

SELECTBOARD REPORT – FY 2015

George Morehouse, Chair

The Concord Selectboard held regular monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. Reports were received and discussed with elected and appointed officials along with dealing with a variety of issues requiring Board attention and/or action. Citizen concerns were frequently received and responded to, and we encourage public participation at our meetings. Special meetings were held when necessary and budget meetings were held in November, December, and January to fund the financial needs and requirements for all town departments for the 2017 Budget Year.

Selectboard members are George Morehouse – Chairman, Chris Fournier – Vice-Chairman, Bill Humphrey, Harold Lunnie and Mike Sorrell. Administrative Assistant, Susan LaMadeleine, continues to provide support to the board and highway department working three days per week.

Several scheduled projects were either completed or will be in 2016. A major accomplishment during 2015 was the **Speed Limit** change from **35 mph** to **30 mph** on Route 2 through the village area. This has been a safety issue for many years and we are grateful the **State of Vermont** was willing to comply with our request.

The Road Commissioner's Report outlines past and future road projects going forward.

Major Projects facing the Selectboard in the near future are:

- **Bridge #32 by the Fire Station** – The bridge was erected in 1930 and its present condition is fair at best. The State is saying it could last for another ten years but in the meantime, there is work that needs to be done. We have received a \$175,000 Structures Grant and engineering is presently being done. The deck surface and side railings need repair which may be a temporary solution from a safety point. There is also some discussion to widen the sidewalk for safety purposes and restrict travel to one way across the bridge.
- **Safe Routes to School** – An engineering study has been completed at no cost to the town or school, identifying the many safety and traffic issues from Route 2 to the Concord School. Solutions suggested include sidewalks and changes in traffic patterns, i.e. connecting to Prospect Street. Significant grant money is available but extensive planning needs to be done before any definite plans can be developed.

2017 Budget

Throughout the preparation of this budget, the Board has been mindful of the needs of the town in spite of the escalating costs of conducting our business, many of which are beyond our control. We feel the increases, where applicable, are necessary to continue to provide the services we all expect. This year's budget increase is \$49,684 or 7.0% above 2016.

Conclusion

The Selectboard wishes to THANK all elected and appointed officials as well as the volunteers for their service, contributions and dedication to the Town of Concord. Working together with the support of all of our citizens/taxpayers we can continue to benefit the town. We welcome and encourage participation at our meetings which are the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM.