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**Town of Henniker
Road Management Committee
January 10, 2017
Henniker Town Hall**

Members Present: Michael Flecchia (Chair), Robert Morse, Bill Marko, Leon Parker, Leo Aucoin, Tom Weston (Road Agent), Bob French (Selectmen's Rep), Tia Hooper (Planning Board Rep)

Members Absent:

Guests: Bruce Trivellini, Jerry Gilbert, Bill Hall

Recording Secretary: Karen Rose

2)1) Call to Order/Attendance

Chair Mike Flecchia called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

3)2) Discussion with Water Commissioners regarding the replacement of water utilities coordination with road construction projects.

Tia Hooper stated that the reason the committee asked the water department to come to one of their meetings was to work with the department on formulating a plan whereby the highway and water departments and the RMC can get projects done together. Planning will go a long way to reducing costs on projects in the future.

The committee asked if the water department had a schematic of all the pipes in town. Jerry Gilbert from the water department stated they did and would get this to the RMC. Leo Aucoin stated if the committee knew the good and bad sections they could cross reference this with the road work they are doing. Jerry stated that there are a lot of 102-year-old pipes in town. The map will show when they were installed or replaced.

Jerry stated that the water department has been installing cross connections so that people on both sides of Western Ave- don't lose water when they are dealing with a problem area. It is all done in sections. In the old days they would have to shut down the entire road. Jerry stated we should be involved in the planning so that we can do the cross connections. Tia Hooper indicated that there was a vacancy on the RMC for one of the water commissioners to participate.

Leon Parker stated that in terms of funding there would be a long lead time and would involve a town meeting. Working together, he stated, would help resolve some of the funding problems too. Tom Weston asked how long his department would need to have the funds to move forward on Western Ave? Jerry stated that it is not part of their 10-year plan, other than cross connections. They would have to get a warrant article. Jerry indicated the water department had a small capital reserve fund of \$10,000 to use as a buffer in case a project overruns.

Leon stated that the committee wants to match projections of age and condition of pipes with the road work being proposed. Working together may identify issues and change the priority of the project. Jerry indicated that Rush Road is high on their priority list. Bob French stated that there is no sense finishing a road only to have it dug up a year later. Bob Morse indicated they want to work with the sewer department

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as well.

Bill Marko asked if water lines run under the roads or sidewalks. Jerry stated they didn't know as some of the roads have moved.

Jerry suggested he return to another meeting with the lists and maps for the RMC. He stated he could return for the January 24th meeting. Jerry stated that the age and location as well as the size will be reflected on the map. The size is important as they upgrade, it may change the RMC's priorities.

Bill Marko made a motion to invite one of the Water Commissioners as part of the Road Management Committee. Bob Morse seconded. Motion passed 8-0.

The committee thanked Jerry Gilbert and Bill Hill for attending.

4)3) Public Forum or Other Business

Leon Parker commended Tia Hooper for the outstanding packaging and professionalism of the report on the work done by the Road Management Committee. Several other committee members chimed in agreeing.

Tom Weston stated that 4 bids were received for Western Avenue. The town administrator and Jenn McCourt of McCourt Engineering will be conducting a rating system to see who qualifies. However, Continental Paving's bid was \$736,509; R D Edmunds was \$1,378,154; Advanced Excavating was \$788,335 and FL Merrill was \$825,000. He stated that being a low bidder does not mean you are awarded the bid. It is based on a rating system.

Leo Aucoin asked if there was any way the highway department could handle this project themselves? Tom Weston stated that yes they could but it would limit what they could do on other projects. The reclaiming would have to be subcontracted out. Leon Parker stated it was a big project and would suck the air out of other projects. Bob Morse asked if the committee members could get a copy of the RFP? He would like to educate himself on the particulars. Leon Parker stated it would be good to see what was covered in the RFP and give us a reading on the estimates we are using.

Bill Hill asked why no one had responded to the first RFP. Leo Aucoin related that the road would be open and unpaved for a time and the contractors did not want to be exposed to any liability until the bridge was done.

Tia Hooper stated she would send out a cost estimate for the bridge to Cody Hill.

5)4) Approval of Minutes for December 13, 2016

The minutes for 12-13-16 were reviewed with minor edits.

A motion was made by Leon Parker to approve the 12-13-16 minutes. Bob French seconded. Motion passed 8-0.

6)5) Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm by Mike Flecchia and seconded by Bob French. Motion passed 8-0.