

## Northumberland Board of Selectmen Meeting

When: Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm

Where: NHDOT shed located at 115 Brown Road

Topic: Improvements completed on Brown Road conditional to the Town's acceptance of that portion of the road

Present: Northumberland Selectboard Chairman Michael Phillips, NHDOT District 1 Principal Engineer Philip Beaulieu, NHDOT Highway Operations Supervisor Robert Glover, Northumberland Selectman James Weagle, NHDOT Highway Operations Civil Engineer James McMahon, Northumberland Road Agent Glenn Cassady, Northumberland Water & Sewer Superintendent Reginald Charron, Northumberland Project Administrator Robin L Irving

Irving asked if there were any open items on the NHDOT punchlist and Glover responded that all items had been completed. Beaulieu mentioned that there were still erosion control measures in place i.e. silt fence at the beginning of the road, and felt that they should remain in place until there was 85% vegetative cover. District 1 will remove erosion control when vegetative control is acceptable. District 1 had 1) some shoulder gravel that got low in a couple of spots so they did shoulder graveling and mowing, 2) a couple of spots where they did some shoulder gravel and the area sloped off steeply so they added loam and seeded and mulched, 3) a couple of spots down by the town garage that were washing out on the hill by the big culvert so they decided to make a more defined swale to divert any wash , and 4) some basins that needed cleaning and mortaring.

NHDOT did go over budget because prices of items kept rising. In total it was about \$300,000 not including the pavement which added another \$300,000. Going forward when DOT does rehab projects like this, they recommend doing a preservation treatment on the surface at about the 10-year mark depending on how things are holding up to protect the investment. This would be about a ¾-inch paver shim. If it is like a reconstruction project like at the beginning of the road, if there is enough pavement, a chip seal could be done because there does not necessarily have to be added structure. It depends on the costs. Beaulieu did not recommend such a short stretch of chip seal because it is a specialized service and would be expensive.

The team decided not to walk the road as both Road Agent Cassady and W/S Superintendent Charron (and Chairman Phillips had done a drive-by inspection) had previously walked and inspected the project and both approved the improvements. The Selectmen agreed with this assessment. Irving requested next steps for formal takeover of ownership of the road. Beaulieu explained that the Commissioner can hand over the road simply by drafting a re-classification letter, however, District 1 would like to receive a letter from the Town stating that the parties had inspected the premises and approved the improvements to accompany their paperwork sent to the Commissioner's Office to reinforce the Town's intent. Beaulieu mentioned other paperwork that would be handed over to the Town including drainage easements from landowners and any other pertinent legal documents. The Town's letter will be forwarded to the Commissioner's Office and the reclassification information will also be forwarded to

the Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance for the town to get the extra miles for the block grant aid assistance.

Beaulieu said he was pleased with how the project came out considering that with COVID, the State was not sure what projects were going to get done and whether there was going to be enough money. The full box cut at the beginning of the road was the right call... even though the grades were challenging trying to keep them as close to what existed, there is enough room thereto resurface the road a couple of times now that the State put some swales in and drainage should work well. Beaulieu added that the Town was good to work with. Cassidy and Charron said that the State employees were all professional and it was one of the best collaborative projects that they have ever worked on. This is a project that everyone should take pride in the work that they have done.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:22 pm