

FINAL

**CLASS VI ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Remote via Microsoft Teams
LebanonNH.gov/Live
Thursday, October 15th, 2020
6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Wood, Erling Heistad, Joan Monroe, Barbara Hirai, Marc Coleman, Colin Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Mark Goodwin (GIS Coordinator)

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Colin Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

- Mr. Mark Goodwin reviewed the meeting procedures for remote meetings and NH RSA 91-A “Right to Know” requirements. A Roll Call of Commission Members who participated remotely are listed above.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 1st, 2020

***Mr. Heistad MOVED to approve the October 1st, 2020 Minutes as amended below and presented in the October 15th, 2020 agenda packet.
Seconded by Ms. Hirai.***

Amendments:

Page 3, Line 48, Change “Heistad” to “Hirai”

Roll Call Vote:

**Erling Heistad, Barbara Hirai, Joan Monroe, Marc Coleman, and Colin Smith all voting Yea.
None voted Nay.**

**** The Vote on the MOTION was approved (5-0).***

3A. STUDY ITEMS: ROAD (ATHERTON) REVIEW AND DISCUSS:

Mr. Goodwin shared his screen with a slide of the Torbet map image of Atherton Road. The legend in the map said it was built between 1830 and 1860. The next slide Mr. Goodwin showed was of the 1860 Walling map with Atherton depicted on it. The third slide was the 1892 Hurd Map with Atherton on it. The next slide he showed was a 1927 USGS Map showing Atherton as a solid line on the map which he believed meant that the road was still in use. The next slide was a 1932 USGS Map showing Atherton Road and the following slide was a 1937 White Pine Blister Map showing Atherton Road as well. The next slide that Mr. Goodwin showed was a 2019 Tax parcel Map that he marked showing where different parcels of land were located. He also showed a 1999 DPW Atlas, a 2018 Lidar Imagery map, as well as The Red Barn Survey Trust map of the approximate location of the Atherton Road.

Next, Mr. Goodwin shared photos that Mr. Ron Bailey had taken in 2000. Mr. Bailey described the photos of Atherton Road that he had taken. One of the photos had a shovel sticking out of the ground next to the pin that depicted the start of Atherton Road near the old Benwood Tavern. Mr. Bailey went over several other photos that he took along the roadway.

Mrs. Barbara Patch said she spoke with the woman who has lived in the Benwood Tavern for the last 35 years and said she has not seen anyone walking on Atherton Road except Mr. Bailey. Mrs. Patch also said that she had meeting notes from an April 24th, 1984 City of Lebanon Planning Board meeting where Mr. Nash, City Engineer at the time, said that there was no deed to Atherton Road and he did not think that the City of Lebanon had any legal rights to the Road. Mrs. Patch also pointed out that there is no where to park near Atherton Road for people to get out and walk on the Roadway. Lastly, she said that Chair Wood talked about no one getting paid except Mr. Mark Goodwin, but she believed that Mr. Ron Bailey and the City Attorney were also getting paid. Mr. Ron Bailey replied that he did not get paid for much of the work that he does, he does it non-gratis.

Discussion was had among the Board and the Patches on the comment made by City Engineer, Mr. Nash during the 1984 Planning Board meeting.

Chair Wood recently spoke with Mr. Peter Johnson who drew a map of Atherton Road and showed it to him and Mr. Goodwin. Mr. Johnson believed that it was always a right of way. Chair Wood said he believed, with all due respect, Mr. Nash's thoughts on Atherton Road were his view.

Mr. Josh Patch said his family had all the Benwood Tavern designs and plans and almost all of them say discontinued trails pointing to the East. He also said there were no stone walls on the Atherton Road except near the bottom of the Road near Meriden Road.

Mr. Arthur Patch asked what kind of research the City of Lebanon had done on the Roads in question recently? Mr. Goodwin said that in the past, two different times, volunteers went through the City of Lebanon's record books looking for any references to discontinuances of roadways. Mr. Goodwin then went over the list the volunteers prepared and cross referenced them back to the books that they had referenced to double check that the information was accurate.

Mr. David Fracht, Chair of the Enfield Planning Board, spoke about the fact that the Town of Enfield considered Atherton Road a Class VI Road on their end. He felt that if Lebanon really had discontinued the Road years ago then he believed that Enfield would have done the same thing. He said a Road going nowhere did not make a whole lot of sense to him and that is what would have occurred if Lebanon discontinued the Road and Enfield did not. Mr. Josh Patch responded that the Road did not go to nowhere, it went to people's homes that were on that Road.

Mr. Heistad said that years ago when the Class VI Roads Committee met, they considered these Roads that the Committee have currently been discussing, to be valuable. Ms. Monroe said that she walked on Atherton Road at least twice in the late 1990s, early 2000s. When she did that, she parked on the western side of Route 120. Mr. Smith has also been over Atherton Road a few times in the past.

Mr. Goodwin and the Committee went through the 2008 template that the Class VI Roads Committee went through back then and then updated the template to help decide on Atherton Road now.

Mr. Heistad MOVED to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

Seconded by Ms. Monroe.

Roll Call Vote:

Stephen Wood, Erling Heistad, Joan Monroe, Marc Coleman, Barbara Hirai, and Colin Smith all voting Yea.

None voted Nay.

**** The Vote on the MOTION passed (6-0).***

Conversation continued between the Committee members and Mr. Goodwin, going over the template of Atherton Road.

Mr. Heistad MOVED to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

Seconded by Ms. Monroe.

Roll Call Vote:

Stephen Wood, Erling Heistad, Joan Monroe, Marc Coleman, Barbara Hirai, and Colin Smith all voting Yea.

None voted Nay.

**** The Vote on the MOTION passed (6-0).***

More discussion was had among the Committee members while they finished going through the template. Conversation was also had on whether to make a motion tonight on Atherton Road.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Heistad to adjourn the meeting at 8:21PM.

Seconded by Ms. Monroe.

Mr. Heistad withdrew his motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Monroe withdrew her second on the motion.

Mr. Heistad MOVED that the Class VI Roads Advisory Committee recommend to the City Council that Atherton Road be classified as a Class A Trail from Route 120 to the Enfield Townline and that it be pedestrian by right, traffic by horse and other use by vehicles to be defined by the City.

Seconded by Ms. Hirai.

Public commenting was closed.

Committee members discussed the motion. It was decided that the Committee wanted to wait until the next meeting to make a motion on Atherton Road.

Mr. Heistad withdrew his motion on making Atherton Road a Class A trail.

Ms. Hirai withdrew her second on the motion.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:33PM.

Seconded by Mr. Heistad.

Roll Call Vote:

Colin Smith, Erling Heistad, Joan Monroe, Barbara Hirai, Stephen Wood, and Marc Coleman all voting Yea.

None voted Nay.

**** The Vote on the MOTION was approved (6-0).***

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Higgins

Recording Secretary