

**Town of Damariscotta
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, September 3, 2008**

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Public Hearings-

1. Sidewalk Drainage (see Call to Order section for attendance)

J. Pinkham introduced Travis Prior, and asked the audience to hold all questions until the end of the presentation, unless they had to get the question answered immediately.

Prior briefed the audience on the previous public hearings. Stated initially the engineers were charged with locating the town's right of way, easement area see about constructing 5' sidewalks, relocate utility poles and maintain 2-way traffic flow. Since then, and few public hearing later, has a presentation to show on street parking at a 30 & 60 degree angle, going from 2-way traffic to one way and then the flow of that traffic. With 30 degree angle parking you do not get any additional parking, however with the 60 degree parking, you get an additional 15 spaces. This would also have the scenario of a 3' sidewalk, 9' parking, and 18' travel lane. Wright Pierce doesn't recommend 18' travel lane, it will leave the Town with what is there now, it's tighter in some spots than others, do-able, but W.P recommends an 11' travel lane for one lane.

Resident asked why the Board was trying angled parking on Elm St. That is more designed for Main Streets in other bigger towns, or parking lots, not on a residential street.

J. Pinkham informed the resident that at the last public hearing the residents of Elm stated they wanted to see all the scenarios, which is what Prior is here tonight for.

MK Reny reminded residents that standards were suggested, not required, so the standards are not what have to be followed.

A. Lalime believed when the roads are built to standard that encouraged people to speed down the roadway. Also asked if this thought process the Board was following was more for accommodating summer and the extra traffic/people.

Wilbur pointed out that winter is also a factor because of the plowing and snow removal.

MK Reny felt simply talking to the contractor who deals with the snow removal and have them shovel or truck the snow somewhere else...could is a simple solution to the winter concerns.

Zinser pointed out that this would require amendments to the contracts and trucking off snow, and trucking off snow could become costly. Also keep in mind that there are not a lot of places to just truck the snow. We can only use the overboard discharge for the immediate surrounding areas.

Drum felt 9' wide was a high number, questioned if W.P has looked at compact or sub-compact parking.

Prior felt the width of the parking lot could be changed, allowing more room for travel lanes, however changing the length of the space would not increase spaces, because the amount you could cut would be minimal. (2' or so each)

J. Pinkham asked the residents if they were all in agreement that the traffic stay 2-way, and then worry about having 3', 4', or 5' sidewalks, but one-way traffic is definitely off the table.

Residents seemed to like the 3' sidewalk with the snow being removed from them in the winter.

McLean asked Hagar if the sidewalk was 3', then they would need to be cleared manually.

Hagar confirmed they would be hand shoveled.

Sproul asked if the parking spaces at the beginning of Elm St could be left out altogether, and also wondered about the parking space directly in front of her building at the beginning of Church St. Why is there a space there, but not in front of Hulls' office? People park on sidewalk and make it difficult to get into front door.

J. Pinkham asked Mary Bowers what the water district's plan was as far as the water line that runs under Church St.

Bowers stated as the Towns plans are firmed up, the water district will work with the same engineering firm to get this done with the same timing. We are ready to go.

Stelzer asked Bowers if the Board makes a decision on Church St is the water district ready with a time schedule, is the money approved, when will they be ready to go forward.

Zinser responded the Town and water district are waiting and hoping to find out from the CDBG is coming our way. He also informed everyone that there would be no ground work until late summer, or early fall 2009.

J. Pinkham asked what the cost was associated with the options presented tonight.

Prior said with a 3' sidewalk, on-street parking, 11' travel lanes, keeping in mind the repaving portions of some driveways; Church St should cost around \$100,000, Elm St. will probably be about 20%-30% higher.

Zinser believed \$327,000 for what is being presented now to include sidewalk, drainage, & poles, and \$227,000 if you take out the widening for Church St.

Zinser also asked the Board and residents for clarification, do we want a 3', 4', or 5' sidewalk.

Prior informed the group that the difference from 3' to 5' is about \$6,000.

J. Pinkham also clarified the result was to keep Elm St status quo.

McLean stated he walks the village often and believes a 3' sidewalk works, a 4' sidewalk would work too; he would like to see 4' sidewalks and if later on the Town and its residents felt Elm should become one-way, a few signs, and that can be accomplished. This is a village, and we don't want to lose sight of that. He agrees- status quo on Elm with repairs is what he would like to see.

V. Pinkham recalled Prior stating there would be instances where W.P would not 'sign off' on the project if certain guidelines/standards were not followed.

Prior did not want to say what his firm would or would not sign off on.

Resident stated she would like Elm to stay the way it was and just fix what is already there.

Stelzer noted that he wasn't sure what the problem was V. Pinkham and Prior were speaking of in concern to signing off, however he would like to proceed the way the Town wants to, not how a firm may or may not sign off on a project; having said that he expressed appreciation for W.P with the informative e-mails, and speaking with the residents and Board at several meetings. Stelzer believes one-way traffic is bad for the residents and for the businesses, he would like to keep the 2-way traffic, and is in favor of 3' sidewalk, we should not have to have an impact on rock walls, lawns, or other personal property. For Church St, keep the same and just fix the drainage.

J. Pinkham felt the group has decided on the traffic, parking and drainage situations have been agreed upon, now do the Town and residents want 3' or 4' sidewalks.

A resident stated 5' was just too wide, would like to see 3 or 4, but happier with 3.

Another resident would like to see 4'.

A business owner suggested 3.5'

After some discussion on the sizes, Hagar stated the money the town saves by doing a 3' rather than a 5' ; they will turn around and pay a contractor that in one year alone snow removal.

Prior will go back and prepare a visual for 3' 4' or 5' sidewalks.

J. Pinkham closed the public hearing at 7:16

III. Call To Order

The Board of Selectmen met at the Municipal Facility on Wednesday, **September 3, 2008** to conduct town affairs. Chairman Josh Pinkham called the meeting to order at 7:18p.m. Members present were Richard McLean, Vicki Pinkham, Dave Wilbur and Edwin M. Stelzer. Staff present was Town Manager, Greg Zinser, Town Clerk, Cheryl Pinkham, others present were Travis Prior of Wright Pierce Engineering, Mary Bowers of GSBSD, several Elm, Church St, and few Hodgdon St residents; (Richard Sundberg, Noah & Valerie Seaberg, , Atherton & Betty Noyes, Jenny Begin, Amy Lalime, Peter Drum, Sigrid Sproul, Jim Campbell, Brent Hollowell, and a few local business owners were also in attendance.

On motion of Stelzer/McLean moved to have Church St remain 2-way traffic with 3' or 4' sidewalks, fix the drainage, and keep the same parallel style parking to have minimal impact on peoples' personal private property. For Elm St, also keep 2-way traffic, with 3' or 4' sidewalks, also to have minimal impact on peoples' personal private property...contingent upon availability of the funds.

Vote 5, 0, 0.

IV. Official Action (took agenda items out of order, therefore roman numerals will not match with the BOS agenda)

1. Bid Opening RDP 2009-03

Zinser stated the Town received 2 bids: Marriners and Hagar Enterprises, asked if there was a representative from Marriners here, and stated there was a stipulation in the RFP that a representative be at

the opening. Opened the bid from Hagar for \$530,250; recommended to the Board that they not accept or open Marriners bid, due to no one from the company showed up at the meeting.

V.Pinkham asked if this was for all of Back Meadow Rd to Nobleboro.

Hagar said it was.

J. Pinkham wants the subject tabled, the Town doesn't have that kind of money, and right now we have about \$140,500.

Wilbur agreed that the Town didn't have the money to complete the entire road, but what could be done to fix the road with the amount we do have.

Hagar said some of the road does need to be shimmed, while other parts are okay. Can do a per unit cost, best way to reduce time and the best for your money is 12 tons gets a lot of road done, and you reduce the thickness from 2" to 1 1/2".

V.Pinkham asked if portions of the road needed to be rebuilt.

Hagar responded that Standpipe to Bus. Rt 1 is much worse than Standpipe to Nobleboro town line.

V.Pinkham asked how long \$530,250 would get them, how long will that last the Town.

Hagar felt 10 years.

J. Pinkham suggested rejecting the bid, and go out in spring, maybe there would be more interest.

Stelzer asked Hagar if there were any parts so bad that needed the Town to do something right now.

J. Pinkham said the culverts are the main issue.

Hagar believed you would lose the base of the road, especially the Standpipe to Route One section if the Board doesn't do something within a year; the worst spot is at the corner of Bob Elliot, and Jim Hall, homes.

McLean told the Board the estimate was priced at unit cost, therefore the Board can calculate and come up with a plan for the money that we do have available.

J. Pinkham would like to see the RFP sent out again in April and see what response you get then. This is expensive and we just can't afford it right now.

Hagar asked the Board to proceed with caution, the mix is going up by \$15.00 a ton in a few days, even to just fix some of it would be a huge amount extra in the next few days if you wait. He is not trying to sway the Board, just giving them the information that is available to him, so they can make the best decision.

Wilbur thinks the Board needs to still look at the bad sections of the road, or this could be a bigger problem later.

J. Pinkham said he asked before why the paving bid had not already gone out, and said the Town Manager told him this could wait until spring, so let's wait until spring.

On motion of J. Pinkham/V. Pinkham moved to reject the bid and go out to bid again next year.

Stelzer agreed that waiting until spring the price might go down, but it could also go up, if there are areas that need to be done, we should do it, if we wait, it could make it much worse. Stelzer asked Hagar what the scheduling was like for this.

Hagar felt the middle of next week the project could be taken care of, his crew was already there.

Wilbur asked if Hagar knew the length of the 'bad spots'.

Hagar didn't off the top of his head.

Wilbur asked if the work was done on the bad areas only, how long would that last the Town.

Hagar said \$150,000 would do 1/4 of the road; \$50,000 would go quite a way. 2" would do from Bus Rt. One to Standpipe.

Zinser felt reducing the scope from 2" to 1 1/2" or fix the must be fixed areas is a good way to go.

V.Pinkham said once you reduce the layer, that also reduces the road life.

J. Pinkham felt, driving the road every day, this could be put off for a while.

V.Pinkham asked Hagar if the road will hold until spring.

Hagar suggested spot checking.

Stelzer thought if the worst was Standpipe to Route One, then we should fix that to quality, and not do the job half baked, or the expense will be more than the \$530,250.

Vote: 3, 2, 0 (Wilbur, Stelzer opposed)

McLean added, we will re-bid in April and if we have to fix bad spots, then we make those needed repairs.

2. Act on Contract Addendum-Hagar Enterprises

J. Pinkham read aloud the ditching addendum for erosion control was to cover the \$1,335.00 over and above the contract price, includes 24 yards diamond stone, excavation time, labor, fabric, and then asked when the ditching was taking place.

Hagar said 2-3 hours on one culvert, the rest are done.

McLean was concerned about the rain forecasted.

Hagar assured his crew would be done by noon time tomorrow.

J. Pinkham asked how much for jute mat.

Hagar said a couple hundred.

On motion of McLean/Stelzer moved to approve the erosion control addendum.

Vote 5, 0, 0.

J. Pinkham asked Hagar to possibly come back and fix any work that may be undone by this weekend rains.

3. Act on Sidewalk-bicycle plan of June 2008

Zinser recommends the Board include this plan into the Comprehensive Plan; it helps to give it more credence. Zinser is looking for Board approval for this.

On motion of V. Pinkham/McLean moved to accept the June 2008 bicycle plan into the comprehensive plan.

Vote: 5, 0, 0.

4. Act on Orton Foundation Grant Agreement

Zinser told the Board that the contract has not changed, however the work plan has changed, but again, the contract has not changed.

On motion of McLean/Stelzer moved to approve the Orton contract as written and authorize Zinser to sign the contract.

McLean stated he initially had an issue with the 2nd paragraph which gave Orton an opportunity to walk away, but any other party wanted to leave it was not acceptable. Now, though, all parties have the same out-option.

Wilbur would like to see the budget on this, (it was passed to him and he was good with the budget).

Vote 5, 0, 0

5. Act on Municipal Quit Claim Deed

Zinser explained residents tried to obtain a loan and found an unreleased tax lien from 1986; this quit claim deed without covenants passes back to the resident.

On motion of V. Pinkham/McLean moved to sign the quit claim deed.

Vote 5, 0, 0.

V. Consent Calendar

1. Regular minutes of August 20, 2008- Tabled

Wilbur stated he did not see any information on the Orton update.

Zinser will have Jurate double check those minutes

2. General Fund Warrant #10.

On motion of McLean/Wilbur moved to accept GFW #10.

Vote 5, 0, 0.

3. Payroll Warrant #9

On motion of McLean/V. Pinkham moved to accept PW #9.

Vote 5, 0, 0.

VI. Town Manager Discussion

1. Preliminary discussion-Conversion of Town Hall to Geothermal Energy.

Zinser pointed out that this would be a long term savings, eventually removing line from budget altogether.

He is also looking for a commitment from the Board to move forward. This is a true savings, and is a long process, therefore only wants to continue with it, if the Board is serious. \$78,000 is needed; we will need a 1500' well drilled, that alone will be \$42,000, but after analyzing, this is a true long term savings.

Wilbur asked the longevity of the unit.

Zinser said over 30 years, minimal maintenance is required; this is no more complex than the regular furnace.

Stelzer said he was not prepared to proceed on this subject; he would like to see a proposal for the work, get 2 or 3 together and put a bid spec together. Questioned whether any other locals were doing this, and stated he does like the concept, but would like a lot more information on this first.

McLean felt investing in long term savings is smart, especially energy savings and consumption, but also would like to see more information on this.

Zinser will get Midnight Oil people here to do a presentation for the Board.

J. Pinkham wants Zinser to make sure Midnight realizes this type of thing goes out to bid and loves the theory by the way.

McLean wondered if there were any programs to assist towns with this type of 'move over'

Zinser is already working that angle.

VII. Other Business

J. Pinkham asked Zinser about the audit.

Zinser will call RHR Smith, he should have already had that.

J. Pinkham also asked about the stop light. When is it going away.

Stelzer informed the Board he would be working on the newsletter over the next few days and would send it out to the other members, and Town Office.

J. Pinkham asked Zinser to review the police policy for mutual aid, this is in light of what happened in Newcastle with a Damariscotta officer and cruiser being in an accident, Pinkham would like to know who requested us, and if we had business being there.

McLean agreed and wanted to know if the Damariscotta police was authorized to go or just starry eyed officer wanting some of the action.

Jim Campbell suggested the Board investigate deeper into this, the police cruiser is seen out of Damariscotta entirely too much, see it in Nobleboro and Newcastle a lot. No need of this.

Hallowell recalled the mutual aid was to the County.

Wilbur said there were lights at either end of the school zone, but if someone is pulling out of the YMCA, or other businesses in that area, there is nothing signaling 15 mph. Who is responsible for putting up additional signs telling people they are in a school, slower speed zone.

Zinser said DOT, CMP, and then they pass the costs onto the Town for maintaining and paying the light bill.

McLean offered to visit with the new principal of GSB, Mr. Boston, to see if this is something we can work together on.

V. Pinkham asked if there could be a police report for that area.

Zinser said he would check into that.

J. Pinkham reminded the Board that on 9-15-08 they had another workshop, and also asked if any members would be going to the energy workshop at Lincoln Academy on the 9th of September at 6:00p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

On motion of McLean/V. Pinkham moved to adjourn meeting at 8:24p.m.

Vote 5, 0, 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl M. Pinkham, Town Clerk

