

WEST WINDSOR SELECTBOARD

Draft Minutes

July 8, 2014

Present: Glenn Seward, Tom Kenyon, Courtney McKaig, Jason Rasmussen (Regional Planning Commission), Mike Spackman, Elvin Kaplan, Martha Harrison

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Glenn Seward called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
- 2) Changes or Additions – None
- 3) Announcements/Public Comment – None
- 4) Discuss update of Pedestrian Master Plan – Jason noted the town’s interest in updating the plan to address both pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. Jason suggested increasing the size of the study area as needed to address issues associated with bicycling. Glenn agreed that the study area should be expanded to include Brownsville-Hartland Road, Route 44, and the resort area. Jason shared a map from the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) study. Courtney suggested including “Drop & Bike” locations in the plan. Courtney noted the lack of shoulder on Bridge #4. Glenn said the state added three feet on the upstream side of Bridge #7. Issues raised included: poor visibility due to the bank east of Bridge #7 (which *may* be addressed during the sewer project); connection to mountain bike trails/Coaching Lane; improvement of road biking infrastructure (shoulders, etc.) to address safety concerns; and signage. Jason asked if the widened shoulder on the north side of Route 44 between Seems Road and the Post Office is adequate or if improvements are still needed. There was discussion about widening the shoulder on the south side as well, and paving both shoulders. Glenn said he doesn’t think a curbed sidewalk is necessary along that section of road. There was discussion about the process for establishing crosswalks. Mike said the state will not allow a crosswalk unless there is a curbed sidewalk on both sides of the road. Jason said he will find out if the state will make exceptions under certain circumstances. Jason referenced the new school travel plan which suggests a sidewalk extension on the east side of Brownsville-Hartland Road from the Town Hall to the school, and a sidewalk on the south side of Route 44 from the General Store to the intersection at the center of the village. Jason said a sidewalk on the south side of Route 44 would allow for a crosswalk. Tom said snow coming off the church roof could be problematic with regards to a sidewalk extension along Brownsville-Hartland Road. Jason said there would also be parking and drainage issues that would need to be addressed in that area. Tom said the telephone pole between the church and the school may have to be moved. Tom suggested thinking about burying the power lines while the road is dug up for sewer construction. Martha asked about the time frame for a state-funded project of this nature. Jason estimated four years from beginning to end. Jason said he anticipates a grant opportunity this fall. Jason suggested a public information meeting in August. Martha asked about coordinating with the state with regard to Route 44. Jason said the state plans to pave Route 44 in the next few years so it would be good for them to know about the town’s concerns and priorities, and discuss how they might be able to work with the town to address them. Mike said the town did most of the work on the shoulder on the north side of Route 44 with the understanding that the state would pave the shoulder the next time they pave the road. Mike said Tammy Ellis is the person he spoke with about it. Glenn said Tammy will also be

involved in the decision about replacing the structures under Route 44 during the sewer project. Glenn suggested meeting with Tammy to discuss these issues and projects. Martha asked if the state will be widening Bridge #4. Mike said not really; the support structure will only allow for minimal widening. Mike said he doesn't think Bridge #7 is going to be 3' wider. Glenn suggested talking with Gary Sweeny. Martha asked about putting a path through the floodplain property on the south side of Route 44. Mike said there are two culverts that would have to be taken into consideration. Glenn said if the path isn't raised, the culverts wouldn't be an issue. Jason asked about the final design plans for the sewer, which side of the road it's going to be on, and whether or not a sidewalk can be constructed on top of it. Glenn said the engineers are waiting for the archeological study to be finished but he will get an update from them today. Jason said the Safe Routes to School study would influence the plans for the sidewalk on the east side of Brownsville-Hartland Road. Jason asked if the school has discussed any of this. Courtney said she talked about the School Zone Safety Initiative at the last School Board meeting. Glenn said the Safety Initiative includes funding for a crosswalk over Brownsville-Hartland Road at the intersection with Route 44. There was discussion about a pedestrian bridge if the bridge in the center of the village isn't wide enough to accommodate a sidewalk on the south side of Route 44. Courtney said she heard from Abby Mattera that there is an "implied crosswalk" at every intersection. Courtney said she will provide the town with a copy of the SRTS travel plan, which includes modifications to the school parking areas. Tom suggested putting additional parking where the school's septic mound is after the sewer system is constructed. Courtney asked Mike to comment on the school's parking diagram. Mike noted that there are maintenance issues associated with curbs. Martha asked if the Coaching Lane-Route 44 intersection project should be included. Tom noted the need for a safe way to cross Route 44 from Coaching Lane to Bowers Road. Mike said the state is coming up with a design for the intersection. Regarding paved parking behind the school, Elvin asked about runoff to the brook. Jason said stormwater issues would have to be taken into consideration. Tom said Windsor is not planning to replace the bridge on Brook Road, which affects the amount of bike traffic on Route 44. Mike noted that West Windsor is maintaining a portion of Brook Road that belongs to Windsor. Glenn said we need to come to an agreement with Windsor on a permanent solution to that situation. Courtney said, regarding the School Zone Safety Initiative, the School Board wants it done immediately but, since it's federally funded, we have to wait until the funds are allocated, probably next summer. There was discussion about who owns the right-of-way associated with Snowstorm I, between the fire station and the Smith house.

- 5) Sign orders – **Tom moved to sign the Town Clerk's orders. Glenn seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 6) Adjourn – **Glenn moved to adjourn at 9:00 AM. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison