

TOWN OF RUMNEY
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING
FEMA GRANT – BUFFALO ROAD BRIDGE

Present: Selectmen Cheryl Lewis, Ed Haskell, Dan Kimble
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow
Clerk: Diana Kindell

Public: Mark Andrew, David & Helen Keniston, Tom Wallace, Frank Simpson and Kenneth Weinig.

The public hearing was opened at 7:00 pm by Ed Haskell, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Paul Hatch, NH Department of Safety/HSEM stated the FEMA funds from hurricane Irene for hazardous mitigation projects have been received by the state. The monies earmarked for the Buffalo Road Bridge replacement are in the amount of \$284,093 and even after accepting the funds, it is still two (2) to three (3) months before the town can start on the project. The projected total for this project is \$378,790. The State of NH DOT will be supplying \$75,758 towards the project and the remaining balance of \$18,939 will come from the Town of Rumney Bridge Capital Reserve fund. The FEMA funding is available until 2016.

To receive this money invoices must be submitted for work as it progresses and the state will reimburse the town as these invoices are received – usually within a two week time frame. Documentation of all paperwork (receipts, cancelled checks) is of the utmost importance.

Mark Andrew questioned if the money from the state is in place. The answer was yes and has been assigned a project number.

Kenneth Weinig questioned if when this goes to bid will this money be sufficient? He was told all the numbers were provided by engineers and should be right on target.

Tom Wallace stated he had three concerns – (1) would like to see the bridge remain the same width it presently is as it slows cars down being a one lane bridge. (2) When the sink holes closed the bridge it was inconvenient to travel seven miles around to get in to town. Can the process be speeded up or some usage be allowed? (3) There was a spillway for a fire pond to the right of the bridge prior to the initial closure at which time it was removed to prevent further washout under the present bridge. He would like to see a continuous water flow and not reinstall the dam.

David Keniston said he would like to see the bridge wide enough so if the state ever accepted the road, it would be of sufficient width. Anne Dow stated it is a historical bridge and will probably remain small. David further questioned if a temporary bridge could be installed? Is it possible?

Paul Hatch stated the bridge length would be extended from 10' to 14', was unsure of the width, it would be precast with a natural bottom. Being precast it should be put in place quickly.

Frank Simpson said that any plans would be approved by the state and they would probably not approve a one lane bridge.

Ed Haskell made a motion to close the public hearing.

Dan Kimble made a motion to accept the FEMA monies, Ed Haskell seconded and all voted in the affirmative. The necessary paperwork was signed by the Board.

The public hearing adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Kindell
Clerk