ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 1, 2012

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Rolf Olsen, Chairman; Sam Gifford, Selectman; Nathan White, Public Works Director; Don Willard, Town Manager; Bob Harmon, Committee member; and Danielle Loring, technical support.

OTHERS: One

1. Call to order: Rolf Olsen called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm at the Broadcast Studio.

MOTION: Sam Gifford motioned to approve the minutes from November 16, 2011. Seconded by Bob Harmon.
VOTE: Unanimous

COMMENT: Mr. Gifford wanted to note that Mr. White has been very busy the past few days without much sleep and want to thank him for attending tonight.


Nathan White explained his plan using a power point presentation. He reviewed the type of roads Raymond has and said that the town is responsible for only the town accepted roads and plow the state routes [85, 121]. The state was responsible for maintenance for Route, 85, 121, & 302. He continued that the commuter roads Raymond maintains are Valley Rd., Plains Rd., and Main Street which is 4.440 miles. Priority roads in developments [subdivisions] are Panther Pond Pines, Patricia Ave., Canal Road & Salmon Run, Tarkiln Hill to the “t”, and Tenney Hill Road for a total of 2.975 miles. Tenney Hill and Tarkiln are presently in the worst shape. Major problems come from alligator edging on the road edges which makes the roads difficult to maintain. The cost is $160,000 per mile for reclaiming and $2.50/ft for ditching. Culverts purchase and installation are $74/ft. One mile of overlay at 1.5 inches depth is $65,000. He felt Raymond should be completing 4 miles per year in order to have a 10 year turn around schedule. Asphalt maintenance mulch of 1” depth will give about 10 years of service at $30,000/mile. He plans to do 1 mile of Valley Road this year and next year the second mile and then overlay it to keep it for a long time. He thought working this schedule should have by 2015 all roads to a point where they will need only overlay to keep them serviceable on a 4 to 5 year cycle. Mr. White added that beyond the cost of asphalt they should consider the additional
cost of $30,000 per year for construction costs i.e. ditching, surface preparation, patching, cracking sealing etc. He noted that they were going to use a computer Local Road Program developed by the state to track Raymond’s road work.

Mr. White felt that it was more cost effective to use a road plan which doesn’t go beyond Raymond work ability each year. If we do more we will have to hire extra help which increases the cost. He wanted to accomplish 2 miles of prep work annually.

Mr. Harmon asked about the retiring bonds. Mr. White recommended shifting the amount of our current annual bond payment when retired to the roads account. Mr. Willard suggested that the other departments which have payments in the current bond would have ideas of how they might use their part of the expired bond payment. There was discussion about the current low rates for bonding. Mr. Willard noted that the Fire Department and MMWAC would most likely be heading into a bond for needed work or equipment for which Raymond would be responsible. He thought that the payment of $95,000 per year could be bonded again and then more as felt necessary. Mr. Olsen talked about a $1 million bond for roads over the next 10 years. It was felt it would pass if a list of roads to be maintained was provided. He added that if the bond passes this year Raymond would only be paying interest and the full payment would begin the second year [2013-2014]. It was said that extra work might save $1/ton for asphalt because of quantity pricing. Mr. Olsen thought the bond money should be used for reconstruction and general maintenance of roads should be raised by the town. Mr. Willard said that the money to be raised could be in an LD1 override vote. Mr. Olsen asked to find out what the rates on a bond will be before this town meeting. Mr. Willard felt there should be a place holder in the budget for the interest payment. Mr. Olsen felt they should use the same amount at last year.

Mr. White felt that the $240,000 plus this year’s carry over would be enough for the 2012-2013 budget. Mr. Olsen said that they would have to decide how many years Raymond would have to use the bond money. Mr. White said that last one was for 3 years.

COMMENT: Mr. Gifford thanked Mr. White and Mrs. Loring for the excellent presentation.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Broadcast Studio.

ADJOURNMENT: Rolf Olsen adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.