

Road Committee
Meeting Minutes - May 14, 2012

Attendance: Barrie Sawyer, Jiri Hajek, Roger Thompson, Christina Goodwin, Chuck Stata, Glen Hanson

Meeting called to order 5:45 p.m.

The Road Committee was established by the Select Board in response to a discussion and concerns raised at Town Meeting with regards to Groton Town roads. The Committee is to establish recommendations by priority and make a plan to propose to the Town. All agree that this needs to be a long-term plan put in writing and taking funding into consideration.

There are a total of approximately 15 miles of road in Groton with about 9 miles of those roads as paved. The state is responsible for 2 sections of the roads, with winter maintenance coming from the Town of Groton – near 118 the end of North Groton Road and then from Halls Brook Road to Hebron. Paved roads include: Sculptured Rocks from North Groton Road to Province Road, Smith Road from North Groton Road to the dead end, River Road about 1.1 miles, and North Groton Road from Dorchester to Halls Brook Road.

The Committee discussed as follows:

- Glen advised that the State will be replacing the concrete culvert pipe at the end of Edgar Albert Road and paving 12-15 feet of apron. Glen thinks it would be beneficial for the Town to consider paving the apron of all of the Town's dirt roads which attach to a paved road.
- Chuck feels that the Master Plan and the Planning Board regulations should be taken into consideration during the Committee's review process.
- Barrie felt that it is going to be a 10 to 20 year plan that looks at the Town overall and works out the key issues.
- Roger felt that the first presentation is going to be the hardest selling point to the public. We need to justify the recommendations, present them to the public and get the people's support and then it will come easier each year.
- Priorities to be considered: Safety, Drainage, Specifications of the road and corresponding repairs, Goals each year, Funding.
- Glen would like to have the roads measured and the measurement whether in feet or GPS points to indicate specific areas that the group is recommending to fix. Christina said that we should have the roads listed out in some format like a report to show each road, each step to fix and each priority.
- Chuck felt that the North Country Council would have some money/grants that the group could look into. Glen felt that there was more potential with FEMA for money/grants and mentioned that DOT will also help with road reconstruction, at what cost was not known.

The next meeting will be a field meeting to drive around to view all of the Town roads, stopping in areas of concern. Glen would like pictures taken of each location. This meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2012 at 6:00 pm starting at the Groton Town Offices.