



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, June 15, 2015
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Vice Chair Fritze, Members G. Woodbury, Stevens & C. Woodbury, and Administrator Gaudette. Chairman Pepe was absent.

Chairman Woodbury opened the meeting at 6:07 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance

6:00 – Public Hearing: Route 31 Corridor

(North Spencer Rd, Pleasant St., and Meadow Rd.)

The hearing opened at 6:07 p.m.

U & F Superintendent Steve Tyler and CMRPC representatives Rich Rydant, and Kevin Krasnecky were present to discuss findings and recommendations from the Route 31 Corridor Study from Main Street in Spencer and continuing north through Paxton and Holden.

Mr. Rydent noted that Steve Tyler was instrumental in coordinating the Study which encompassed twelve miles of roadway among the three communities. The complete summary can be viewed on the CMRPC Website.

Mr. Krasnecky discussed the data collected, which included traffic volumes and flows during peak periods and crash data indicating the intersection with the highest number of accidents was Meadow Road, Route 32, & Wire Village Road. Major drainage structures and mid-state trail alignment were also studied.

The top three priority recommendations for Spencer include: reconstruction and sidewalks for Meadow Rd., estimated at \$2.5 million; replacement of bridge over Seven Mile River, estimated at \$1 million; and the resurfacing of Route 31 North, estimated at \$4.3 million.

The hearing was opened to the public.

Mike Toomey, Ash St. asked about the cost of the Corridor Study and why the focus was on Route 31 North when Route 31 South has major issues.

Mr. Gaudette said there was no cost to host communities. Route 31 North was chose based on issues with ongoing congestion, safety, and pavement.

Mr. G. Woodbury explained that the Town is not in a position to fund 31 South without assistance from the State.

Mr. Tyler pointed out the focus was on connecting multiple communities and commuter routes.

Mr. Gaudette noted that with 130 miles of roadway, projects need to be separated in accordance with available funding. A transportation bond bill has been filed and he is working with State Representatives to obtain funding.

Mr. Toomey asked if there will be a signal at the playground and if the installation of a roundabout would entail taking of land.

Mr. Rydant said they did not look at a signal for purposes of this, however it may be recommended in the future. Property taking for a roundabout is likely as indicated on the map.

Al Atchue, Meadow Road asked how valid this will be in the future since the work won't begin for years. Mr. Gaudette explained that participation in this project places the Town in the best possible position to obtain future funding.

The Administrator thanked Mr. Rydant and Mr. Krasnecky and asked the Board to support the recommendations of the Corridor Study.

The hearing was closed at 7:30 pm.

Action Item: Route 31 Corridor

(North Spencer Rd, Pleasant St., and Meadow Rd.)

Vote to Support Priority Recommendations

A motion to support the Priority Recommendations as presented (C. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 4/0.

Other

Mr. Gaudette asked the Board to vote to award the bid for the Mechanic St. Project.

A motion to award the Mechanic St. Improvement Project to Borges Construction (C.Woodbury/Fritze) passed 4/0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Documents

Route 31 Corridor Study