

**Town of Auburn
Board of Selectmen
May 18, 2015**

Selectmen Present: James Headd, Richard Eaton & Dale Phillips

Also Present: Rene LaBranche & Dan Tatem, Stantec Consulting; Keith Martel, Sterling Homes; Keith Coviello, LBDA; Road Agent Michael Dross, Armand Miclette and Town Administrator William Herman

Mr. Headd called the meeting to order at 11:12 am.

Hawthorne Drive

Mr. LaBranche and Mr. Tatem presented the Board with a report on deficiencies that had been found in Hawthorne Drive, and recommendations on how to proceed with repairing the items that had been identified.

Mr. LaBranche indicated the Road Agent had expressed concerns to Stantec on some of the conditions found in Hawthorne Drive within only a few years after its construction. The developer, Mr. Martel of Sterling Homes, had similar concerns on the conditions, and retained Miller Engineering & Testing to perform boring tests and otherwise review the area to develop data on the specific areas of concern. The developer coordinated with Stantec Consulting to develop a plan of attack to correct the deficiencies.

The deficiencies identified include:

- Puddling on the right-hand side of the road near the entrance (Station 2+00).
- Saturated side slope approximately 800-feet in from the road entrance (Station 8+30).
- Puddling and longitudinal cracking approximately 1,000-feet in from the road entrance (Station 15+50 to 1800).
- Heaved drainage culvert (Station 18+60).

Mr. LaBranche indicated Miller Engineering performed eight borings to look at soils, groundwater depth, etc., in the areas of concern. He indicated the areas in question have a silty-sand material and the reports suggest the road was built as it should have been according to Town standards, but other issues have come into play to cause the deficiencies of concern.

The recommendation for repairs to address the concerns include:

- Grading the area adjacent to the guardrails installed at approximately 800-feet in from the road entrance to address the drainage and the saturated side slope in the area.
- Existing underdrain is not effectively out putting the water it is handling, and needs to be improved in areas where puddling has occurred.
- Underdrain needs to be installed in the area of approximately Station 15+50 to 18+00 to address puddling and longitudinal cracking. In addition, an interceptor trench is recommended to pull water away from the underground utilities in the immediate area.
- The culvert that is problematic is recommended to be watched, but no construction action to be taken at this time. Stantec feels this is a more minor issue compared to the other items.

Mr. LaBranche indicated they believe if these steps are taken as remedial action, they will take care of the issues at hand and would put the road in good shape for the long term.

It was noted the current surety the Town is holding for Hawthorne Drive is approximately \$108,000. Mr. LaBranche felt if the developer were to make these remedial improvements to Hawthorne Drive, it would be appropriate for the Town to then reduce the surety to \$15,000 or \$20,000 to be held for one more year. The consensus of the Board was to agree with the proposals.

It was agreed Stantec Consulting would draft a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the developer that would define the work to be done on Hawthorne Drive; provide authorization for the developer to work on the Town road; and to establish a planned surety reduction once the remedial improvements have been completed.

Mr. LaBranche and Mr. Martel indicated it would be in the Town's best interest if the Planning Board were to look at its road standard and make some changes in their regulations to improve some of the construction efforts. Included in their suggestions were requiring boring be done in road areas during the development process to clearly identify where the groundwater table is. In addition, they believe adding an extra one-foot layer of sand into the roadway stratus of materials would also greatly improve road construction moving forward.

Mr. Eaton felt test pits or borings were important and should be performed every 100-feet to determine location of ledge and water table.

Mr. Dross felt more underdrain should be required in virtually all subdivision roads.

The Boards members were in agreement the updating of the Town's road regulations is timely and a good idea. Mr. LaBranche will advance information in this area to the Planning Board for their consideration.

Town Property Maintenance

Armand Miclette reported he felt it appeared Auburn was on the back-burner for the work schedule of the new lawn contractor, and that they and the Town were not yet on the same page. He indicated it has been a slow start, and the spring clean-up had not yet been done.

The Board agreed Mr. Miclette should continue to coach the firm along to secure the level of service the Town expects, and to report back to the Board at their next meeting on June 8th.

Spring Senior Trip

Armand Miclette reported the planned Spring Senior Trip on May 27th for a Lighthouse Cruise through Casco Bay has proven popular, and he has received five or six requests beyond the 55 people the bus will hold. The general policy for these trips have been to confirm individuals on a first-come, first-serve basis. Mr. Miclette indicated hiring a second bus would cost approximately \$1,100, which did not seem appropriate. Two or three times in the past when this happened, the Town rented a van to try and accommodate everyone, but the day of the trip there were enough "no shows" that the van was not needed and the Town was out the rental fees. That is what lead to the "first come, first serve" policy.

The Board members all indicated they received a telephone call from one of the individuals. They agreed to continue to follow the "first come, first serve" policy. They were also in agreement that if any of the five or six individuals wanted to follow the bus with their own vehicles, they could participate in the event. Financially, the Town would cover the admission and meal costs for them, while the Town would not charge the \$10 fee due to their using their own vehicle.

Mrs. Phillips agreed to report this information back to the individual who had contacted each of the Selectmen on this topic.

Adjourn

Mr. Eaton moved to adjourn; Mrs. Phillips seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.