

**Minutes of the  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Thursday, February 23, 2017 @6:00 p.m.  
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by First Selectwoman Catherine Iino. In attendance were Selectman Lou Annino Jr, Finance Director Regina Regolo, Highway Foreman Walter Adametz, Town Engineers Tom Fenton and Matthew Carroll from Nathan Jacobsen & Associates, Driver Operator and town resident Wayne Linsley. Selectman Dudek was absent.

**Road Survey Phase 2** – Tom Fenton and Matthew Carroll presented the results of Phase 2 of the town road survey. Phase 1, completed last year, covered 30 miles. Phase 2 covered the rest of the roads. The field work was completed in November and December. From the data collected, the engineers developed a Pavement Condition Index. Selectman Annino suggested that the summary report combine the results of Phase 1 and Phase 2. The engineers then distributed 3 spreadsheets, which sorted the road data, ratings, and proposed future maintenance activities in various ways to help the board prioritize projects for both next fiscal year and for the multi-year capital improvement plan. Selectman Annino asked the feasibility of updating this data on a routine basis – perhaps annually. Mr. Fenton agreed that it would be possible to do so without too much time or expense.

The board then examined the list of proposed road projects for fiscal year 17/18, which included: Alders Bridge Rd Phase 2 – Drainage; County Rd Bridge Phase 2 (shared with Madison); Lower Roast Meat Hill Rd – Drainage; Little City Rd & Jackson Rd – Paving. Selectman Annino expressed a concern that perhaps we might not be doing enough next year to stay ahead. He suggested that we look at roads that were on the cusp of dropping into a higher category of need and if possible move those projects up on the schedule.

Walter Adametz reminded the board that the Alders Bridge Project is ready to go out to bid and that we should issue the RFP before the end of this fiscal year if we want to be “shovel ready” in July. The town engineers will be providing the bid specifications.

**17/18 Capital Requests** - The board then reviewed the list of other Highway Department capital requests for next year. Selectman Annino asked that Mr. Adametz revise the estimate for the repair to the concrete floor of the garage to include installation labor as well as materials. The Board of Selectmen and the highway foreman will update the out years of the multi-year capital improvement plan to reflect the updated information provided by the completed road survey. This will be presented at a future meeting.

**17/18 Operating Request for Highway and Sanitation Departments.** - The board reviewed the operating requests for next year. Annino raised the concern that we not trim budgets to the point of creating big problems from deferred maintenance. Adametz explained the reasons behind scaling back the individual items.

**Tractor Disposal.** Walter Adametz responded to comments made by Selectman Dudek at the Board of Selectmen's meetings of January 10 and 17 with regard to the operation and maintenance of the 1973 John Deere tractor that was recently auctioned off for \$2,177. This piece of equipment was purchased in 1973 for \$5,600. The town put approximately 4,500 hours on it. The crew checked the oil each morning prior to operating it. It failed back in November 2016. Near the end it was routinely consuming 1 quart of oil daily. During the final project, the need for oil increased and the motor began skipping, and the crew stopped driving the tractor. When the engine was dismantled, it was discovered that the piston ring had broken and had damaged the piston. Walter Adametz presented evidence that there was ample lubrication: the piston not scored, as it would have been if it had been operating without lubrication. He denied that there was any negligence on the part of crew.

The machine failed from old age and fatigue and not from negligence on the part of the highway personnel. The cost of the parts to repair it—not even including labor—would approach the value of the 45-year-old tractor.

Wayne Linsley asked to speak on behalf of himself and the other members of the highway crew. He said that they take tremendous pride in their work and in their responsibilities with regard to the care of the equipment. He confirmed the sequence of events that Walt reported.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 27, 2107 at 7 pm. Dan Colonia will in attendance to discuss his operating and capital requests for 1718.

Motion by Selectman Annino, seconded by Selectwoman lino to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Regolo  
Acting Recording Secretary