



TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT, MAINE

~ INCORPORATED 1653 ~

MAINE'S FINEST RESORT

Meeting Notes – Mills Road Reconstruction

September 28, 2016

Atlantic Hall, Cape Porpoise, Maine

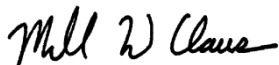
1. Reviewed issues that have come to the attention of the town regarding Mills Road including safety and sight distance problems in curved areas of Mills Road. Town has had complaints of speeding on Mills Road and of vehicles being stuck behind cyclists or approaching pedestrians and having trouble passing safely. Discussed that Mills Road was a state road and that MaineDOT was funding 50% of road improvements with the town managing the road improvement project. Scope of the reconstruction project was limited to Mills Road between Beachwood Avenue and Cape Square. A right of way survey was laid out for viewing at the meeting and a slideshow was used to show existing road conditions. The survey work is available as a download in .pdf format on the town website. An Autocad .dwg drawing file is available to anyone who would like the survey work in that format.
2. In reviewing existing conditions, it was noted that road improvements could affect trees in the right of way. Comments were made noting that some trees could be removed to improve safety on the road and other comments were made stressing the importance of trees to the village character and the part trees play in sustaining wildlife. Comment was made that a pedestrian should not be endangered to save a tree and that new trees could be planted to replace any trees removed. It was noted that a newly planted tree could take 50 years to reach maturity. Question was asked regarding the town responsibility for a tagged tree. Discussed the role of the town tree warden, tree committee and Board of selectmen in maintaining tagged trees in town.
3. Comments were made stating that utility poles should be moved away from the edge of the road. Discussed issues that Central Maine Power would take into consideration when relocating a utility pole. One issue includes making sure the relocated pole and any required guy support would be in the public right of way. CMP also requires clearance from trees when a change in pole location requires a change in utility wire alignment. Kennebunkport Public Works will meet with CMP to determine the feasibility of utility pole relocation in the project corridor. Utility pole relocation that can be done inside the right of way without damaging existing trees will be pursued, and issues where utility line and trees conflict will be discussed with the Town tree warden and brought forward at future public meetings for review.

4. Comments were made regarding some houses that were close to the edge of the road and that the centerline of the road should be shifted away from those houses. The consensus of the attendees seemed to be that we should look to balance the any road widening by having the centerline of the reconstructed road as close as possible to the center of the right of way. Discussed an example of the house at #23 Mills which was very close to the edge of the road. The ROW survey showed that the road going by this house was on the edge of the right of way and that any widening would have to be on the other side of the street.
5. Use of areas behind utility poles for pedestrian access was discussed. Residents were encouraged to bring forward ideas fencing and landscaping that would maintain house screening from the road and allow better pedestrian access.
6. To reconstruct Mills Road some areas of ledge outcroppings will have to be removed to a depth of 8 to 12 inches below grade. Some ditch areas will be reconstructed with catch basins and underground drainage. It was suggested that inlets at some existing cross culverts be replaced with catch basin structures to eliminate replace rip-rap stone that has been placed steeply around culvert inlets, creating a safety hazard.
7. For any resident with a specific question about their property, Mike Claus and Eric Smith from Kennebunkport Public Works will meet at their road frontage to look at access and widening issues at their property. Residents should call Mike Claus at 207.391.3239 if they would like to schedule a meeting at their property. Mike Claus and Eric Smith will be walking Mills Road this fall to mark out schematic design for reconstruction work. Sebago Technics will draw up plans and options for access improvements on Mills Road. These plans will be presented to the Board of Selectmen at a workshop for review and comment. Project information will be distributed by posting on the town website and by the town e-mail list serve. Those who left an e-mail at this public meeting will be e-mailed directly on project updates.

Photos of existing conditions on Mills Road are available at the following link:

<https://goo.gl/photos/JTcigtq62JjVAKs7>

By: Michael Claus,



Town of Kennebunkport Public Works Director