

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
January 25, 2024
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present – Michael A. Mauro, John Arruda, Adam Price

Others Present –Town Administrator Linda Shackford; Fire Chief/Town Clerk/Tax Collector Michael Brooks; DPW Director Josh Shackford; MadTV Videographer Kasia Scentsas

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on January 24, 2024.

Meeting Called to Order – By Mauro at 3:34 pm.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

Modoc Hill Road Culvert Replacement - The Board met to discuss the best course of action to fix the damage done to the Modoc Hill Road culvert during the May 2023 storm and how to present it to voters. Brooks stated that the storm has not been declared an emergency which makes FEMA disaster relief funds unavailable but there are mitigation funds that may be able to help with funding regardless of a declaration.

J. Shackford sees three options:

- Replace in kind;
- Construct a bridge – The engineering costs paid for the bridge were \$38,000 and the estimated cost range was \$494,553 - \$639,000;
- Replace with box culvert – A price was received, not as a bid, for the estimated amount of \$450,000.

Price sees this as a project that needs to be done this year as the condition of the culverts is worsening. Brooks sees the problem is how the water course, that has changed due to beaver dams, approaches the road. A bridge could be the best option to allow the water to flow as it is without trying to change its course.

Arruda asked how long the culverts have been in place. It was estimated about fifty years. Price, with Shackford agreeing, estimates that a precast concrete replacement would be more money than a bridge. J. Shackford suggested a warrant article amount of \$500,000 with the hopes that the cost would be less. Brooks feels that is a lot of money to be spent on a dirt road with Arruda asking why not consider replacing it like it is. Brooks noted a squash culvert on Bickford Road that was installed around 2007. The thought of the DPW crew doing the work was discussed. J. Shackford was not in favor giving reasons that included the amount of equipment that would need to be rented and the fact that the crew would fall behind on annual maintenance around Town.

Price knows that Coleman's put in a bridge for Chocorua and it was much less expensive than prices we are receiving.

It was decided that J. Shackford will find prices for in-kind replacement, a larger culvert and a bridge/precast structure.

No amounts on the draft warrant for this article will be changed yet.

Arruda asked J. Shackford about the status of a trash hauling truck. J. Shackford reported that Chick and Swift went and saw the truck and now we are waiting on them giving us a number for the trade of the Town's truck. A study of numbers regarding the cost effectiveness of purchasing a new trash hauling truck showed that it is a good move.

Mauro adjourned the meeting at 4:07 pm.

NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING – The next Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2024 commencing at 4:30 pm at Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator