

Town Of Litchfield
Road Committee Minutes
Wednesday, March 11, 2015

Location: Town Office

Attendance: Richard Lane, Cyndi Redmond, George Thomson, Steve Ochmanski and
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 February 18, 2015
was moved by Cyndi and seconded by Tamas and accepted by all.

Item 3: Scheduled Business

The most pressing issue is the selectmen's meeting set for our usual night for our meeting of March 18, 2015 which is why via email we chose to meet on the 11th of March. Our first goal is for the people of the town to know what we are really all about. Completely volunteers which Steve advertised for in the Sodalite for 8 months, we were not hand picked, and our goal is to get the roads in the best condition we can for the least amount of money.

We decided to have Richard start out with a little bit about our committee, then have Brian take over to explain the process that we came about to decide about closing these roads, approximately the amount of money the tax payers of Litchfield are paying to continue to take care of these roads. We mentioned that even if these roads are closed anyone with land that needs access will have prescriptive rights. The public will not have rights to the land.

When it comes to fixing our roads and keeping them maintained our committee through all the information we have been able to gather know that either we start saving money where we can or we are going to have to ask the towns people of Litchfield to raise taxes to be able to have good roads. There is no other way.

We are working on figures for the budget committee of somewhere between \$400,000. to \$500,000 per year for roads and maintenance including paving. We know that this will be open to change as we work on it further. It will more than likely need to go up yearly by \$10% at least as we really start to work on the roads. One of the major things that needs to happen right away is ditching. The water getting under the roads is really bad and is one of the major things that is destroying the roads.

Ferrin Road bridge needs replacing this summer. We have been told that the selectmen will probably put that on the town warrant as a separate article from the town maintenance shed. If the town votes it down and it collapses it will cost the town 2 to 3 times as much to fix as an emergency vs. doing it before something happens. In future years we will be having to look at the bridges on Gustin Rd and Mill Rd.

Discussion of 4 most important roads in Litchfield, Criteria is used the most especially or emergency vehicles. Buker, Lunt's Hill, Huntington Hill, and Libby Rd.

Item 4: Unscheduled Business

The unscheduled business that we attended to was the letter from Mark and Lindsay Nelson to the selectmen dated March 8, 2015. The major thing we did about that was to make sure that we as a committee look to take the high road next week because of the personal attacks and untruths about the RAC in that letter.

We were notified that Lunt's Hill Rd will be closed most of the summer due to bridge work by the state and Dennis Hill Rd will also be closed part of the summer.

Item 5: Meeting Times

Next meeting April 15, 2015 at 5:30

Item 6: Future Agenda Items

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