

Board of Finance Special Meeting (joint with Board of Selectmen)
March 11, 2024
6:00 pm
Meeting held remotely

Call to Order: Board of Finance Chair Michael Imber called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Also in attendance were Selectwoman Samantha Nestor, Selectman Tony Pesco, Selectman Kerem Dinlenc, BOF Vice Chair Jeffrey Farr, BOF members Rone Baldwin, Theresa Brasco, Chris Bryant, Amy Gare, Jeff Goldstein, Town Administrator Karl Kilduff, DPW Director Larry Roberts and Finance Director Rick Darling.

Discussion regarding Town road paving including history of expenditures and plans moving forward. Jeff Farr, Board of Finance, Tony Pesco, Board of Selectmen, Larry Roberts, DPW Director: Mr. Imber welcomed all to the joint meeting for the purpose of reviewing the historical context of Road Paving for the TOW. Selectwoman Nestor introduced Selectman Pesco, DPW Director Larry Roberts, Town Administrator Karl Kilduff and BOF Vice Chairman Jeff Farr who compiled the historical presentation for review. The purpose of the review is to gain an understanding of the past planned and completed work and provide a better idea of what the needs are when the Beta Group study is completed.

Selectman Pesco reviewed the Beta Group study from 2019 as well as modifications to road paving from 2022 and 2023. A chart for the original RSR recommendations and other town comparisons as well as a modified table of roads that have been done over the last 5 years was provided. Mr. Farr and Mr. Roberts discussed work that was done which varied from work planned. Mr. Roberts provided a draft of prioritization of roads/work to be done over the next few years. Selectman Pesco discussed that the new updated Beta Group study reassessment will give an opportunity to see what DPW has already prioritized, look at the reassessment and then plan accordingly.

The Data Analysis and Planning for the RSR rating of 70 was reviewed dating back to 2019. Investments needed for this plan as well as maintenance investment was reviewed. Mr. Farr noted the debt service falling off in 2024 and the surge of investment for roads. Weston road paving from 2019-2023 by road type and repair classification was reviewed as well as any LOTCIP grants. Selectman Pesco noted that the Beta Group suggestion was followed up to 2023. In 2023 half of the 18 roads suggested by Beta Groups were followed and half were not. Of those 18 the town did 7 of the recommended and added other roads. This was a combination of DPW identifying needs and resident complaints.

Beta Group's cost benefit analysis list of roads was discussed. The new camera study will also include a cost benefit recommendation on how to prioritize roads. DPW's draft prioritization of future work ahead of the Beta Group study was reviewed. Based on Bega Group's new study, new RSR numbers and comparisons will be prioritized. Maintenance of roads on the draft prioritization for future work was also discussed. Mr. Roberts discussed that the first 4 years are triage for fixing Weston roads, it does not include preventative maintenance on the roads. Future maintenance of roads was further discussed.

Selectman Dinlenc had questions on Beta's logic on plans and long term planning. Mr. Baldwin discussed the necessity to set long term paving goals and strategy and discussed the need to plan what is needed to maintain RSR ratings. Ms. Brasco discussed future maintenance of the road as well as RSR.

Mr. Baldwin noted paving expenditures from 2021-2024 as a concern as an expense above what was budgeted. Selectman Pesco noted that the Beta Group study will show where the benefits were. Mr. Farr spoke about preventative maintenance alternatives of rubber and chip seal that should be considered.

Mr. Imber thanked all for the historical context noting there is more analytical work to be done once the study is completed.

Adjournment: Mr. Imber motioned to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Dinlenc. Motion passes unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Minutes Submitted By: Shawn Amato, Recording Secretary