

**Board of Selectmen Meeting Notes****Jackson – Bridge I 44/056 - NH Route 16 over Ellis River  
NHDOT Project Number 27709**

Date: Thursday, August 13, 2015

Time: 4:30 pm

Attendees: NHDOT: Bob Landry, Phil Brogan  
GPI: John Watters, Steve Langevin  
Board of Selectmen: John Allen (Chair), Bob Thompson, Bill Lockard  
Town Office Administrator: Julie Atwell  
Chief of Police: Douglas Jette  
Fire Department Chief/Road Agent: Jay Henry  
Public: See attached Board of Selectmen Minutes

Location: Jackson Town Offices  
54 Main Street  
Jackson, NH 03846

- John Allen started the meeting at 4:30 pm. The Jackson Bridge was the fourth item on the itinerary and started at 5:08 pm.
- Bob Landry introduced NHDOT representatives and GPI consultants present at the meeting.
  - Bob Landry, NHDOT Bridge Design
  - Steve Langevin, GPI Project Engineer
  - John Watters, GPI Project Manager
  - Phil Brogan, NHDOT Project Engineer
- John Watters distributed handouts of the presentation slides to the attendees.
- Bob Landry explained that this is an introductory meeting very early in the process and that it is the first of three meetings with the Town.
- Bob Landry asked the Chief of Police to stay for his input on both actual accidents and near accidents.
- Phil Brogan began the PowerPoint presentation.
  - Project location information in reference to NH Route 16 and NH Route 16A.
  - Aerial and ground level photos of the bridge were shown.
- Jay Henry stated that there are sight line issues. There have been several accidents and lack of visibility is an issue due to brush and parapets hindering sight lines.
- Phil Brogan resumed the presentation
  - Photos of the existing bridge components were shown.
  - Bridge information was presented (length, type, age, and width of bridge, sidewalks, stone facing, Red List status and Bridge Priority).
  - Bridge components were presented (bridge typical section, frame, abutment, wingwall, parapet,

- fascia stones, construction joints, deck underside and pier).
- Inspection findings were presented:
    - Efflorescence/leaking, exposed reinforcing and spalled concrete were shown at each deck joint.
    - Loose cap stones and missing mortar were shown. It was explained that efflorescence and leaking in the parapet were signs of water infiltration behind the stone facing.
    - The curb reveal was shown at 3 inches and explained that the bridge carries around 5.5 inches of additional pavement.
  - Jay Henry stated that the reveal was 1 inch last year before bridge pavement was removed and replaced to result in the current 3 inch reveal.
  - Phil Brogan resumed the presentation
    - Inspection findings:
      - Sidewalk spalls were shown.
    - Considerations for the Town were presented
      - Detours for construction were presented as impractical and inadequate:
        - 75 mile detour around Mt. Washington
        - Route 16A detour with weight restricted covered bridge
      - Traffic control alternatives were presented:
        - Alternating one lane with traffic signal for 2 phase construction
        - Two-way traffic with a temporary or offline bridge
    - Intersection site lines were described as inadequate from Green Hill Road
    - Input from the Town was requested on the following topics:
      - Safety concerns with existing situation
      - Pedestrian or bike usage
      - Flooding
      - Historic
      - Abutters – Golf course and others
      - Other concerns or comments
  - Jay Henry stated that the bridge held up fine during Hurricane Irene.
  - Bob Landry explained that the project is in the 10 year plan, Right of Way is about a 7 year process and that redistribution of funds may be available. He also requested safety and sidewalk input.
  - Douglas Jette stated that drivers cross the road centerline when passing pedestrians that are on the bridge when passing. He also stated that drivers use the NH Route 16A loop
  - Bob Landry mentioned the possibility of removing the west sidewalk to widen the roadway.
  - Douglas Jette asked about the possibility of moving sidewalks to the outside of the bridge rail.
  - Jay Henry asked what the length of the project would be. Bob Landry responded that it would be as short as possible. Jay Henry added that the Town upgraded all sidewalks in the area except at this bridge.

Bob Landry responded that the State would likely provide 100 feet of new sidewalk for each approach. Jay Henry indicated that the town would be interested in providing new sidewalk not included in this project.

- Bob Thompson asked about changing the current width of the bridge. Bob Landry responded that the abutments and pier is in good shape and that concrete testing will be conducted on the bridge. If the concrete is in good condition a rehab will be likely, if the concrete is in bad condition the width of the bridge would likely be replaced and the width of the bridge could be increased.
- Bob Thompson asked about the schedule for the testing. Bob Landry deferred the question to John Watters who responded that conclusions from the concrete testing report could be available sometime in October.
- Bob Landry asked the Town if October is a bad time for a Public Information Meeting or would summer be better. Bob Thompson replied that October would be fine for the next meeting. Bob Landry said that the size of the meeting would need to accommodate about 50 people.
- Jay Henry asked about the historical significance of the bridge and Douglas Jette asked what the basis of historical significance of the bridge would be based upon. Bob Landry responded that the State Division of Historical Resources would review modifications to the bridge.
- Bob Thompson stated that the west side poses a safety issue at Green Hill Road. He also pointed out that the 1 mile loop is popular. Bob Landry reiterated that the improvements to the sight lines is contingent on the results from the concrete testing and if the bridge requires replacement.
- Bea Davis asked why the west rail couldn't be cut down similar to another bridge in the Town with safety issues. Bob Thompson asked about the minimum allowed height of bridge rail.
- John Watters asked the Town about documented crash data. Douglas Jette stated that there are some records, but they would not be easily obtained without going through paper files. Douglas Jette said there are some accidents, but also near misses that are not recorded.
- Jay Henry stated that there is about one accident per year at the bridge.
- Bob Landry asked if the Town would be opposed to open bridge rail on the west (Green Hill Road) side of the bridge.
- John Allen asked about the possibility of raising Green Hill Road. Jay Henry added that raising Green Hill Road would help increase sight distance from Green Hill Road. Bob Landry stated concern over impacts to the golf course on the southwest corner of the bridge. Jay Henry responded that there is a berm on the west side of the bridge that would help allow the raising of Green Hill Road.
- Bob Thompson asked when the Town could get the results of the concrete testing. Bob Landry replied that the results will be presented in the Public Information Meeting.
- John Watters stated that traffic data for the intersection of Green Hill Road and NH Route 16 is forthcoming.
- Jay Henry stated that the Town would incorporate new sidewalk in conjunction with the project and asked when they could do so. Bob Landry responded, any time.

- Phil Brogan stated that the culvert at the golf course was replaced in 1995. Bob Landry added that the golf course culvert would be stay the same width. There are no construction plans or pictures that indicate how the culvert was replaced, whether by staged construction or road closure.
- Douglas Jette asked is the rate of deterioration can be calculated. Bob Landry responded that it cannot be calculated and proceeded to explain that water flowing through the drain pipes is causing rusted reinforcing and concrete deterioration.
- John Allen asked if water would continue to be allowed to drain to the river. Bob Landry replied, no, it would need to be treated first.
- The bridge topic on the meeting agenda concluded.