on the Budget Committee page but he will make sure. He said the board made a motion to accept posting this and this has the overall operating budget on it.

Mr. Staples said he would e-mail her back and ask her to check there.

Mr. Vachon said as far as the website goes he was told he was still on the Planning Board too and it's been a year and a half. He asked to have somebody look at all the committees and boards and to adjust some members and make sure it's right. I got a call about a planning issue and they called me because I was on the website he said.

Mr. King said he just got a text message from someone watching the meeting that says they would like to buy the electric car.

Mr. Vachon said he got a text message too about that.

Mr. King said they certainly have some interest there if they can actually get that posted. He said the person that texted him is not the same person who expressed interest in the car earlier so that is at least 2 people that are interested in it.

7). Next Meeting: Monday, July 10, 2023

Mr. Vachon said with the July 4th holiday being on a Tuesday and 3 of the board members are going away and 1 will not be available they are going to skip the July 3 meeting and their next board meeting will be on July 10th.

8). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (King, second Morin) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Staples, Titus, Morin-aye) at 7:27 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second King) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 7:42 p.m.

9). Non-Public Session B:

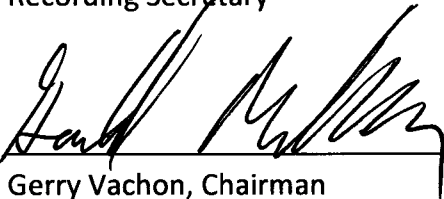
Motion: (King, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (d) Acquisition, Sale or Lease of Property passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Morin, Staples, Titus-aye) at 7:42 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Morin) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 7:54 p.m.

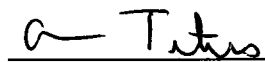
10). Adjournment:

Motion: (Vachon, second Staples) to adjourn the meeting passed 5-0 at 7:54 p.m.

Kathleen Magoon
Recording Secretary


Gerry Vachon, Chairman

Charlie King, Vice Chairman


Ann Titus


Douglas Staples

Penny Morin