

Northumberland Board of Selectmen Meeting

Thursday October 25th

Chairman opened the meeting at 6:03 pm

Present: Selectman Christopher Wheelock, Selectman Michael Phillips, Chairman James Weagle, James Tierney Jr., Road Agent Glenn Cassady, Water & Sewer Superintendent Reggie Charron, Project Manager Robin Irving

- A. Scoring of 6 submittals from engineers for the USDA RBDG project for water/sewer /roadway engineering on the former mill clarifier and lagoon site

The scoring team of 6 members (Chris Wheelock, Michael Phillips, James Weagle, Jim Tierney, Glenn Cassady, Reggie Charron), using a rubric from North Country Council, reviewed each proposal.

All of the firms met the basic criteria. The goal was to look at reference projects that referred to similar projects that dealt with wetlands, floodplain, fill lands, Brownfields, lagoons/sludge treatment, drainage control, traffic patterning, etc. The Board also identified if the firms had any unique qualifications, reference projects, or distinctive ideas. Wright-Pierce was particularly noteworthy due to its resources alone. In the long run for Chapman, a company with these types of benefits may be particularly advantageous for expansion of the industrial site(s).

The proposals brought up a conversation regarding the old Route 3 now known as 'West Street' behind the monuments and the flow of traffic. Access to the proposed industrial park could potentially change traffic upstream of the road. It would depend on what gets decided on how the ownership of Route 3/Church Street gets decided. The proposal to the State, due to the truck route, is to eliminate the stop signs on both ends of Church. Traffic would likely be blocked off at the north end of the road behind the monuments. There should be a follow-up with DOT about the swap proposal and a discussion during budgeting.

Robin Irving called references and had assigned scores based on responses. These raw scores of the references were added to the team's raw scores of the proposals and averaged. The engineers were scored in the following order: Horizons, Hoyle Tanner, Underwood, CMA, Tata & Howard, Wright-Pierce. Robin Irving tallied the scores and announced the top three for interviews: 1) Underwood, 2) Wright-Pierce and 3) Hoyle-Tanner. Interviews will be scheduled on Tuesday, October 30th, beginning at 4:30 for 30 minute intervals. The expectation will be 20-minute presentations with 10 minutes for Q&A.

- B. Property Assessment Exemption pursuant to RSA 72:76 for Gordon and Nancy Gray

An application for commercial/industrial property tax exemption was received from Nancy and Gordon Gray because they are still the current owners of the Brown Road property where Rotobec plans to locate. Selectman Phillips made a motion to grant the exemption. Selectman Wheelock seconded the motion. No one opposed, motion passed 3-0.

C. Quote for engineering services for maintaining Brown Road

Robin Irving received a quote from Horizons Engineering pertaining to Scope of Services re upgrade of Brown Road. The purpose of the engineering is to prepare for a response to NHDOT's proposal for the Town to take over maintenance of Brown Road given that Rotobec will be locating on the road and contributing to truck traffic during a load ban. Irving pointed out that although Horizons has completed a tremendous amount of work on the road and surrounding area for Rotobec's site preparation which contributes to cost savings to the Town quote, there is an inherent conflict of interest because they have an interest in the success of the Rotobec project. Jim Tierney asked if there were any provision in the Town's ordinances or master plan that allow the Town to levy fines or fees on specific users of town roads (like impact fees). If the Town did have such a provision in place, Horizons would certainly have a conflict between trying to convince the Town to take control over the road and getting Rotobec to concede to impact fees. Without this provision, the benefit falls squarely on Rotobec. The Board agreed that it might be prudent to get one or two third-party engineers to submit quotes as well.

D. Chapman Projects' Contact

Robin Irving provided the Board with Bob Chapman's PR contact information. Alex Ritchie will serve as Bob Chapman's point person.

The Chairman moved to enter into non-public session at 7:10 p.m.

DISCUSSION OF WAGES—See non public minutes

Motion to come out of non-public session at 7:50 pm. All in favor 3-0

Public session:

Motion to adjourn by Selectman Phillips. Seconded by Selectman Wheelock. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.