

Town Of Litchfield
Road Committee Minutes
Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Location: Town Office

Attendance: Richard Lane, Cyndi Redmond, George Thomson, Steve Ochmanski and Larry Nadeau

Item 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Richard Lane at 5:30 PM.

Item 2: Acceptance of the Minutes of October 15, 2014
was moved by Rick and seconded by Larry and accepted by all.

Item 3: Scheduled Business

The most pressing issue seemed to be the Mission Statement:
Find ways to improve repair and maintain town roads in a cost effective way.
Proposed by Richard, brought forth as a vote by George, seconded by Larry and approved by all present.

Survey of road by George and Richard was discussed. What and how do we grade the importance of each road and most traffic traveled road. 1 low, 5 high. Criteria is:

- Traffic flow
- School bus route
- Emergency response vehicles
- Bridge on that road
- Through road
- Direct access to street/road

So therefore a throughway is more important than a dead end. We are also not at all looking at state roads or state maintained roads. The towns people need to understand that we have a limited budget and we will do what we can but they will not have good road without willingness to take time and money to the roads.

All the roads have been graded at this point with the worksheets provided by the state. We have the computer program that this can all be imputed into. Tom has volunteered to do that. This needs to be done as soon as possible. When this is completed and compiled we will be able to better judge exactly where to start in town to get our roads up to a decent quality.

The town of Litchfield has decided that closing Gustin Rd is very important for the safety of all. That road has some serious safety issues with it. On Mill Rd (also known as the Old Mill Rd) the town needs to Maintain the bridge but not the road.

One of the first things that must be done is the Ferrin Rd bridge. It was originally put in for as single lane bridge. We talked about putting it back to a single lane but with the steep hill on one side and a hill on the other side of the bridge it is too dangerous to do. I am to count the number of dwelling past the bridge the Ferrin Rd access. The town road crew will make sure that Findley Lane is passable for a 2 to 3 day closure of Ferrin

Rd. Steve and Larry will work up some figures of what that will cost and it will be a warrant on the for the town meeting. Both Steve and Larry feel that doing this job in house in July 2015 is more cost effective than contracting it out.

George is asking for the total cost per mile for winter maintenance. It has never been done before in this town and Steve and Larry are working on just that. It will take some time but this when this winter is over we will have better figures to work with. George as he is also a Selectman has volunteered to write the warrants that are needed for town meeting.

Steve is please with the quality of Larry Nadeau II work at the town garage. "Now that we have had a chance to work together I am confident in Road Foreman Larry Nadeau II judgment and decision making in maintaining our roads. Our foreman is the 4th plow driver and will be working full time during storm events. He will be doing all the call-ins and supervising of employees during storm events."

Item 4: Unscheduled Business

Due to the Christmas Holiday season being upon us we as a group decided to cancel our December meeting. Proposed by George and seconded by Larry. All approved.

Steve acquired and handed out the Municipal Roads Manual to each of us on the Road Committee that were at the meeting and has them for the rest of the members when he sees them. We are to study them for the January meeting.

Item 5: Meeting Times

Next meeting January 21, 2015 at 5:30

Item 6: Future Agenda Items

Putting out for bid in Feb. maintenance on roads that are too dangerous for our drivers to be on.

Item 7: Adjourn Meeting: Richard made a motion to adjourn and Larry seconded it, at 7 PM. All agreed.