



APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
JOINT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 17, 2014, 7:30 p.m.
Northborough Fire Department, 11 Pierce St.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Appropriations Committee

Elaine Kelly, Janice Hight, Dan McInnis, Rick Nieber, Anthony Poteete and Bob D'Amico

Financial Planning Committee

Jason Perreault, Roger Leland, David DeVries, Heidi Bourque Gleason, Richard Smith, and Mike Hodge

Also Present

Leslie Rutan, Chair, Board of Selectmen
John Coderre, Town Administrator
Dan Nason, DPW Director
Fred Litchfield, Town Engineer
Gordon Daring, P.E., Vanasse Hangen Brustlin
Brian Brosnan, Project Manager, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

DRAFT PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN – VHB PRESENTATION

Gordon Daring, P.E, VHB presented the draft Pavement Management Study which included VHB's methodology for the study, current road conditions and a budget analysis. He explained that Pavement Management is the practice of planning for pavement maintenance and rehabilitation with the goal of maximizing the value and life of a pavement network.

Mr. Daring reviewed the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) evaluation, which is a scale of 0-100. All the roads in Northborough were reviewed by trained observers using the standard evaluation process. Northborough's average PCI is approximately 71 with 12.9% of roads rated 0-60, 27.2% rated 61-72, 20.1% rated 73-85, 18.8% rated 86-92, and 3.5% rated 93-100.

Mr. Daring reviewed the typical pavement deterioration curve and explained that the cost of preventative maintenance of a road that is fair to good averages about \$1 per yard. However, once a road is in disrepair, costs escalate to \$18 –\$22 per yard. The point is that preventative maintenance provides the most "bang for the buck."

Mr. Daring reviewed three funding scenarios and the resulting impact on the Town's overall PCI.

- The first funding plan followed the Town's historic level of using just \$475,000 in State Chapter 90 funds.
- The second funding plan of \$1.1 million annually attempts to determine the level of funding needed to maintain the current PCI.
- The third funding plan of \$2 million annually would improve the overall PCI over the next ten years.

The recommendation is for the Town to fund at least the \$1.1 million annually if the overall road conditions are to be maintained and not deteriorate further over the next 10 years. The consultants recommend budgeting adequate funds, expanding the maintenance program and providing for construction inspection services during roadwork.

The Committee discussed the benefits of the Pavement Management Plan and the various options for funding the middle option of \$1.1 million in order to preserve the current roadway infrastructure.

By consensus, both the Appropriations Committee members and the Financial Planning Committee members agreed to review options in FY16 in order to create a sustainable funding approach for the Pavement Management Plan. Committee members were pleased with the quality and level of the analysis and thanked the staff for their planning efforts.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

J. Hight moved to adjourn the Appropriations Committee; R. Nieber seconded; motion was unanimous.

R. Smith moved to adjourn the Financial Planning Committee; M. Hodge seconded; motion was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Coderre
Town Administrator

Documents used during meeting

1. Pavement Management Plan Presentation.