

Town of New Castle, New Hampshire
Capital Improvement Plan (“CIP”) Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: May 20, 2014

Call to Order: 4:30 pm

Location: New Castle Town Hall Meeting Room

Present: *Committee Members:* Jeffrey Hughes (Chair), Tom Smith, Richard White

Invited Guests: Fire Chief David Blanding, Steve Tabbutt, David McGuckin (Selectman)

Members of the Public: None

The Meeting was called to order by Jeffrey Hughes, Chairman at 4:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee reviewed the Minutes of the previous meeting. The Minutes were approved as written.

Discussion of Town Road Maintenance Program

Mr. Tabbutt reported that the Town has engaged Derrick Hill. Pike Industries, Inc., to review the current condition of Town roads. Mr. Tabbutt provided an overview of Mr. Hill’s findings and recommendations.

In general, the overall conditions of New Castle’s roads are “fair to good”. His assessment was that the majority of the roads are in fair to good shape, but these roads are beginning to show signs of fatigue and stress with reflective cracking both horizontally and vertically as well as Alligator cracking.

He recommended:

- 2014 – aggressive crack sealing operation on all New Castle roads by a qualified contractor who will adhere to the NHDOT specification. If funds are available, some spot shimming of roadways is also recommended.
- Future – Development of 5/10 year plan that prioritizes pavement preservation projects and project costs.

Mr. Tabbutt discussed the findings and reported that there are sufficient funds in the current road budget this year to start this project, with some potential costs carrying over into 2015. Mr Tabbutt recommended moving forward.

Following a discussion, the Committee endorsed the findings and approved moving forward with an aggressive crack sealing program for all Town roads.

Other Business

Acoustics at Town Recreation Center:

Selectman McGuckin proposed the need for better acoustics in the Town Recreation Center. He explained the issues on sound due to having all hard surfaces (walls, floor, ceiling). He estimated the cost of engaging a sound/acoustic engineer to be approximately \$30K-\$50K.

The consensus of the Committee was that the Recreation Center is a Town asset, and that the Town should move forward with hiring a sound/acoustic engineer.

2015 V&E Fund Budget Allocation:

Tom Smith reported that during the Town Meeting last week, the sum of \$126,000 was approved and allocated to be added to the V&E Fund for the coming year.

Next Meeting

The CIP Committee agreed to meet again in the Fall for the purpose of developing a long range plan for town road upgrades. Steve Tabbutt agreed to come prepared with a preliminary inventory of roads for this meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Jeffrey Hughes