

TOWN OF ORFORD

Orford Road Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charlie Smith, David Smith, Michael Wright

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Taylor, Selectboard, Ted Nutter, Road Agent

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by David, seconded by Charlie to accept the minutes of 10/10/2024 (as amended for typos and time of the meeting end time) Motion Passed

Article 14 was discussed. After meeting with the selectmen, if the road committee makes a writing recommendation, the signature of the road agent will be for the acceptance of delivery in written words. This was always the intention, but the selectmen felt the words were misleading. Charlie mentioned that if there were concerns, it should have been brought up at the town meeting but agreed, the road committee will from now on, will add "acceptance of delivery of this recommendation/s".

In the concerned written recommendation, the road agent rejected the road committee recommendation of the use of the wicking fabric, due to the committee didn't follow the "donation" guidelines and the cost, even though the fabric was free. This was after over a year and a half of trying to utilize the wicking fabric, even in the Archertown road Phase 1, by the guardrails, which had a considerable amount of frost heave of at least 1-1/2 inches. There is a major difference to use a barrier such as the wicking fabric and geogrid. The geogrid does not keep fines out of the base, which is crucial as water mitigation takes place.

The Archertown Road Phase 1 punch list (2 April 2024) was gone over with Ted and what he has executed and will before the winter. The most concerning information was that Ted has tried with the utmost effort to get in contact with R&D paving to repair the work of the pavement unraveling of several areas in the road were to be repaired last week, but they never showed up. The work is now planned for next year with a warrant article to pave the final wear coat. Since the phase 1 final coat cost was included in the phase 2, cost, but because of the several areas of asphalt damage, the road committee feels that the cost should have been saved from the phase 2 warrant article's \$400k, where the dollar amount was not changed but it would be useless to put a final wear coat on a road that needs to be repaired prior, so the phase 2 project should have added up to an amount, less the cost of the wear coat for phase 1. At current invoices, the engineering cost is still near the same cost for phase 2, as for phase 1, even though the design for phase 2 was already completed last year, less the added 1 cross culvert. The engineering invoiced hours has exceeded over 600 hours. This is very concerning for the road committee as the selectmen assured the town that the engineers would not as engaged in phase 2 as in phase 1, since we have a road agent now.

The Indian Pond road project has been at a stand still for several months. Ted stated that he has communicated with the engineer, but she claims she is very busy and working on several other projects

Archertown phase 2 has an invoice from Wanner Construction and neither the road agent nor selectmen could make comment on the 316 yards of ledge removal, but Larry did find it unusual that there was that much ledge to be removed. The road committee finds it very hard to believe 316 yards were removed for Phase 2

Adjourn

Motion made by Charlie, seconded by David adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

Next meeting 12/12 @ 6:00 or agreed upon date

Respectfully Submitted

Charlie Smith