

**TOWN OF EATON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03832**

**EVANS MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**July 15, 2020**

A duly-noticed special meeting of the Board of Selectmen took place on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 33 Roberts Road. Present were Dick Fortin, Ed Reilly and Joyce Blue. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

The Board worked on a spreadsheet listing projects, expenses and revenues to project tax rates for the next 10 years. The Board also reviewed projected bond costs for future road reconstruction projects to determine which method of funding (bonding vs. annual appropriations) to pursue.

The Board discussed the possibility of shimming the paved roads to put off construction a few years giving the Town opportunity to raise the funds annually at a smaller amount. Ed Reilly questioned whether Bull Pasture Road needs to be paved or could it return to gravel. Joyce Blue noted that due to the added cost of an annual audit and interest, raising the funds annually is preferred. Dick Fortin noted that if the projects are bonded, there would be no maintenance costs while waiting for reconstruction.

Road Agent Stubby Heath joined the Board to review the road reconstruction projects. Stubby Heath set forth the following estimated cost to reconstruct Bull Pasture Road: \$100,000 for approximately 7500 yards of material, \$50,000 for truck, \$20,000 per week to rent equipment and \$250,000 for pavement. The option of allowing the road to return to gravel was discussed.

The Board then discussed Stewart Road and noted that the road is 7/10 of a mile long and should cost approximately \$375,000. Dick Fortin questioned whether the projects could be put off until 2022 in order to raise funds. Stubby Heath stated that he would reconstruct an entire road rather than only a portion of the road each year. Dick Fortin questioned how long the project could be put off if the roads were shimmed. Stubby Heath noted that shimming could last a maximum of three years. Stubby Heath suggested using cold patch on Stewart Road so that the project could be delayed for four years.

The Board discussed the option of raising \$250,000 to reconstruct Bull Pasture and leave it as gravel and then to bond in 2023 to reconstruct Stewart Road and pave both roads at that time.

The Board discussed the driveway at the Little White Church and noted that it is private property rather than a Town issue. Stubby Heath offered to donate his time and equipment to fix the driveway.

Stubby Heath noted that the new configuration and four-way stop on Route 153 will require snow removal, thereby increasing the Town's winter costs.

The Board reviewed language for the Town column regarding absentee voting and noted that they will submit information to Columnist Nancy Williams.

Joyce Blue noted that she will be putting together a meeting of the Facility Committee to begin discussions on how to move forward with the Town Hall upgrade.

***Dick Fortin made a motion, seconded by Joyce Blue, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried.*** The meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lianne M. Boelzner*

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