

MINUTES
Special Board of Selectmen Meeting
August 12, 2014
Normal Drummer Room, Town Hall

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 8/13/14
TIME: 1:30 PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members Present: W. Kurt Miller, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Paul Roy, Karen Stanek and Len Green Jr. (Left at 6:55 PM)

Others Present: Chairman of Board of Public Works Sean Walsh, Director of Public Works Dennis Rozum, Town Engineer Jim Galligan, Leslie Girard, Jeff Girard

Item #1: Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM

Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Item #3: Public Comment

Leslie Girard – 33 Bungay Terrace – I'm here to plead our case to have our road added to the road program. Our road was paved maybe five years ago and we were told that they ran out of money before the end. I have video of the road if anyone cares to see it. Last year we had frost heaves in excess of 1 foot that if you didn't drive very slowly would damage your car.

Jeffrey Girard – 33 Bungay Terrace – The road was bad when we moved in in 2000 and it's only gotten worse. They only paved half of it and it's a really sharp corner that's really hard to maneuver to begin with. I can't see why this shouldn't be included in the program.

Item #4: Discussion and take action on Category B & C roads from 2014 road report

Kurt: We have the recommendations from the Town Engineer. We thought we were going to have very little flexibility moving forward, but Bond Counsel Doug Gilette has told us that if we get grant money or anything like that, we can switch roads in and out of the categories. We're going to need to formally approve a resolution next Tuesday to be forwarded to the Board of Finance for approval. At that point we'll need a special Town meeting ten days before the referendum to put it on the ballot.

Paul: Can we put roads on the list?

Kurt: Absolutely. When we had initially talked, the cost would have been around \$350,000. Now it's just shy of \$300,000. There are costs including counsel and interest, but that's well down the road and we'll go over that when we're closer. I had asked everyone to go through categories B & C to figure out what we would want to do.

Karen: I've been talking about Holbook Road for a very long time. It's an access road and it connects 67, 188 and 34. I was disappointed that it was category C. I'm embarrassed that Oxford spent \$1 million repairing their portion of the road. There is a vast difference between Seymour & Oxford.

Kurt: Jim is working with Mark Nielsen at VCOG to have the road address with LoCIP. If we were to move it into category B we would then need to shuffle \$2 million around elsewhere. We have to get the biggest bang for our buck.

Karen: Stoddard St. is category B. That's a link between Pearl and Grand. Why does that supersede an access road?

Kurt: Stoddard is \$100k

Karen: Third Ave. is not an access road.

Nicole: So you think we should be doing more access roads first?

Karen: I think if they're using it to get to their jobs, I think they should come first.

Kurt: Do you think that should come first if there's a potential to get further funding from other sources?

Karen: I haven't heard that this is costing the Town a lot of money. Isn't this funded by the State?

Kurt: No, this is all coming from the Town's money.

Karen: You said this wouldn't increase the tax rate?

Kurt: That's the reflection of debt service decreasing and being replaced.

Karen: Bunting Road, \$310k or French \$500k. Shouldn't we be looking at roads that are more heavily traveled? I'm not saying it's wrong to repair those roads.

Kurt: These are just the recommendations that Jim made, we can move it around as we want. He stopped at \$1.1 million but there's more than that. We haven't maintained our roads in 10 years but this is going to kickstart the program. I don't think it's a bad thing, but we're trying to get the most bang for our buck. Should we focus on what is most heavily traveled, or the largest number roads possible?

Karen: We should probably emphasize which roads are used by most people.

Kurt: We can move these around as we choose. Some of these are slotted in because we targeted \$5 million. That's where some of these cheaper roads got slotted in. I would be against Holbrook at this point because I would prefer to see if we could use the LoCIP program.

Jim: One of the first statements in the narrative is that the category C and B roads are mostly the same level of deterioration. There's a balance between usage and condition. Stoddard is in bad shape. Henry Street is one of the worst in the Town, but it's tiny. It's low expense and small as well as a steep grade. I didn't put Holbrook on B because it's expensive and it may be eligible for other funding. There may be other roads that VCOG could assist us in. I would love to do Canfield, Botsford, Colony and Holbrook, but that's probably all the roads we could do with \$5 million. Some are a matter of proximity. Rimmon Street is going to be redone and most of them off the side are in terrible condition. If I put that out to bid as a contractor, I could get the whole area done and save money by sparing relocation costs. Anne, Argyle and Botsford are all together as well.

Paul: I agree with Jim's direction. I think if we could get funding elsewhere it's better for the Town. It won't be 20 years down the road, it's in our sights. I look at a few like Church Street that are in dire need of repair. Davis Road to 334 is horrible. That's also a highly traveled road.

Kurt: 334 is also being completely redone.

Paul: I would like you to check out Bungay Terrace in case we can do it easily.

Jim: I put it on the list to check out while they were talking.

Kurt: We can also add roads to category C.

Nicole: Any road?

Kurt: Category B just can't exceed \$5 million. You'll notice some have asterisks. Those are the ones that we're working with utilities to split costs on while they do much-needed upgrades. That was one of my concerns with putting them in B. Hill, Knorr and New Street are all ones they're targeting.

Karen: I just want to make a correction, Colony Street is in Ansonia, Colony Road is in Seymour, as well as Colony Road Extension.

Jim: It's an important distinction to make.

Kurt: From your perspective, Jim, you would like us to approve B & C with the option of flexibility.

Jim: For several reasons. The utilities' schedule and plans might give you more flexibility.

Kurt: Are there any roads anyone objects to? For example, DeForest would be nice, but it would be better spent in a neighborhood.

Karen: Garden Street was never a problem.

Dennis: Garden and Spruce Streets have only had potholes repaired, Roberts Street as well and that gets a lot of traffic. We've put a lot of efforts there already.

Karen: I withdraw it then.

Dennis: We put down 200 tons of asphalt already this year, hot and cold patch. We're not looking at this as it happening all of the sudden. The past winter had a really big effect on the road. That's why we're looking into this pothole machine so that we can make some headway. So far it's working out pretty well although we've only had it for a few hours.

Kurt: As a segue, Anne, Argyle and upper Bunting were done today using the pothole machine. Stoddard was the only one from Category C included on the trial list for the pothole machine. The other roads were Anne Avenue, Argyle Circle, upper Bunting Road, Briarwood Drive, French Street, Highland Avenue, Union Street, Wood Street, Wooster Street, Prospect Avenue, Highland Street, Broadview Avenue, Stoddard Street, Walnut Street Extension, Spruce Street, Roberts Street, Nichols Street, Brookfield Road, Fox Drive and Peach Drive. Dennis, can we also look at all the Town's parking lots? The Community Center parking lot would be a good test because it's minimal impact.

Paul: I rode over a number of these streets and I can see why they're included. I don't disagree with them but I think for the most part the list is good. It may just require a little tweak.

Kurt: In the interest of full disclosure, Jim had recommended that the neighborhood off of Rimmon, I want to make it known that I live in that area. If it's an issue, I will withdraw my road.

Paul: I have no problem. If there are roads or sidewalks that need to be done, it shouldn't matter.

Kurt: I just wanted to put it out there, but what Jim said regarding relocation makes sense. If no one has any problems, we can make the resolution and move it to the Board of Finance. If they approve it, and assuming a positive response at the Town meeting, it will move to referendum. At that meeting, I'll do a full presentation. If 50 people don't show up, it will move to the Board of Selectmen for action. Are there any other questions? If you see roads that you have an issue with, there is flexibility. For example, we can add 15 more roads to Category C so that they can be added in if that becomes possible.

Tony: After the vote, it must be in B or C but you'll have flexibility.

Karen: Do we need a motion to add Bungay Terrace?

Kurt: No, we don't need a resolution. You have until Monday to add roads.

Paul: Botsford, Bungay and Brookfield are in C?

Jim: Correct.

Kurt: Everyone comfortable? I just want to make sure we're all on the same page. Is there any additional public comment?

Leslie Girard – 33 Bungay Terrace – I just want to make sure that you know it's only the lower quarter. The rest of the road is in pretty good shape.

Kurt – Jim will look at the whole road, but we may not be doing the full length of some of these roads. Is there any other public comment? Tony and I will work with Doug Gillette to get the resolution set. We need any other roads by 10 AM Monday. You can send them to me or Jim.

Item #5 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

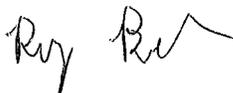
Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Kurt Miller:	Yes	Nicole Klarides-Ditria:	Yes
Paul Roy:	Yes	Karen Stanek:	Yes

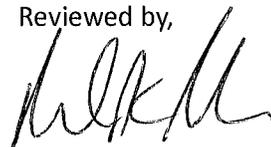
The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Submitted by,



Rory Burke
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman