

FINAL

**CLASS VI ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Remote via Microsoft Teams
LebanonNH.gov/Live
Thursday, February 18th, 2021
6:30 PM**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marc Coleman

STAFF PRESENT: Mark Goodwin (GIS Coordinator)

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:32 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: February 4th, 2021

Mr. Heistad MOVED to approve the February 4th, 2021 Minutes as presented in the February 18th, 2021 agenda packet.

Seconded by Ms. Hirai.

Roll Call Vote:

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

None voted Nay.

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

3. STUDY ITEMS:

Chair Wood gave a report to the Board about what took place at the City Council meeting on February 17th, 2021. The Board discussed the meeting. The Board decided to have a letter sent to City Council asking that the Motions adopted by the City Council about Class VI Roads include the name of the Roads the Motions were made for, a reference to the map, as well as the GPS coordinates.

A. Signage for Class VI Roads and Class A Trails: Discussion took place among the Board members about wording for the Class VI Roads and Class A Trails’ signage. They discussed whether the signs should list specific dates that they wanted to have the Roads and Trails closed or whether they wanted to have the Roads and Trails closed depending on their condition in a specific year. The Board also discussed how many different signs could be made to be posted and what roads would have restrictions on them and what would the restricted use look like.

Mr. Goodwin showed different possible wordings for signage to be posted. He also explained that there was no set wording that needed to be used on the signs so the Board could design the signs to fit the needs

of the Roads and Trails. Mr. Goodwin said a discussion could be whether there would be a set time that the Road would be closed every year. Ms. Monroe said she thought that there should be a website address on the sign that people could go to and find out if the Road or Trail was closed at the time, they were planning to use it. She felt that would allow the Road closure dates to be flexible. Ms. Hirai agreed with Ms. Monroe that a website on the signs would allow for more flexibility in the closing dates.

Mr. Smith said that the Upper Valley Mountain Bike Association managed the trails at Landmark 31. They had a system that they created which allowed for users to report back the conditions of the trails and allowed the Association to flag what trails were open or closed. They used an app to announce the trail closures, but he pointed out, it was not a small undertaking to do all of that. He said it would be a big effort for the City staff to monitor Roads and Trails throughout the City.

Mr. Goodwin said the first thing might be to figure out which Roads needed to be closed and then decide how to advertise the closures. Mr. Heistad thought there would be a great variety of Road conditions throughout the City that would change from year to year. He wanted to be more flexible in monitoring the Roads. Chair Wood said they had to keep in mind who it would be monitoring the Road conditions and how it would be paid for.

Ms. Hirai asked who enforced the Road and Trail closures? Mr. Smith said there was no enforcement mechanism. Ms. Monroe asked who had the authority to close Roads and Trails in the City? Could the sign say use trails responsibly? Mr. Heistad said the sign could say possibly say “subject to restrictions”.

Mr. Matt Decker, City Attorney, said that most likely, restriction enforcement would come down to local law enforcement. He said that all public Road regulations were criminal violations. He went on to say that RSA 236:9 said, “it was unlawful to excavate or disturb shoulders, ditches, embankments, or the surface improved for travel of public highways and any person who excavates or disturbs an improved surface of travel shall be required to restore such highway to a condition at least equal to before its disturbance”. Chair Wood liked the idea of having a sign with the RSA cited on it.

Mr. Heistad suggested that the members of the Board could write down suggestions for what they thought the signs should say and bring them to the next meeting to discuss.

Mr. Bailey said that the sign that Acworth used was not unique. He has seen those signs all around in other Towns such as Enfield and Plainfield. They all had closure times on them that were the same from year to year. He also said that there were very few Class VI Roads that had any mudding problems to begin with. He gave the list of Roads that had problems starting with the biggest and then descending to the least concerning. They were, Alden Road, Dorothy Perley Road, Hall Road off Poverty Lane, Stagecoach Road on the south end, and Ticknor Road. Mr. Bailey also wanted to make sure that the signs have the name of the Road on them.

B. Preliminary Discussion of the Roads Remaining to be Examined to Inform the Order in Which They Will be Taken up: Mr. Goodwin said the next thing the Board needed to do was to pick the next Road that they would look at. He suggested that the next Road they look at could be Road #56. It was not on any of the big maps; it was only on a couple of Torbet maps. He believed that suggested it was really a private drive and not a Road at all.

***Mr. Heistad MOVED to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.
Seconded by Ms. Hirai.***

Roll Call Vote:

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

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

Mr. Goodwin said he could also add to the list, as the Board went further along, Monica Road, Alden Road, and Dorothy Perley Road. The Board discussed noticing the abutters of Road #56 and it was decided that they would be noticed for the next meeting.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

***A MOTION was made by Mr. Heistad to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM.
The MOTION was seconded by Ms. Monroe.***

Roll Call Vote:

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Higgins
Recording Secretary