

**Road Management Committee  
March 22, 2022, 6: 30 p.m.  
Henniker Highway Garage**

Members in attendance: Leo Aucoin, Highway Superintendent; Leon Parker; Michael Flecchia; Danny Aucoin; Bill Marko; Tia Hooper;

Guest: Diane Kimball, Town Administrator

*Meeting started at 6:30 p.m.*

Leo Aucoin, Highway Superintendent provided an update on projects:

He noted that there is a contractor meeting tomorrow for the Liberty Hill Road Culvert Project.

Recap of Town Meeting Road Expendable Trust funding ensued.

The Highway Dept currently monitoring dirt roads. Ray Road there is a soft spot. Worst road is Line Hill. Culvert froze because the culvert extends beyond the tree line to the property and the snowbank never covered it to insulate it. In event of heavy snow, which would fill the ditch. Most times the water travels underneath and doesn't build a lot of ice. The water went down around the corner the water got underneath and blew out a section. We went out this morning and the grader made it worse. We have coned it off to let it dry out. Down below there are miscellaneous ruts. He noted while crews were there a homeowner came out and the highway department did receive the okay to cut trees on the frontage of the roadway.

Monday out grading Liberty Hill, lower part of Colby, and Ezekiel Smith Road.

Leon Parker advised that the section in front of his house looks great.

Eversource sent two-line trucks over the posted limit out on Line Hill yesterday in order to fix a pole in the woods, which really hurt the road. They are coming back tomorrow to finish the job.

Contractors have been calling the highway superintendent to notify him if they are going out on dirt roads for deliveries to confirm which direction and to notify him prior to exceeding limits.

Move forward on road projects.

The Highway Superintendent advised that he spoke with the Selectmen about getting RFP out for drainage system downtown to line culverts. A sink hole has formed in the sidewalk, and it was 6' deep. It was an 18" pipe with no bottom. Crews had to dig back across the sidewalks and remove a few limbs to get equipment in to repair the sink hole. It took machines and a lot of hand work to replace the pipe. The more you worked it the more it fell apart. It was put in 1986-87.

A question was asked about how the issue formed.

The Highway Superintendent advised that the water came from the sidewalk. The water is compressed, the water was chasing the concrete down the sidewalk and got into the sidewalk, chasing the structure down and dragging dirt with it and it finally collapsed and a whole appeared. Important before any cracks to get these cured. Surface water is the problem. The fix to this is slip line the pipes.

The project will entail excavating a hole in the street and put a structure in. The structure is a 20' long they will need to cut the pipe to push slip in and fill voids with grout so that water can't undermine the structure. First thing is to camera the pipes. Most are typically not caved in. Pipes are solid across the top only the last 1/3 of the pipe 4:30-7:30 is where you see the damage. The dome will hold form but if the water can run through and one little hole will drag material and be a sink hole.

Tomorrow at 9:00 am there will be a pre-bid meeting with contractors and Leo and Mike Vignale will go look at main street and shaker hill road where there is a running stream, 3 repairs have already been conducted in this area.

***Borden/114 drainage work***

State is providing the pipe and the town of Henniker is doing the work.

***Next phase of Old Hillsborough Road:***

We have much better price on pipe. Lane enterprise out of NY which had the bid for the state. They are accepting orders and 8.77 a foot and the next best price was 13 and change. It was promised that we would have the pipe in April, but certain sizes would be limited.

Salt bin has been filled 72 a ton is the current price to take advantage of the lower price.

10 loads were added to the bin.

A question was asked about Old Hillsboro Road and if there was anything left for plans. The highway superintendent advised no everything else is being done by the Highway Department.

TDS still has wires that highway needs to confirm that they can pull. The TDS phone line comes all the way down to McComish property and then back tracks up Freeman Colby Road. From that point on they don't have any one on the line. The wires run right up the side of the road. The Superintendent is working with TDS to see what he can reset.

We will have to box out in front of the McComish's. Start at the bottom of the hill and work up to pull drain up one side until McComish's. The road then will have drainage on both sides with concrete headwalls on uphill side. You don't box down below 18" Frost will move 4' down you can't prevent frost. The variation of materials in our roadways plus tree overhang. These old roads were built on whatever was there. We do not have that kind of money or time to dig down 4' on every road. The biggest things is to get down and cut the water off to help minimize the movement. By the time Busby paved it was after a 3" rainstorm late in the season. We had already started the road and we were pushing to move the job forward and restored faith in residents in regard to the highway department.

Discussion on road construction quotes and price of asphalt, which is based on the liquid asphalt ensued and then turned to upcoming road projects.

Echo lane – intersection of hemlock corner loop to take some boulders out

Prospect Street – Placement of Hot mix at the foot of lower prospect street. There is a sewer line that needs to be replaced that will have to go into engineering next year.

Old Concord Road -Between Ramsdell Road and the Cemetery: Mill and fill need to get down to the layer that is peeling off.

Davison Road: Shim and Overlay. Leon noted that the water that sits on the uphill side of Davison is now eating away at the road. Crown is no less than 3% now.

Foster Hill - We will have to wait and see on Foster Hill for now. Tree removal and clearing. If we can fall them, we will take them because it is cheaper for us. If there are lines or walls, then we will contract it out.

***Dug Well off side of the Road (Old West Hopkinton & Highland Drive)***

Dug Well, Diane advised she contact DES Well division. Who has the authority to tell them they must fill the well in. DES will get back to Diane and she will let us know their guidance and how to proceed.

The well is just off the road. Who has the authority Old West Hopkinton Road and Highland Drive? It is 30' from the center of the road.

Diane made sure the town has no liability in it, we have letters out and will follow up with the homeowner.

***Discussion regarding upgrading the RMC Study & Report***

What do we need to do to upgrade our study and report.

At next meeting go through the excel sheet to upgrade the report.

Discussion of traffic study results ensued.

***River Road – No Thru Traffic Signs***

Highway Superintendent Aucoin noted the biggest thing is put end to river road thing. We need to implement with Hopkinton no thru traffic on river road. Diane advised she will look into the progress made and try to coordinate with Hopkinton to get the signs posted.

Bid opening first of the month for the crushing bid.

Liberty Hill Road Bid opening is on April 6, 2022

Chipper came in and will be picked up tomorrow afternoon.

Ford 550 – should be in a couple months.

***Approval of Minutes from February 22, 2022:***

Bill Marko Motion to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2022, Road Management Committee meeting. Danny Aucoin. All were in favor approved unanimously.

***VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2022.***

Tia Hooper moved to adjourn. Bill Marko seconded the motion. All were in favor, approved unanimously.

*Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 p.m.*