

Underhill Infrastructure Committee

3/18/24

Members present: Kurt Johnson, Mike Weisel, Clarke Elliott, Andy Rowe, Russ Clark

Guests: None

Meeting convened: 6:00 pm at Town Hall

Agenda adjustment: None

Public comment: None

Corbett Road beavers

- Kurt has contacted the Corps and VT DEC. The advice is to take a “wait and see” approach. See what the beavers do next and then, possibly with Skip’s (Beaver Deceivers) help/advice, make adjustments to the dam or cage.
- Permits may be needed to do the above adjustments.
- Russ noted that we may have a beaver issue on Irish Settlement near the Shearer residence and he will keep an eye on the situation.

Bridge 7:

- Brad is poised to submit an application to VTrans for this project - deadline April 15.
- Recall that we turned in our prior grant award for Mountain Road in order to better align ourselves for a successful award on Bridge 7.
- Mountain Road box culvert was improved last year by the installation of waste blocks at the inlet side. We see this as a medium time frame fix - 10 years?
- We have learned that portions of PV Road are 4 rod, which if this is the case at Bridge 7, it will give us more room to work without easements. That said, it still may be worth getting easements on the west side for ease of construction. Brad will look into the road width in this area.

Paving bid:

- Brad noted that the insurance limits we had put in our draft paving bid document were on the low side.
- Kurt has revised the document with limits in keeping with VTrans standards.
- Bids will be due in mid-April for this year’s paving (Irish Settlement)

Mud season review:

- Approximately 45 loads of stone were hauled and spread on about 14 roads this year.
- We received a letter from a Mountain Vista resident complaining about road conditions. Russ said he believes this was the person who called him and the crew went out very promptly and took care of the situation.
- Russ noted that he replaced 2 culverts on Cilley Hill Road that failed this spring
- Russ told us he may research and experiment with a pre-bagged “cold patch” product for use in some pothole applications. He used it on one big pothole this spring and is pleased so far with the result.

English Settlement Road rebuild:

- This is currently on the list for FY ’26. We will need plans if we are to proceed.
- Russ told us that he and the crew are leaning toward postponing English in favor of spending more on the busier paved roads.

- The committee agreed that we could hold off at least one year, let the Town crew amp up their maintenance a bit and see if that will suffice.

Page Road #29 and Upper English Settlement Road #117 culverts:

- Both of these culverts are in rough condition with severe rust-through on the inverts.
- Page - 78" x 60" x 30' Upper English - 96" x 60" x 30'
- We believe concrete lining, as we did at the top of N. Underhill Station Road, is the most economical and practical solution.
- We will need to contact Don Tedford from Anchor Foundations for an estimate and we will need to contact Bernie Pientka at the State regarding fish implications.

10 year outlook:

- Move Upper English rebuild to FY '27
- Remove the anticipated \$5,000 trade for the 2008 dump truck as it is being retained and retrofitted for chloride application.
- Excavator and trailer came in significantly less than anticipated (\$60 - 80K) so a restructured loan will reflect a different annual payment.
- Since this year's paving will be Irish Settlement, not PV Section 3, PV needs to be moved to next year.
 - Stumping and ditching for PV will be on this year's schedule
 - We will need a plan for the rework of the Harvey Road blind hill section - East Engineering?
- It seems crack sealing contractors are hard to come by. We are all set for this year, but as for the next bid cycle, we may need to identify other options. Russ will ask other towns who they use.

Meeting adjourned: 7:10

Next meeting: April 15 (?)