



TOWN OF SWANZEY

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Town of Swansey, New Hampshire
Christian Hill Bridge Advisory Committee Meeting
December 6, 2016
Whitcomb Hall, 17 Main Street, Swansey, NH

Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present were Committee Members Citizen Dan Lane, DPW Director Lee Dunham, Town Administrator Michael Branley, & Fire Chief Norm Skantze

Also present were Barbara Skuly and John Traynor

MOTION: Skantze moved to approve the August 3 meeting minutes as drafted, seconded by Lane. All in favor. Motion passes.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the preliminary engineering report from Hoyle and Tanner. With the exception of Alternative 3, the other options should qualify for 80% NHDOT Bridge Aid Funding. Lane stated he felt the Committee should meet with Hoyle and Tanner to discuss the options. The strategy for moving forward was discussed.

MOTION: Branley moved to eliminate Alternative 3 (pedestrian bridge with offsite intersection improvements), Lane seconded. All in favor. Motion passes.

MOTION: Branley moved to eliminate Alternative 2 (timber framed structure), seconded by Lane. Branley noted that while timber frame is significantly more expensive overall the Town's 20% share is only about \$40,000 more. He also noted some sort of timber guardrail may be an option with another alternative to meet aesthetic preferences. Crash testing of guardrails was discussed. All in favor. Motion passes.

MOTION: Skantze moved to eliminate Alternative 1B Corrugated steel plate arch, seconded by Lane. Skantze noted that the cost is slightly lower than Alternative 1A, but it is not significant. All in favor. Motion passes.

The remaining option is Alternative 1A precast concrete arch. The Committee discussed how to proceed.

MOTION: Branley moved to recommend to the Board of Selectmen Alternative 1A (precast concrete arch) and to recommend scheduling a public informational session with the Selectmen and Hoyle and Tanner the week of January 16th, seconded by Lane. Mailing notice of the meeting to property owners on Christian Hill Road, Main Street, and other adjacent streets was discussed. All in favor. Motion passes.

The Committee discussed how this project would likely not be ready for action at Town Meeting in 2017, however perhaps a warrant article could appear to fund additional engineering and to gauge the public's interest in replacing the bridge. Branley noted that unlike most other bridge projects, replacement is not a given.

MOTION : Lane moved to designate Dunham to determine an amount to be appropriated to the bridge capital reserve fund for next year specifically for this project, seconded by Skantze. All in favor. Motion passes.

The Committee agreed to direct Dunham to touch base with Hoyle and Tanner to discuss the status of the project and get their input on potential funding in 2017 to keep the project moving forward.

MOTION: Skantze moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:10, seconded by Lane. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.