



**BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS  
TOWN OF DUNSTABLE  
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET  
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313  
(978) 649-4514 X227  
FAX (978) 649-8893  
roads@dunstable-ma.gov**

MINUTES  
4/14/2016

In attendance were Chairman Mike Martin, Commissioners Peter Gove and Wes Goss, and Secretary Terry Atwood. Also in attendance were Krystal Koester and Gary Grosser, residents at 340 Forest St. Sue Psaledakis was also in attendance. Tracey Hutton joined the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

The Board discussed the proposed driveway at 340 Forest St. The Board made sure the residents knew those stormwater regulations prohibit any water runoff into the street. Discussion followed. If the driveway is not being paved immediately, the Board will hold a check for \$1500 from the residents until it gets paved, or the Board will use the money to pave it. The residents agreed. The Board approved the driveway permit and Mike signed it. Krystal and Gary left the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Tracey stated that the bond for Alexander Way under the Board of Selectmen has expired and the road is still not complete. This bond is to protect against damage to town roads from construction activity. Tracey will look into this further.

The Board discussed the Complete Streets Policy just adopted by the Board of Selectmen. Tracey explained the policy. The commissioners voiced their concern about Ch 90 funds being considered in future projects under this policy as a funding source. Tracey reassured them that their authority would not be lost and they would have the final decision on whether or not Ch 90 funds would be used for projects. The Ch90 funds would be 'considered' along with other funds but there is no obligation. The Selectmen would sign contracts for projects under this policy, but the road commissioners would retain their authority regarding Ch 90 funds. Wes asked Tracey what the big picture is for this policy. She replied that this policy hopes to provide all modes of transportation 'appropriate' for communities. It is to be applied or 'molded' to individual communities.

Discussion moved to the Main St. road repair project currently being considered by the state. This project does not fall under the Complete Streets policy. Wes stated he is concerned about safety and Mike stated that the road is sliding into the wetlands.

Wes made a motion to accept the Complete Streets Policy. Mike seconded the motion. All in favor, voted unanimous. Policy accepted.

The Main St. road repair project was discussed. Mike stated he would like to keep the side across from the cemetery the same as the McGovern wall project. If everything is added in, including approximately 1' on shoulder on top of the 5' shoulder on both sides (10' total) plus 22' of paved lanes in addition to sidewalks on both sides and bike paths there isn't enough room.

Wes stated that would be approximately 38' which is too wide. Mike stated it would go into the wetlands.

Wes stated that waivers are needed for sidewalks and bike paths. Mike stated that at the last meeting most attendees were against the sidewalks and bike path. Mike stated his preference is to get the road repaired at the expense of the state and he doesn't care if sidewalks and bike paths are included in that plan or not, as long as the road is repaired and the town



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doesn't have to fund the approximately \$4 million cost. His priority is that the safety of the road is considered first followed by sidewalks and bike paths.

Sue stated her position that sidewalks are needed and should be part of the project. Mike stated that he isn't against sidewalks, he just wants the road repaired at the expense of the state versus the town and if the state wants sidewalks and bike paths he's for it. Mike's preference is a paved shoulder on the cemetery side and no shoulder on the other side to keep it like McGovern's. Stormwater regulations MS4 will require catch basins by the sidewalk which need to be cleaned and disposed of properly as it's considered hazardous waste. This is an expensive cost to the town. Sue stated that this is a state project so stormwater isn't costing the town more. Tracey, Peter and Mike responded that it's the town's responsibility to fund and maintain per stormwater regulations. Discussion followed. Sue stated her opinion that sidewalks are safer with a curb as people are up from the road and out of the way.

Mike asked why they couldn't compromise with a sidewalk shoulder on the cemetery side with no curbing and not risen. Wes stated he personally doesn't like them. Mike again stated that he isn't sure what will happen but wants the road repaired whether it includes sidewalks or not. Sue questioned if the project had to go to town meeting. Tracey stated that it did not, that the state would approve it if there was no political discourse. Sue questioned if the public was aware that if there are no sidewalks there would be no project. Tracey stated that yes, this did come up at the last meeting and Alan had mentioned that the road would slide into the wetlands if sidewalks. Discussion followed. Tracey stated keeping the sidewalks is beneficial and is the state's preference. Mike again stated that the condition of the road is his main concern and if that includes sidewalks and the state funds the project that would be fine. Sue stated she wants the shoulders gone. Sue left the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Board discussed the proposed FY17 budget. Peter noted that the highway foreman and 2 laborers are the only full time town employees to only receive 2% wage increases and it doesn't seem fair. Discussion followed.

The minutes of 1/27/2016 were accepted as written.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Atwood  
Secretary