Town of Hartford

Road Committee

MINUTES

March 10, 2015

Town Hall – 7:00 p.m.

*MINUTES*

 The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. Members present were: Harley **S**wanson, Chairman, Leslie Boness, Secretary, Gregory Jones,\* Barry Langer, Daniel Maddox, and John (Jack) Plumley. Alan (Bim) McNeil was absent. Lee Holman, Cathy Lowe and Peggy Poskus represented the Board of Selectmen. \*Gregory Jones, Alternate, was appointed by the Chairman to serve as a voting member.

1. Review and Approval of Minutes of February 10 and February 24, 2015.

**Dan Maddox** made a motion, seconded by **Barry Langer**, to approve the February 10, 2015 Minutes as submitted. **The motion passed unanimously**. The February 24, 2015 Minutes were deferred.

1. **Review of Current Budget Status and Discussion and Action on FY 2015-16 Budget Recommendation for the Selectmen and Budget Committee**.

Harley distributed information from the Town Clerk and reports related to the prior meetings’ budget discussions and recommendations, including modified category titles. The committee reviewed the spending detail available and made suggestions on formats to better account for the various funds. Patching funds should come from road repair. It was noted that the Gurney Hill funds are coming from the annual budget and now appear to be moving towards $100,000 in cost. The work is not yet completed and the paving still must be done. Spending application has not been consistent with the 1 year plan, or as listed in the exhibit. It appears there may be about $60,000 left to finish out the fiscal year. Eighty percent of wages appears to have already been spent. Barry noted there may be very limited or no money available for putting out bids to complete the 1 year plan priorities this spring. It was noted that the Board of selectmen do have the authority to authorize use of funds from the reserve.

Members discussed the various categories and work that must be completed within the next fiscal year, as well as the possible availability of materials currently in hand versus required purchasing, including the reclaimed pavement from Gurney Hill The difference between the cold patch, which must be put down with a grader or paver, and patching material, which can be shoveled, was discussed. The importance of activating the lab equipment and materials testing was stressed, and money will be requested to be sure that can be done this year.

After considerable discussion, the committee agreed with spending priorities for FY 2015-16, including Contracted Road Work at $50,000 and Road Maintenance/Repair at $15,000. The Sub-Contracted Road Repair at $0. It was noted that if it is not under a ‘bid’ contract, the Contracted Road Work funds should not be used for the work. The overall allocation recommended will be $149,148, plus $50,000 for the reserve fund.

It was noted that the FY 14-15 work plan was not done, except for Gurney Hill (the base project which had originally been slated for FY 2013-14). Consideration of overlaying Church Street was discussed for the 1 year plan; it was noted this would also require ditching and some culverts. Other issues were also discussed. It was noted road postings should have been completed now.

After discussion **Dan Maddox** made a motion, seconded by **Barry Langer**, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee the amount of funding, and labelling changes as noted. **The motion passed unanimously, with Harley Swanson, Chairman, abstaining due to his employment with the Town, to preclude any conflict of interest**.

In view of potential additional information coming forth, the Road Committee indicated that we wish to reserve the right to amend the recommendation, should additional detail come forth which would warrant a change to the budget recommendation prior to the budget meetings. The Chairman will advise the Board of Selectmen of the recommendation from the Road Committee.

1. Report on Selectmen’s Workshop and Select Board Meetings regarding any Road Related Considerations or Actions.

1. Determination of Schedule Date for Discussion of Road Work Projects Expected for Completion in Spring 2015, and Consideration of FY 2015-16 Work Plan. (Tentatively Scheduled for March 24th.).)

1. Determination of Schedule Date for Review and Recommendations of Enhanced Format and Information Accrual for Roads Related Expenses. (Deferred from prior meetings.)

1. Determination of Schedule Date for Review of Comments Submitted and Road Standards Ordinance for Amendment Recommendations to the Ordinance Committee and Selectmen. (Tentatively Scheduled for March 24th.)

Items 3-6 were not addressed, beyond the agreement to handle the Road Standards recommendations at the next meeting.

1. Old Business.

1. New Business.

1. Adjournment.

**Dan Maddox** made a motion, seconded by **Greg Jones**, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. **The motion passed unanimously.**

The next meeting will be March 24th at 7:00 p.m. The Road Standards proposals will be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie F. P. Boness

Secretary, Hartford Road Committee