

Town Of Litchfield
Road Committee Minutes
Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Location: Town Office

Attendance: Dan Craft, Richard Lane, Tamas Szepsy, Brian Emmons, George Thomson, Steve Ochmanski, Cyndi Redmond.

Item 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Steve Ochmanski.

Item 2: Elections of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

Chair: George Thomson made the motion for Richard Lane to be Chair, Dan Craft seconded it. Vote was 6-0

Vice Chair: Dan Craft made the motion for Brian Emmons to be Vice Chair, Richard Lane seconded it. Vote was 6-0

Secretary: George Thomson made the motion for Cyndi Redmond to be secretary, Dan Craft seconded it. Vote was 6-0

Item 3: Scheduled Business

Phil Curtis, Maine Local Road Consultant gave us all a great insight into many of the things we needed to be looking at as a part of this committee.

We need to decide as a committee how we are to relate to other committees, i.e. the Selectmen and Budget committees. Most of us felt that working closely with these committees would make our committee an asset to the town.

Discussed a Computer program RSMS (Road System Software Program) to make it easier to inventory the road and conditions. Steve says the town has the program. It will help us to look for when surveying the roads. Phil offered to take several of us out on the road to show us what to look for. George, Brian and Dan are those that are interested in doing that with Phil.

We need to look at the dollars that are spent and can we be spending road money wiser? When is it best to have our town crew do a specific job vs. contracting it out? Most municipal roads have not been built up to standard to make them really last. We need to look at deterioration curve and that will help us to know how to spend our town money the most wisely to keep the roads in good repair. Is the possibility of going back to gravel on some roads best?

We need to come up with a road plan, 5, 10, and 15 year plan for all the roads in this town. When we do this we need to make sure that we can stick to what we say we will be doing. This will bring the town people to the point of trusting us.

We each need a Municipal Roads Manual which Steve said he would get for us.

Item 4: Unscheduled Business

Our next concern is the Posting of the Road for spring. We were made aware of the fact that even though Litchfield has been posting our roads for years, we had no teeth to enforce it without an ordinance to give the town authority to post the roads. Steve and George both said that they would work on this.

Item 5: Meeting Times

- It was brought to the committee that we should have our meeting times at 5:30 PM on the third Wednesday of each month. Next meeting will be Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at 5:30.

Item 6: Future Agenda Items

Ordinance for posting of roads

Setting up time and date with Phil to drive the Litchfield Roads for learning to survey and grading the quality of the roads.

Item 7: Adjourn Meeting