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OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS

TOWN OF DUNSTABLE
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MINUTES July 30, 2012

The meeting began at 7 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Dave Crandall, Commissioners Tom Dumont and Mike Martin, and Secretary, Terry Atwood. Also in attendance was a representative from Aggregate Industries, Bruce Bailey.

The yearly bid for road materials was opened. The bids were awarded, with the exception of road salt, contingent on the required documents being included in the bid packages. Unofficial bid results are attached. Because the state salt bid price hasn't come in yet, the salt won't be awarded until the state bid results are known. The bid is scheduled to be opened on 8/30/12. Terry will go through the bids and verify that all requirements have been submitted.

Jonathan Holmes, a Mill St. resident, entered the meeting and approached the board at 7:20. He was wondering about the newly installed island at Main and Depot Streets. He asked why it was put in, where the funds came from, who authorized the project and whether the funds could have been put to better use. Mike responded that there was no cost, the granite curbing was behind the post office in the MUD District just sitting there from another project years ago. Tom explained that the Highway Dept. is gearing up for added traffic when the Salmon Brook Bridge is repaired. There will be detoured traffic that will add cars to both Depot and Brook Streets. When the curbing was installed, the roads were actually widened slightly which makes it easier for cars to maneuver. In addition, Brook St. will be paved soon to better tolerate additional traffic and there may possibly be another island created at some point. Mr. Holmes also questioned the catch basin on Mill St. and why it had a road cone next to it for some length of time. The board noted that the cone was now gone, and when David comes back from vacation he will take a look at it to see if it warrants additional work. Mill St. was discussed and Tom noted that the town does not own the dam at the pond. The residents on either side of the road own it. Dave Crandall asked Mr. Holmes if he had written his emails to the commissioners when he was heated and he responded that, yes, he wrote them when he was upset. He walked his dog and noticed the curbing and the island and wondered why that was being done before other projects that he felt needed attention first. Dave said that he was also agitated when he read the emails that were written in what he felt was an accusatory tone which included the assumption that "snowplows are just going to hit it".

Tom explained that Ch90 is state money and the town relies heavily on it for paving because the town only gives the Highway Dept. a minimal amount for paving. The town paving budget is usually funded with \$15,000 which doesn't go very far, for instance \$15,000 may be enough to pave a driveway. Without Ch90 money, the roads would deteriorate quickly. As it is, the Board needs to prioritize roads for paving based on condition and usage

Mr. Holmes left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Time cards were discussed. There is a time clock in the garage and the Board requested employees to punch the clock. This makes record keeping easier and more efficient especially when applying



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for FEMA reimbursements. It was noted that one employee refuses to use the time clock. Discussion followed. It was agreed that Commissioners will discuss this with the employee.

At 8:10 p.m. Harold Simmons and Dana Metzler entered the meeting. They asked about the McGovern's wall project status. The commissioners explained that it has gone out to bid and 2 poles need to be relocated first - probably beginning this fall. Harold and Dana also asked about the salt shed engineering update. Tom stated they are waiting for direction from town counsel as to bid requirements. Dana asked if the brush cutter would be coming back into town, that his street needed to be trimmed. The board stated the brush cutter would be coming back when David is back from vacation. Dana and Harold left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The board discussed the wall at 78 Pond St. The homeowner is doing work and will extend the work a little further up the road to the town's benefit. The landscaper provided a price at less than \$5,000. The commissioners agreed that the road needs to be brought up a little higher than the road because of settling concerns. They will have a couple of loads of talings brought up from the Highway garage.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Atwood
Highway Secretary