

## **MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday June 29, 2015. @ MSD OFFICE 43 West Bow Street Franklin, NH**

**Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM. and adjourned at 10:20 A.M.**

**Present were Councilor Clarenbach (Chair) ; Councilor Starkweather; Councilor Desrochers; Councilor Dzjuna; City Manager Dragon; Finance Director Milner; Operations Manager Turcotte and Director Sullivan.**

### **Item #1 - Discussion on the short term plan for roads in 2015 Construction season:**

**The City Manager explained that annually, we watch our bottom line of the City budget and department heads meet regularly with the Finance Director every March, April, May and June, performing projected balances based on what has taken place both unexpectedly and planned up to June 30th . On June 18, 2015, the Department Heads, Finance Director and City Manager met to set and agree on predetermined priority projects for every department and consensus was reached unanimously with guidance from Elizabeth and Judie.**

**Brian was then asked by the Manager to explain his proposed work using \$88,000 of FY 15 encumbered funds. Brian explained the departments overall objective is to stretch the money and make the roads ride able. Scott mentioned this was a good approach for the end of every year but it would not take care of Franklin's 62 miles of road. Brian explained the street the department gets almost all complaints about is the condition Prospect Street. But the group agreed that at a cost of about \$500,000; it made more sense to spend the \$88,000 on various high maintenance shorter roads . That is when the group discussed alternatives to be discussed in agenda item #2.**

**Brian went on to list the roads we "hoped" we can resurface, with some road sections also being reclaimed, this summer with the F.Y. 15 road encumbrance \$:**

- > 750 feet of Old South Main Street.**
- > the first 858 feet paved section of lower Flaghole Road.**
- > the last 800 feet of Nelson Street necessary because in June as a result of the winter freeze, the City crew has had to install a new water line due to inadequate pressure to six homes.**
- > 165 feet of Davis Street Extension which was all torn up last winter due to a frozen water line.**
- > 266 feet of the bad section if Industrial Park Road (top of hill)**
- > Possibly Lincoln Street depending on funding?**
- > In the fall with F.Y.16 funds we also anticipate spending \$9,025 /recycling the existing pavement on Chance Pond Rd. between Carr Street to Route 11 turning it back to a dirt road.**

**Item #2 - Longer term planning:**

There were various scenarios discussed all involving utilizing the \$68,000 annually of retired bond money now available from the Ward One Bridge combined with some annual appropriation from the Transportation Improvement Fund, Possibly \$40,000 annually. Scott and Bob also mentioned the need to do some sidewalk work and tear up older sidewalks that are in disrepair if the street has a sidewalk on both sides and not replace them.

Under one scenario the group discussed the concept was to a pay as you go making this appropriation part of the annual budget. A second scenario was to do a five or ten year bond of either \$500,000 or \$1,000,000 and undertake most of Prospect Street and depending on the amount borrowed deal with some other priority roads and when Northern Pass comes pay off the bond and then get on a regular 20 year rotation. Brian explained to keep City Streets on a twenty year paving rotation doing three to four miles per year would cost about \$800,000 per year. The group also expressed concern that the entire length of Central Street was going to need work in the near future as well as, many others.

All present expressed the need to get on some type of regular program. The committee requested and Judie agreed to look into money from the upcoming bond bank, providing five and ten year bond amortization schedules to possibly pay for Prospect Street. This information would be made available for a MSD Committee meeting in August or September of 2015 providing them enough time to bring the concept to the City Council. All four Councilor's commented at one point or another during this discussion, that neglecting our roads was ruining City Equipment and residents vehicles and we may possibly never catch up at the rate we are progressing.

**Item #3 - Other Business:**

> Cross Street Tank work to begin in early July and work to last about 45 days. Contract was awarded to Marcel Payeur Company of Maine.

> Route 3 Water Main Relocation Project to begin in September and work involving the water main portion would be one of the first part of the Route 3 Reconstruction Project. R.D. Edmunds is low bidder and expected to be awarded the entire road reconstruction project which includes the water main.

> Haynes Brook Culvert Replacement Project is awaiting Governor and Council approval.

> Brian expressed concern that this past winter did a number on the water system and roads and this combined with the resulting increased workload was further complicated this spring with a shortage of manpower mainly due to three employees leaving the department and three others being out on non job related medical leaves which have left us six people short so we are way behind.

> Water rate increase: Brian mentioned the MSD Committee took up this issue and he would be preparing a report on the Water and Sewer Funds. The report is on the City website and provided to the City Council with my objective being to provide everyone with adequate information on the status of both funds.