

## WEST WINDSOR SELECTBOARD

Draft Minutes  
October 20, 2010

Present: Glenn Seward, Tom Kenyon, Bruce Boedtke, Mike Spackman

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Glenn Seward called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM.
- 2) Discuss plans for repairing storm damage to Rush Meadow Road – Mike said he initially thought there were two bank slides on Rush Meadow Road as a result of the rainstorm on Friday – one 20' x 50' section just north of the intersection with Delano Road and another 40' x 60' section. Mike said the project areas extend out of the town right-of-way so it's a good idea to get permission to do the work from the adjoining landowners. Mike said he, Jim Kenyon and Glenn Seward met at 7:00 AM on Monday to talk about the situation, and then he called Trevor Starr at the Agency of Transportation to talk about emergency town highway funds. Mike said Trevor came to see the damage on Monday afternoon. Mike said he asked Dan Lesnick to fix the culvert by Phil Mallon's old property on Monday afternoon. Mike said he got permission from all the adjoining landowners on Monday. Mike said he took photos of all the damage, including the damage on the third slide that was discovered. Mike said his initial estimate to repair all the damage was \$75,000, which Trevor said was high enough that West Windsor would qualify for emergency funding. Mike said he thinks it will take about 3 weeks to complete the work. Mike said Glenn contacted Patrick Ross on Sunday about a stream alteration permit. Glenn said Patrick was here yesterday at 9:00 AM. Mike said Glenn re-estimated the project costs in more detail as follows: \$25,000 for stone, \$9,200 for trucking, \$28,500 for equipment rental, \$3,000 for gravel, and \$1,100 for tree removal for a total of \$66,800. According to Mike, Patrick said the town doesn't need a stream alteration permit to do emergency work. Mike said when the Brownsville-Hartland Road collapsed, the town was approved for \$100,000 and spent \$89,000. Mike said for each of the current incidents, we're approved for \$500,000 and there are three incidents. Mike said he filled out the grant paperwork, Glenn signed it, and he sent it in yesterday. Mike said he is going to call Trevor this morning to make sure all the paperwork is in order. Trevor said it's important to monitor the projects and keep them all separate. Mike said the highway department may do a little preventive maintenance on the slide just north of Delano Road, based on Trevor's recommendation. The cost for that would come out of the town's highway funds because it's outside the scope of the project. The extra maintenance work would consist of placing a stone footer keyway further to the north because there's a big tree and a huge crack 15' long, which creates the potential for another slide. Mike said Patrick Ross agreed with that recommendation and suggested removing the tree and leaving the stump in the ground. Mike said the Goodman project, which is Project #3, will probably be completed later today. Mike said Project #2 is the one just north of Delano Road and he'll probably close the road for safety reasons when they work on that one. Bruce asked if the first \$23,000 comes out of the town budget. Mike said no, the state pays for everything from its Town Highway Emergency Fund program if the cost of the damage is greater than 10% of the town's summer maintenance budget. Mike said the grant paperwork does ask if the town has codes and standards and if the town has done an infrastructure study. Mike said West Windsor has both and he thinks that makes a difference. Mike said Trevor doesn't think Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding will be used because the total storm damage didn't exceed the \$1,000,000 threshold, but Mike said they are doing everything as if the funding were coming from FEMA. Mike said they may do an emergency hydraulic study on the culvert near the Mallon property, which may qualify for replacement with a 3' culvert. If it qualifies for replacement, Mike said, the cost could be included in the cost of the overall project. Tom commended Mike for acting quickly. Tom asked if there is any additional mitigation work that could be done. Mike said the highway department is planning to do the mitigation work that Trevor recommended. In regards to the flooding around Eb Kinney's house, Tom asked Mike if he could tell if a big surge of water came down Willow Brook. Mike said he looked for stream bank erosion all the way through and he didn't

see anything. Mike said according to Trevor, the collapse on the Goodman property was caused by a partially plugged culvert just north of there, and the other two were caused by total soil saturation. Mike said the highway department will haul the rock to keep trucking costs down, but they may need 100 yards of 1' or 2' stone from West Lebanon for the biggest project. Tom said he would hate to see the road closed for too long. Mike said they won't close the road for the Schofield project, Project #1, because the access road is going to be cut in from Rush Meadow Road. Mike said the slides had nothing to do with Willow Brook. Bruce asked why it has to be considered three different projects if the damage was all caused by the same storm. Mike said there are three different affected areas, so Trevor wants the costs for each itemized separately because that's what FEMA would require. Mike said the money for the projects comes from the town initially and then the state reimburses the town so the town may have to borrow money. Mike said the cost information has to be submitted to the state within 45 days of completing the project and the state does quarterly inspections. Mike said with the Brownsville-Hartland Road collapse, the work was done in November and the town was reimbursed by the state before the end of the year. Tom said documentation of expenses is critical. Tom said Dan Lesnick did the work on Beaver Brook and it seems to be working really well. Tom said Dan thinks we should take the two trees out. Tom said Dan didn't put the berm close to where the problem is, he moved it down slightly so there's a bigger area there so when the water came down it smoothed it out a little. Bruce said removing the trees is covered under the permit. Glenn said yes and noted that Patrick Ross was asking about that yesterday. **Bruce made a motion to approve the work on Rush Meadow Road, as described by the Highway Foreman. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** Glenn said he told Patrick that, due to budget constraints and other reasons, the town has only done a small portion of the Beaver Brook project so far. Glenn said he and Mike asked Patrick to look at the culvert replacement on Silver Hill, but Patrick didn't have time to look at it yesterday. Mike said West Windsor got 4.2" of rain on Friday, and over 6" just prior to that, so we had over 10" of rain in two weeks. Tom asked if there used to be an emergency exit for Yale Heights. Mike said when the covered bridge collapsed, there was a temporary agreement with George Senkler. Tom said the water was touching the bottom of the bridge near Mike's old house last Friday. Mike said Gary Austin felt a little uncomfortable going up Yale Heights Road in the grader because the water was up to the rims. Tom said it appears to him that raising the road is not an option. Tom said it's too bad there isn't an alternate route for emergencies. Mike said he thinks something could be worked out with Mr. Senkler. Glenn said the property owners ought to do that. Bruce said if it's a safety issue, couldn't you just use that access in an emergency. Tom said the Selectboard can lay out roads. Mike said if you had to get a fire truck up there, you'd find a way. Tom suggested that Glenn contact the Yale Heights Property Owners Association and express the town's concern about the lack of an alternate emergency access to the development. Glenn agreed.

- 3) Adjourn – **Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 AM. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison