Fremont Highway Study Committee Approved 03/28/2011

The meeting was called to order 6:04 pm at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Mark Pitkin Road Agent, Steve Harms, Leon Holmes Jr, and Greta St.Germain, Selectmen's Representative.

Minutes from January 31, 2011 were reviewed and Holmes motioned to accept them. Harms seconded. The vote was approved.

The Winter Maintenance Procedures is a draft in progress; more revisions have been inserted as follows:

- Hours have been removed to allow only the dates of Nov 15th thru April 15th
- Do not clean off vehicles in Town right-of-way
- Snow pushed across Town road ways cannot create a hazard to oncoming vehicles
- Posting the Frost Ban will be at the discretion of the Road Agent

Removing any reference to acceptable or unacceptable snow markers, therefore nothing is allowed in the town Right of way during the Winter Parking Ban.

A final Draft will be presented to the Committee prior to Selectmen's review and approval.

St.Germain presented a copy of Hampton Falls "Frost Ban Notice" for review. The Committee made a few changes and will revise and present to the Selectmen to possibly adopt as policy. A copy of the final draft will be presented to Chief Janvrin for review.

Working Frost Ban Drafted as follows: Frost Ban Notice

PURPOSE: In order to prevent heavy vehicles from damaging town roads whenever the frost thaws within town roadways, the Board of Selectmen Hereby enacts the following ordinance in accordance with the provisions of New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated 231:191.

POSTING OF NOTICE: The Highway Road Agent shall notify the Board of Selectmen when the frost begins to thaw in the town roadways and the Board of Selectmen shall authorize the Highway Agent to post notices of these conditions and the weight limit on all town roads.

WEIGHT LIMIT: No person shall be permitted to operate any vehicle which exceeds a gross weight of 10 tons on any town road, with the exception of local deliveries. This shall be posted in accordance with this ordinance.

VIOLATION: Persons violating this ordinance will be subject to the penalties described in RSA Chapter 231:191.

INCONSISTENCY WITH OTHER ORDINANCES: All ordinances or parts of ordinances, resolutions, regulations or other documents inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

End of document.

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Committee discussed the "No Thru Trucking Ordinance." Pitkin would like to review policy at the next meeting. St.Germain will obtain a copy to present to the group for possible revisions.

There was discussion about the Highway budget in light of the severe winter the Town has endured this season. Pitkin is concerned that he will not have the funding to continue with projects and road repair. Tuesdays Town vote will determine the direction needed to be taken in 2011.

Bridges:

Topic turned to on going discussion of Bridges. Pitkin had made a connection with Nancy Mayville at the NH DOT. Further consultation will occur in the spring.

Pitkin mentioned that there may be funding available through the state for bridge repairs, he was informed that the ratio is approximately 80% from the State, and 20% from Town Funds.

Pitkin had obtained Bridge reports from the Town Administrator. The State had provided the Town of Fremont with these reports, on or around October 10, 2010. Two of our Bridges are on the State's red list: Martin Road and Scribner Road.

Pitkin reported that the Leavitt Road culverts are considered by the State to be an actual bridge. It is two side by side cement 24" culverts. Pitkin feels this would be a location perfect for a hydrology study. It may need a bridge, but this would be determined with a hydrology study.

Other roads where discussed for potential hydrology study, where culverts exist. One was Sandown Road near Victoria Farm Road. This is an old hand-built rock culvert.

A hydrology study consists of drilling a hole into the ground to produce a sample of the underground materials.

Pitkin suggested to the Committee that a 15 Ton Limit be posted, along with a No Thru Trucking sign on Scribner at Turners Dam.

Pitkin mentioned that he has contacted Dean at the State DOT Division 6 Maintenance Shed in Kingston to inform him of the severe pot hole issue on Route 107 and Beede Hill Road. It was relayed to Pitkin that State Highway Crews are extremely busy at this time. He said he would be coming out the next day.

The Annual Bridge Report also stated the State of NH recommends seasonal pressure washing of the Bridge rails every possible spring and summer. Holmes mentioned that an adequate pressure washer could be purchased from 300.00 to 400.00 dollars.

Committee discussed the ongoing water issue at the exit/entrance of the Town Library on Jackie Bernier Drive. Pitkin discussed this water problem with Dean at Division 6 who acknowledged and agreed that this issue should be addressed. Pitkin drew a sketch showing the Easement and Snowmobile trail that would be affected, and how the catch basin should be installed.

No further decision was made on the water problem.

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Harms presented a Roadside Memorial Policy that The Town of Hampstead has adopted. Hampstead has had many challenges and safety concerns with the variety of items being placed at these sights. Many items could be potentially harmful to their residents and children. Due to the time in the evening the Committee table further review of this policy until the next meeting scheduled for March 28, 2011.

The meeting concluded at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Greta St.Germain