

Town of Tamworth
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
June 22, 2010
Runnell's Hall

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Members present John Roberts, William Farnum and Robert Abraham

Others present Administrative Asst. Cassandra Pearce, Representatives of HE Bergeron, Ed Bergeron and Jay Poulin, John Wacker of John Wacker Associates, John Gotjen, John Wheeler, Sandra Flanagan, John & Kathy Dyrenforth, Jim Bowditch, Bob Seston, Kent & Betty Schneider, Nancy Lee Hanson, Ruth Timchak, Joan Peters, Joe Quirk, Pat Farley, Tom Peters and Anne Abear.

PUBLIC HEARING-
Choc Comm Project

Mr. Poulin advised that the purpose of this meeting was to acquire public input regarding the outcome of phase I of the Chocorua Project and to gather ideas of what the community would like to see accomplished during phase II & III. Mr. Poulin advised that the plan presented would be utilized as a reference only as the work to be completed for phase II & III has not been established at this time. He continued by advising that this is the 1st public hearing and additional hearings will be scheduled.

1. Project History –

- a. Phase I construction included approximately 750 feet of roadway improvements including sidewalks, drainage, and resurfacing of the roadway.
- b. Public Input – question #1
 - a. How do you feel about the phase I project accomplishments?
 - i. Jim Bowditch advised that the work done allowed for additional parking, but expressed his concern about the railing used around the bioretention area. He expressed a desire to have the area turned into a park.
 - ii. John Gotjen also advised that parking had been improved. He expressed a concern that the project was to improve pedestrian safety by way of adding sidewalks and crosswalks. With the lack of maintenance of the sidewalks that have been placed, an accident is waiting to happen.
 - iii. Sandra Flanagan advised the fact that sidewalks have been placed is an asset, but cannot be utilized most of the year. She expressed a concern of the narrowing of the roadway with speed being an issue. Recommended the engineer look at making the sidewalks level with the roadway and of a different material being utilized to distinguish it as a pedestrian way.
 - iv. Tom Peters discussed the goals of the project that were presented through a power point presentation 6 – 7 years ago. He advised the purpose of the project was to improve safety within the village of Chocorua and felt the prior engineers had laid out a very comprehensive plan with an estimated cost of \$3,000,000 to complete the entire project. The objectives were to slow the traffic and create a safe area for pedestrians who can appreciate the village.

He advised the goals were only partially accomplished in phase I and a further hazard has been created with the small ramp at the end of sidewalk that goes from 113 N in front of the post office. He expressed a concern with the project not addressing the hazard at G3's store.

- v. Pat Farley – Hopes that the entire project will end up with a small town look of a village. She advised Chocorua was the 1st village that one travels through along Route 16 N. She further discussed the location of the fencing around the bioretention area be beautified so that it can be utilized as a park. Lighting was another concern expressed.
- vi. John Gotjen advised the bioretention area was not being utilized to its full extent as not all catch basins are run to the area.
- vii. Sandra Flanagan expressed a need to make the bioretention area more appealing.
- viii. John Wheeler discussed a concern of the triangle near the post office especially during the winter months with the accumulation of snow.
- ix. Nancy Hanson spoke of educating drivers that a pedestrian within a crosswalk means traffic should stop.
- x. Sandra Flanagan requested a consideration be given to changing the plan to be more conducive to the public as she was confused on the north/south direction.

2. Project Parameters

Mr. Poulin advised that the project is 100% federally funded and the project requires that their requirements and guidelines be met throughout the phase. The project will be guided through the assistance of NH DOT as a transportation enhancement project. The project has been assigned a Senior Planner through NHDOT – William Rose. The funds available for the construction of the project are \$800,000; the remaining funds of the grant will be utilized for permitting, engineering and administration.

3. Design process/schedule

1. Engineering Study Phase (July 2010) - design the scope of the project by taking input from the residents, identify the priorities and come up with a scope of work that meets the need of the community and within the budget. The Selectmen will be presented with a plan that falls within the funds available. NH DOT will require approval of the plan.
2. Preliminary Design (August 2010) – preliminary design to be presented at a future public hearing.
3. Permitting (August 2010-November 2010) – May be required.
4. Final Design (January 2011)
5. Construction (May – October 2011)

4. Phase II

- Priorities
 - Core village improvements to include safety through the village. Route 16 and Route 113 area.
 - Traffic calming measures north and south. Alignment shifting and curbing to slow down the traffic.

- Mr. Poulin presented index cards to the attendees asking for them to write down what they would like to be considered priorities within this next phase of the project. Priorities as presented in no particular order included:
 - Chocorua Road sidewalks
 - Access improvements,
 - Deer Hill Road sidewalks
 - Attractive Energy efficient lighting (mentioned several times)
 - Relocation of the post office entrance
 - Drainage pond and bioretention area
 - Route 16 road shifting with curbing along this area
 - Work on Route 16 south of Route 113 by G3 Store
 - Vehicles and pedestrians need summer and winter travel areas
 - More parking
 - Village appearance
 - Coordination between Town and State for cooperating maintenance of sidewalks and roadway, expand the concept to Route 113 east and west to Runnell's Hall Road to Route 16 intersection.
 - Non curbed sidewalks with simulated textures
 - Improvements to the Bioretention area.
 - Plantings/landscape work for appearance.
 - Charming village appearance
 - Runnell's Lane & Route 113 E
 - Quirk building triangle, which was destroyed during 1st phase, Route 16 and Runnell's Hall intersections.
 - Page Hill Road and 113 intersections
 - Deer Hill Road
 - Sidewalks
 - Parking at G3
 - 113 into 16 turning north.
 - No more lighting
 - 113 from Runnell's Hall turning south on Route 16
 - More trees versus road bearings.
 - Correctly complete work in phase I & add sidewalks
 - Ramp from Runnell's Hall Road to Route 16
 - Slowing traffic along Route 16 south of village – road shifts and improving intersection of 16 and 113.
 - Additional parking for the library not pavement, just parking.
 - Core village area.
 - Define G3's traffic flow
 - Post Office driveway sight line
 - Do not allow for a bus stop. Relocate this to Tamworth Market Place on Route 16.
 - Add a bus stop
 - Finish the railing for the ramp
 - Widening of Deer Hill Road with visual markers
 - Raise a gazebo in the bio retention area
 - More signage for crosswalks, lighted radar speed.
 - Slow traffic at the end of Page Hill Road at Route 113.

- Increase visibility at intersections
- Consider traffic lights at the intersection.

Mr. Poulin explained the directive given that any federal funds utilized to create a walking path, sidewalk, or the like must be maintained by the Town at the Town's expense. This is not the case with the 1st phase sidewalk. Mrs. Farley advised it was not the intention of the CCA to cost the town any funds, but wants to make sure that the citizen's are safe during their travels.

Mr. Wacker recommended the community consider utilizing the beauty that is already in the village area to include the use of the water area.

The meeting was closed 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne M. Abear

Approved by Tamworth Board of Selectmen: 6/22/2010

John Roberts

William Farnum

Robert Abraham