

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Kevin Follensbee, Chase Kling

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Megan Ooms-Project Manager D&K, Leah Savage-Project Manager NHDOT

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am

Archertown Road Jacobs Brook Project – Savage discussed the purpose of the meeting was to get everyone involved in a conversation around the project. There have been changes of personnel at the State level, and also changes of personnel at DuBois & King adding to delays of this project. Savage reviewed the project funding between the Town, State and Federal government. With the Federal government involved, the construction costs of the project will be covered 100%, and engineering costs at 80%, which leaves the Town only responsible for 20% of the engineering and Right of Way costs (approximately \$40,000-\$50,000). Currently the State is looking at an additional cost of \$500,000 in addition to the total estimate previously discussed of \$1,200,000. This increase is primarily due to the increase in construction materials since the last estimate was generated.

With the Federal government involved, a Local Public Agency (LPA) certification is required.

Dobbins-Marsh, a full-time employee will attend the training, as well as Adams, currently approved as the Person in Responsibility (PRC) for this project.

Project Design phases all require submission to the NHDOT for review and approval. Until NHDOT issues an approval letter and NTP, the project can't move into the next phase.

Currently, the State is looking for everything to be received and approved so they can advertise the project between June and November 2024, which means the work will start in 2025. The Selectboard expressed extreme dissatisfaction with this timeline. Originally the project was to be completed in 2023, now we are looking at an additional 2-year delay – this is not acceptable.

What can be done to get the project completed earlier than 2025? Both Ooms and Savage understood the frustration and agreed to remain on the project until completed. The Selectboard asked for a written report of items to be completed; a schedule of meetings moving forward.

Ooms agreed to create the schedule.

The Selectboard, Ooms and Savage left to reconvene at the Archertown Road Jacobs Brook bridge.

Adjourn

Motion made by Adams, seconded by Follensbee to adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh