

FINAL



**Town of Henniker
Road Management Committee
November 10, 2016
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: Gary Guzouskas

Guests: Bruce Trivellini,

Recording Secretary: Karen Rose

1) Call to Order/Attendance

Chair Mike Flecchia called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm.

2) Approval of Minutes for October 25, 2016

The minutes for 10-25-16 were tabled until the next meeting.

3) Continued work session from previous meeting

Tia Hooper distributed two excel sheets to the members—one in alphabetical order by road name and the other was grouped by the diagram. Referencing the diagram, #1 is in the upper right corner, #2 is the middle section and #3 is the lower left section.

Ms. Hooper stated that she has started drafting the report beginning with the vision, an explanation of the committee and its beginnings, the process, the road ratings and classifications and what they mean, then the plotting of the roads and classifications, and how the committee reached their calculations. A full copy of the excel sheet will be in the back of the report.

Ms. Hooper reported that the Western Ave. project will be going out for re-bid again. Leo Aucoin explained why no bidders put bids on the job as they did not want to leave roads unpaved over the winter and be liable for any problems. Mr. Aucoin stated that the road is so bad we should look at finishing one end this year and the other end the year after, at least get the engineering done on the forward end of it.

Mr. Aucoin stated that the highway department has the people and talent to take on some roads such as Depot Street and Patterson Hill. They can do the prepping and then have a contractor come in and pave it. Bob Morse asked Tom Weston if that is something he sees the highway department doing and would it keep his department from other town maintenance issues. Mr. Weston said that the department has historically done reclaiming. Mr. Aucoin stated that the reinstalls look really good and the crew has been a good demeanor.

Ms. Hooper stated there was \$140,000 in the budget and the street budget cannot be carried over. Any work over this amount, the town has to petition the residents for approval. Ms. Hooper stated that the

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total cost of Western Ave when you add on the construction and the engineering costs is \$1.2 million. The town has \$350,000 in the bank and would have to bond \$867,000. It might be smarter to resolve some of these roads that haven't reached classification 1 and put money back in the bank to put aside for Western Ave. In year one, on Western Ave alone, you hold off on engineering, ask the taxpayers to put up enough money through a warrant article to get the work done. If you ask for \$500,000 and spent \$370,000 then the balance rolls over.

Mr. Aucoin stated that with Categories 1 and 2, we could resolve now with a shim overlay vs. total makeover. Mr. Weston stated that if, for example, we do Old Hillsboro Road and it is not a target for 6-7 years, we may have to do a greater shim to make the road passable but it's just a Band-Aid.

Bruce Trivellini was very impressed with the conversation. He suggested that the group not be too technical in their warrant article. He said pick your two best plans and don't worry about the dollar amount, warrant articles can be amended. As a taxpayer, he would be interested in a Plan A and Plan B, one on the low end and one on the high end.

The committee came up with the following plans:

Option A Western Avenue to Bridge- engineering and Western Ave from bridge to town line- construction. Cost would be \$1,217,454.26 minus \$350,000 for a balance of \$867,454.26.

Option B Western Avenue – Main St to Bridge for \$492,542.06

Option C Old West Hopkinton Road and Highland Drive for shim overlay. Cost would be \$431,964.57 with a savings of 172,622.69

Option D Dodge Hill Road for \$308,369 and Morse Circle for \$71,516 for a total of \$379,879 and a savings of \$354,986.14

Option F Gulf Road for \$160,289.29 and Bear Hill Road for \$850,809.99 for a total of \$1,011,099.28 and a savings of \$184,520.43.

Option G Bacon Road for \$124, 347 and Liberty Road for \$34,028.33 for a total of \$158,375.33 and a savings for the two of \$182,317.

Option H Old Hillsboro Road for \$850,932.01

Ms. Hooper stated that with these plans you have spent about \$4.7 million and saved over \$1 million on 10 roads.

Bill Marko stated that there should be a high and low number, sorted that way so that we don't end up having to switch roads around with lots of amendments. We should also stress the savings.

Chair Flecchia asked if the committee felt comfortable to bring this plan to the Select Board for the December 6th meeting. The committee agreed.

4) Complete Streets

Leo Aucoin suggested that the committee not support Complete Streets as the town does not have the funds available to do this. Leon Parker stated it puts an economic strain on the system with ROW problems. Ms. Hooper said other issues are the historic district and eminent domain issues. Bob French stated that Complete Streets does get a lot of revenue.

Leo Aucoin made a motion that the committee makes a recommendation to the Select Board, that the Select Board do not move forward on Complete Streets; Bob Morse seconded. Motion passed 5-0-2 (Weston, French).

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5) Other

Committee talked about future meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for November 22, 2016. The committee decided to continue to meet on the alternate weeks from the Select board meetings.

6) Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm by Leo Aucoin and seconded by Tia Cooper. Motion passed 8-0.