

Highway Facility Committee

13 OCTOBER 2022 / 6:00 PM / 89 Whiting Hill Road (Town Barn) /CONFERENCE ROOM

Attendees

Kellie-Sue Boissonault (Chair), Bruce Berry (Co-Chair), Nick Germain (Town Administrator), Mike Tatro (Wilton DPW Director), Dave Boissonnault (Wilton EM Director), Deb Mortvedt
Invited Guests: Karin Walker and Shannon Coffey

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Review/approve past meeting minutes.
3. July 14th and August 11th minutes accepted.
4. Discuss proposed land.
5. Discuss going before the Select Board to encourage an engineering study.

New Business

6. Stuck with a lack of a location.
7. Sites 31S and 31N, recycling center or purchase property.
8. Recommendation from this Committee is the 31S property.
9. Asked what size is needed for the facility, Mike Tatro responded with the needs of the DPW for material and vehicle storage.
10. Kellie-Sue spoke about the committee's work and the sites we have visited and the buildings the committee has seen and has an idea that Brookline's DPW Building is a site we might want to model our building on.
11. Dave Boissonnault mentioned the safety concerns of the current facility that dates to the mid 1950's.

12. Deb Mortvedt addressed the future needs of the facility and the goals that a new building should/could be equipped with solar panels and or electric charging stations with an eye towards future needs/requirements.
13. Bruce Berry spoke of his experience working for the DPW in other towns and as a firefighter and the needs/requirements/thoughts gained from those years in those positions.
14. Mike Tatro mentioned the DPW will continue to grow in the future and in equipment/employees and the current building/site does not meet those.
15. Bruce Berry commented on the current footprint and the building isn't ideal for future expansion at least for the DPW needs/requirements.
16. Concerns about the 31S property being so close to the aquifer.
17. Bruce Berry mentioned that we need to approach this site in a proactive environmentally safe aspect and an engineering/environmental study is needed to verify if that site is appropriate.
18. Test wells on any site will be needed, regardless of any site chosen.
19. Concerns about the protection of the aquifer and one of the problems mentioned is that it's impossible for the committee to properly address the environmental/cost aspects of a placement of a building at the 31S as a possible site.
20. Karen Walker mentioned the Wilton Economic Development Team might be able to help explore possible town owned sites to compare with 31S.
21. Karen Walker mentioned the aquifer regulations both Federal and State are likely to become more stringent, as they should be and we may not be grandfathered in with a new facility.
22. Bruce Berry mentioned that the bridge at the Stony Brook/Quinn Bros. property is a financial liability for the town and if it's even adequate for the size and weight of the DPW vehicles.
23. The possibility was mentioned of "two" sites with seasonal resources (salt/sand). The feasibility was discussed about being short staffed and the employees loading their own trucks. The ideal is not to separate the employees from their equipment and the resources. Most of the equipment and resources are used year round.
24. The CIP funds could be used for studies, but the concern is the current funding is inadequate. Currently at \$223,000.
25. Warrant Article to be suggested to increase that amount.

Action Items

1. Nick Germain to explore if impact fees can be directed towards studies for possible sites.

2. Two Warrant Articles are needed for money for the Highway Facility CIP and to appoint the Select Board as agent to spend. December is the due date for Warrant Articles.

Next Meeting Date: TBD

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