



Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 1:00pm
Hanson Highway Building Committee
Select Board meeting room, Town Hall
Open session

Members Present: Ann Rein, Charles Baker, Michael Means, Stephen Graham, Jamison Shave

Members Absent:

Others Present: Lisa Green, Town Administrator

I **CALL TO ORDER**

This is missing the motions.

Ms. Green opened the meeting requested nominations for Chair.

MOTION by Mr. Shave, seconded by Mr. Baker, to nominate Ann Rein to as Chair of the Hanson Highway Building Committee. ***Voted 4 – 0***

Ms. Green congratulated Ms. Rein and passed the gavel.

MOTION by Mr. Shave, seconded by Mr. Baker, to nominate Michael Means as Vice Chair of the Hanson Highway Building Committee. ***Voted 4 – 0***

Ms. Rein called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Highway Building:

The last Highway Building Committee meeting occurred in January 2020. Mr. Shave stated there were no official minutes but he had some notes. There were discussions related to making asphalt instead of concrete walkways and removing the islands from parking lots to make snow removal easier.

2. Discussion of the Hawks Avenue Project

Mr. Shave shared there were original plans for Hawks Avenue, however they will need to be redone and updated. The location was ready for bid but the State submitted objections as the location, which includes the salt shed, was too close to the Burrage Pond and Wildlife Management Area. The original proposed plan from 2014 encompassed the current Highway Department site. Moving forward, the needs are the same; it will be fitting the plan into a new location that is beneficial for the Department. Mr. DeFrias

notified Mr. Shave that the plan was not approved by the Planning Board as not enough members were present for a vote. With the proposed new updates and layout at the current location of the Highway Department, Mr. DeFrias will resubmit to Land Planning, who will in turn re-stamp the plans. It can then be submitted to the Planning Board for approval. Mr. Shave also noted Westin and Sampson agreed using the current location, noting with the removal of the ballfields and skatepark it adds additional acreage and makes that location more feasible.

Westin and Sampson will review survey lines and analysis of the land to ensure there is nothing that would prohibit building. Mr. DeFrias will present an article for this at October Special Town Meeting. Mr. Shave has a quote but cannot move forward until the article is approved.

Ms. Green provided the historical background why this location was initially considered for the new Highway Building, which was donated to the T in 2018. The Highway Department needed a new location and the Hawks Avenue location initially appeared to be a good fit. However, with the Burrage located next to the property, the Fisheries and Wildlife departments forwarded correspondence expressing concerns related to the salt shed placement near environmental land. Mr. DeFrias expressed location concerns. The present location at 797 Indian Head Street is centrally located within the town. Moving to the Hawks location would place the department more than four miles from the furthest Hanson point. With that, on behalf of the Select Board, the Highway Committee reconvened to discuss the location of a new Highway building as well as the future of the Hawks Avenue property.

Mr. Shave presented the proposed scope of services from Westin and Sampson, totaling \$29,900. Ms. Rein noted the ball fields would need to be relocated. Mr. Shave stated that would be included in the feasible study, most likely related to the Maquan demolition. Ms. Green also stated the Town Planner applied for a Brownfield Redevelopment grant. With the restrictions on the deed for how the Hawks Avenue can be used, there is belief there may be contaminants on the land. The Town Planner is also looking for the environmental survey of the wetlands located behind the property. Mr. Shave and Mr. Means agreed there was a survey but neither have copies.

Ms. Green updated the Committee that the Maquan demolition RFP is being finalized to be published very soon.

If the Town receives the Brownfield grant, it will allow the Town to hire a licensed service professional to conduct studies of what is in the ground, how much is present and what the cost will be for cleanup. Secondary, if awarded, one of the stipulations of the grant is the property cannot be eligible for municipal or cannabis use. It requires business use instead. Mr. Baker questioned if the property could be used for dry storage, as currently the Town does not have any available. The building would need to be secured but can be equipped for that use.

MOTION by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Means, determined that the Hawks Avenue property is an unsuitable location for the relocation of the Highway Department. ***Voted 4 – 0***

III ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Means, to adjourn. ***Voted 4 – 0***

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Cunningham
Planning Administrative Assistant

Lynn McDowell
Executive Assistant