

Town of Princeton, Mass. -- Remote Meeting

ROAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes, 3/15/2022 6:00 PM

Present: Chair Matt Granger; Members Ann Neuburg, Daeg Brenner, Kevin Toohey; Town Administrator Sherry Patch, Highway Superintendent Ben Metcalf, Advisory Board liason Peter Guimette; Guest Richie Bisk of the Selectboard

6:07 PM Call to Order (GoToMeeting)

Administrative: Unanimous vote to approve of minutes of 1/19/2022 meeting.

Project Status Update Highway Supt. Ben Metcalf reported:

- Coal Kiln Road pavement: 8 companies have taken out bid packages. Pre-bid meeting is 3/15. Bid deadline is 3/23. Start of project is must wait until the end of the school year to start so as not to compete with buses. Start date is ~ June 16. Expected completion is end of August.
- Pave TPS the contract is for \$99.5K with an escalation clause for cost of materials. General discussion of the rising cost of materials and escalation clauses.
- Culverts: Sherry has submitted a grant for construction costs to replace the Ball Hill culvert (DER) and the small bridge on Calamint Hill Road North (Small Bridge Program)
- 140 Improvement north of Rte. 31: Ben: current MassDoT standards ask an additional 15 feet of width than the current footprint. Sherry: MassDoT does grant design exceptions, and this project may require one. Kevin asked if MassDoT will compromise on the TIP project to improve the Westminster end of 140.

Budgetary Review spreadsheet of road projects, costs, funds, etc: 2021-2030, Ver. 41.06 030322, Project Detail Worksheet (1).xls, See Referenced Documents.

- Explanation of the term “book jobs” as those projects that do not require engineering beyond what the Highway Department itself can provide. For example: repaving without reconstructing drainage or changing the road’s footprint. Book jobs do not require outside engineering and thus save that cost, which is ~ 12% of a project’s total cost.
- Spreadsheet includes the latest fuel prices.
- Ben: Westminster Road is not on the project list and should be.
- Peter: extra engineering costs for Worcester Road project. Sherry: including the sidewalk makes for better grant applications, and increases the number of sources we can ask for funding.
- General discussion about the Town’s annual contribution of \$350K to help build roads. Ben: the contribution appears to be

safe for now. It's up to the Committee to ask for more. Richie:
Do we know which projects will require more from the Town?

- Grants:** In addition to Complete Streets, MassWorks, etc:
- Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program
 - DER Culvert program
 - Small Bridge program (Hobbs Road and Calamint Hill Rd. N.

(General discussion of the condition of the bridge on CHRN)

Next Meeting Ben will appear before the Selectboard at 10:30 3/22.
Next meeting of the committee is TBD.

Other Business: Daeg Brenner formally thanked those members of the committee who worked to revise the spreadsheet.

Adjourn Sherry Motion to Adjourn. Daeg second.
Adjourn 6:48

Respectfully Submitted Ann Neuburg

Referenced Documents:



2021-2030, Ver. 41.06
030322, Project Detail