



**BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF DUNSTABLE
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
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**MINUTES
August 12, 2013**

The meeting began at 7 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Mike Martin and Commissioner Dana Kinne. Absent was Commissioner Tom Dumont. Also in attendance was Secretary, Terry Atwood.

Terry gave Dana and Mike copies of FY13 budget balances provided by Kim, the town accountant. Approximately \$6,577 out of the Highway operating budget was returned to the general fund as well as \$14,443 returned from the snow removal budget. \$19,000 is being encumbered from FY13 to FY14 for paving purposes.

Financing options for the new truck was brought up by Terry. Kim had offered an alternative way to finance the truck which would require increased lease payments for FY 2015 and 2016, but allow the Board to include purchasing a sander for the new truck at this time as originally planned. The Board decided to pursue financing based on the Highway budget amount passed at town meeting as the first payment of a three year lease/purchase (originally approved by Fincom as a 4 year lease/purchase which included a sander). Upon being informed that there could only be a 3 year lease/purchase without a town meeting vote, Fincom denied the request to transfer the sander amount (\$8,500) from the remainder of the snow money into the Highway budget for FY13. It was noted that the Board of Selectmen supported, and signed, the transfer request. The sander will have to be obtained at a later date.

Mike stated that McGovern's wall repair is supposed to start this week. The state is beginning to be concerned and somewhat annoyed that the contractor, MDR, has not begun the work. It was noted that the water level and beaver issue has been mostly resolved so that the work can begin.

At 7:20 p.m., Ray Sullivan, resident at 70 Pleasant St., entered the meeting. He voiced concern and questioned why the wall at McGovern's Farm had not been started. Discussion followed, Mike and Dana brought him up to speed and he stated he sees cars at the trailer on a daily basis and wondered what they were doing. Mike stated the state is also frustrated with the contractor but work should begin this week. Ray stated he's concerned about the road being closed at the start of the school year. Mike explained that the state doesn't want to close the road and there should be 2 lanes open all times unless the crane is picking up a section, which will force 1 lane to be closed. The lanes are not supposed to be closed during morning or evening rush hours. Ray stated he did not see a work schedule for this project online. Ray left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Tom Mahanna of Tighe and Bond presented initial engineering plans for a new salt shed at the existing location. Placement of the salt shed was determined to reflect the sun's placement. Because this would place the salt shed opening at the exact opposite of the existing opening, it would make it a little more difficult for trucks to navigate their salt deliveries. The Board agreed that the new salt shed should face the same way as the existing shed. It was agreed that the sun's placement was not as important to them as



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the trucks being able to get in and out of the site easily. Mike will call Tom Mahanna to discuss. Mike also noted that another 12' would have to be added to the proposed footprint to make room for wooden supports, or outriggers.

The Board noted several recent driveway permit applications. Mike suggested that a possible amendment or requirement be made to the driveway bylaw. Because several times homeowners have not paved the required 15' apron, the Board would like to impose a \$2,000 bond at the time the occupancy permit Highway signature is requested, with a 90 day period given to the homeowner to pave the driveway. If the 90 days passes and no paving is done, the bond will allow the town to get it paved. Board requested Terry to run this idea by town counsel.

Hall St., Cross St. and Kemp St. paving projects were considered. It was noted that there are several areas on Hall St. in need of repair. A skim coat and gradual berm will be placed in front of 259 Hall, where water puddles, as well as a slight apron placed before Camp Massapoag on the right hand side of the road where there tends to be washouts. The big rock at the end of Hall St. and beginning of Old Dunstable Rd. needs to be broken up back up to the stone wall. Dana has talked to a contractor about this and it can be done without any negative disturbances. This could possibly be done in conjunction with other work in town, to make up an entire day for a contractor. It was noted that Groton Highway stated interest in paving Old Dunstable Rd. at the same time as Hall St. Board agreed that drainage needs to be addressed on Cross St. as well as catch basins raised on Adams St.. Hall St., Cross St., and Kemp St. should be paved before school starts.

Day to day operations was discussed and it was agreed that it is the Highway foreman's decision who should be put on call.

Mike suggested a structural engineer visit and inspect the Highway garage to let the commissioners know if the structure is sound for future budgeting purposes. Dana agreed.

The minutes of May 28, 2013 were accepted as written. The next meeting date is to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Atwood
Highway Secretary