Middlesex Town Road Committee ---- DRAFT-----
November 20, 2025
Present:

Zara Vincent
Keith Cubbon (CVRPC)
Dexter Lefavour
John Rahill
Susan Warren

By Zoom:

Sandy Levine
Bill Pries
Hilton Dier
Ken Davis

Susan moved and Zara seconded the approval of the minutes from 10/16/25. All were in favor and minutes were approved.

Dexter moved and Zara seconded approval of the proposed agenda. All were in favor.

Team Future:
Zara introduced Keith Cubbon (Central VT RPC) who has been working under a Municipal Planning grant to analyze the results of the town survey on road conditions and to make recommendations that can been incorporated in the 5-year road plan. 254 town residents completed the survey, and Keith also followed up with his own field survey. Keith also visited Great Brook Road and stream with Mike Kline to look at the road issues relative to the recent storm damage.

The final report has not been completed yet, but in summary, Keith reported that most road culverts were in good shape, the most common issue is undersized driveway culverts. (The town recently took over the management of driveway culverts within the town road ROW.) Generally they are 12-15 inches in diameter, and in 27 percent of the locations this is not large enough to handle major rain events. An intern is doing an analysis to identify and map these undersized culverts.

Keith reported that overall respondents were pleased with road conditions, and felt the speed limits were appropriate. Most people do not favor additional paving, and accepted “the realities” of living on a gravel road. Respondents reported site specific concerns about some locations. It was reported that crowning the roads during grading has become standard. Keith said it would be useful to have a list of locations with significant mud problems to ensure none are missed in the report. The report may contain some recommendations about additional road fixes that the town has not used to date that could improve drainage such as French drains on the uphill side of the road, or a French “mattress” to drain water from the roadbed.

John Rahill requested the report look at where narrowing the road might save money on repair and maintenance as well as slow traffic. He is collecting information that compares the cost of installation and maintenance of gravel vs. paved roads to discuss the the next meeting.

The final report will be posted on the town website, and Keith will be available to present the reults to the town residents if desired.

Team Fix

Zara relayed information from Eric about recent town work. The road crew has been focused on getting the trucks and equipment ready for winter. The planned Old Brook and Daniels roads work has been delayed until after winter.

There will be a presentation on December 5 from the Facilities committee regarding the condition and needs of the Town garage. The town is looking into a possible grant to rebuild it using timber framing. John Rahill asked that the planning process look at both renovating the existing garage as well as building a new one.

Team Funding

Zara reported that no Backroads Grants were applied for this year, primarily because the town wants to wait for the final report from the project discussed above.

Mike Kline reported via Zara that he is looking into a grant source that could fund a model of erosion and hydrology on Great Brook that would help identify and prioritize restoration projects. In pursuit of this he took Ned Swanburg from the DEC Rivers Program on a tour of Great Brook.

Susan moved that the committee not meet in December, the motion was seconded by John, and all were in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:57.

Next meeting is Thursday, January 15, 5:00 pm, Town Hall.