

Town of Princeton, Mass. -- Town Hall Annex

ROAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes, Oct. 29, 2019 6:00 PM

Present: Chair William Holder, Members Joseph Bellucci, Kevin Toohey, Alternate Ann Neuburg, Highway Superintendent Ben Metcalf, Guest John Fudeman, Town Administrator Sherry Patch

6:02 PM Opened meeting in Town Hall Annex

Vote: minutes of 9/25 meeting unanimously approved.

Vote: minutes of 10/17 meeting approved (Ann Neuburg was absent for the meeting and abstained) as amended.

Discussion: ongoing engineering costs of Route 140

Driveway redesign at 80 and 84 Main Street expected cost overrun is now \$4,600. Ben Metcalf is working to resolve the problem. Joe: since road is 4 inches lower than originally engineered, the state may be able to contribute to the cost.

Action item: Ben will ask the state.

General discussion of cost overruns and steps to prevent them. Sherry asked for the procedure to vet bills and monitor costs. Joe suggests using an application to do the tracking/monitoring.

Update: Small Bridge Grant for CHRN (Bridge P-16-019)

Package is essentially complete.

Action item: Ann will deliver the individual documents to Sherry for packaging and submission.

Discussion: Updated project sequence/completion dates

Discussion of Bill Holder's project priority list.

- Route 31 Highway Barn Bridge – package complete except completion of August 26 (before school buses). Members approve the Aug. 26 complete date. A FY 2020 project. Jacobs will advertise this project
- Route 31/Mirick Road culvert – bid package complete. Funding in program. Members approve completion date of August 26. A FY 2020 project. The town will advertise this project

Since the projects close together, trying to bid them together to get better bids.

- Coal Kiln Road - environmental work to bid in December. Aluminum arch technology. Ben will work with Sherry to select engineering firm.
- Leominster Road – reclaim and repave to bid 12/2. Advertised by the town.
- 140 sections between Sterling sections – remill project. Review specs and licensing 11/15.

See attachment *2020 and 2021 project milestones.doc*

Review: Annual Presentation to Board of Selectmen

Review document package to accompany presentation.

Discuss expected \$4,000,000 funding shortfall (2019 dollars) in current 10-year road plan.

Discuss how timing of going to bid impacts resulting bid quality.

Other discussion

Funding options for projects with long lifespans.

Major projects (bridges and culverts and road rebuilds) are not maintenance, but capital expenditures that will benefit taxpayers for many years, These projects might be funded using bonds instead of annual tax revenue. Bonding would allow the Town to get the money now (when it is cheap) and spread the cost over more years in which benefits of the projects accrue.

Vote: unanimous approval - Route 31 Highway Barn Bridge bid will include the culverts instead of the Town purchasing the culverts.

Adjourn 7:02 pm. Move to Board of Selectmen meeting to make annual presentation.

Respectfully Submitted: Ann Neuburg

Referenced Documents: *2020 and 2021 project milestones.doc*



2020 and 2021
project milestones.doc