

Minutes from the **Work Session**
Harris Town Board
Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at 7:00pm

A work session of the Harris Town Board was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at Harris Town Hall, 21998 Airport Road Grand Rapids, MN. The work session was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Rosato. (This work session was open to the public, but was not televised nor recorded by ICTV.)

In attendance were Supervisors Rosato, Kelley, Haubrich and Ives, as well as Clerk Smith. *Absent: Supervisor Kortekaas and Treasurer Adams*

Also in attendance were SEH staff, Glen Hodgson, Sara Christenson, and Matt Wayworth. Residents in attendance were Rob Bahr, Judy Myers, and Barney Bignall.

The purpose of this meeting, as posted, was:

- **Hear a presentation by S.E.H. staff regarding their results of a preliminary work study on Sunny Beach Road, Isleview, Birch Street, Romans Road, and Pine Street. Information will include, but is not limited to, road improvement costs and type (reclaimed vs. overlaid), and drainage issues/possible solutions.**

1. Pledge to the flag, followed by the reading of the Harris Township mission statement

2. SEH Presentation of Preliminary Engineering Report (*thick bound copies of the report – including maps, photos, and spreadsheets - were given to board; a copy will be kept in the road file at the town hall.*)

As authorized by the board, SEH did preliminary road studies to help plan for future major road repairs – particularly on Sunny Beach Road and Isleview/Birch Street. The presentation of the findings was led by Matt Wayworth from SEH. He had a large map of each of area he discussed, which was also referenced by exhibit number, found in the bound copies of the engineering report.

Some of the key notes from the presentation are as follows:

Sunny Beach Road - See Exhibit 1A

- ***Pavement corrections:*** See red and yellow lines
 1. Harris to Adair Road section – Red line: This section of the road was not that bad. An overlay and crack repair are being recommended
 2. Adair Road to Wendigo Road – Yellow line: This section of the road is falling apart in many areas, which is a sign that the base and road pavement are not holding up to current traffic. Reclaiming the road is being recommended.
 - Romans Road was included with the Adair to Wendigo Road section as it's on the draft 5 year road plan, and is just off Sunny Beach Road. So if the board was going to repair it, it SEH felt it would make sense to do it at the same time as this section of Sunny Beach Road in order to save on mobilization
- ***Subgrade corrections:*** See yellow circles on exhibit 1A (3 areas)
 1. Area 1 – low area near Sutherlands: Borings found that this area was made up of silty sands over peat – which is down apx 16' in places – with the road on top. As a result, the road moves and shifts over time. SEH recommended subcutting 48" in this area with fabric below, then with a layer of sand, followed by class 5. It would then be paved over top with rest of road.

Research found that this area's elevation was lower than highest level of lake, so it was likely underwater at some point. SEH looked at raising the road, but felt that additional fill would put additional weight on the peat – which could cause the road to sink. Yet, with the amount of peat/sand in this area– down a depth of 16 ft – it's too much to excavate it all out. Thus, raising the road in this area was not recommended.

- Note: The board commented that this area floods every year – and that the lake backs up into that area and over the road.
- 2. Area 2 - Wood Tick public access area: Borings found that this area had silty sand, and peat 8 ft down - through the landing, to the east side. Due to the soils and peat, SEH recommended a subcut be done. The steel culvert would be replaced with a concrete cross culvert. The DNR did not have an issue as long as the culvert was the same size, if not bigger, to prevent beaver damming it up. The current culvert size is 48”.

Research found that the highest recorded lake level was in 1946 – but that the road in the Woodtick area was higher than that and thus has never been under water.

- 3. Area 3 – Borings found there was silty sand in this area but no peat. An 18” subcut in that area would help the effects of the freeze/thaw cycle.
- **Drainage concerns** (blue circles on Exhibit 1A):
 - Corner - SEH recommends replacing the culverts
 - Bottom of the hill - No change was recommended as the water holding on north side was not a problem.
- **Cost Estimate for Sunny Beach Road Project** (see Appendix B)
 - **\$2.35 million dollars** for all work proposed by SEH on entire length of Sunny Beach Road (from Harris Town Road to Wendigo Park Road). Noted it also includes Romans Road and engineering costs.

Isleview Drive / Birch Street / Pine Street (Exhibit 2A)

- ***Pavement correction:***

Roads are in poor shape with severe alligator cracks; SEH recommended a reclaim – not an overlay.

- ***Subgrade corrections***

Two areas were recommended for subgrade correction (see white circles on Exhibit 2A); these are low spots that are filled with silty sand, and susceptible to frost. SEH recommended a subcut 24” in the first area, and 18” in the second area. Both areas have cross culverts but they are in poor condition so should be replaced. No other areas that had subgrade issues. There were no other drainage issues.

Isleview and Birch were thought to be built in the mid 1970s, and not overlaid since, that SEH could find.

- ***Cost Estimate for Isleview/Birch/Pine***

Total cost with Pine Street: \$561,000

Comments by the board on Sunny Beach Road:

- Board explained they had always divided Sunny Beach into 3 sections rather than 2, with the middle section being from Adair Road to Wendigo Park Road. This middle section, the board continued, is the worst section due to high traffic. *SEH agreed to break down the cost estimate for Sunny Beach Road into 3 sections, as if each section was their own projects.*

- SEH will relook at area on Sunny Beach Road near Sutherlands, per board's request and concern with their initial findings.
- Ives shared with SEH information on additional areas of concern on Sunny Beach Road that he had observed from being a resident of that road.
- The Board had the same concern about opening up low areas for subcuts on Sunny Beach Road, as they had with Underwood Road-west.
- Romans Road and Pine Street – Could these roads be overlaid rather than reclaimed? Yes – per Hodgson, but it would reduce the life of roads.
- Timing of a 2016 road project was discussed. SEH agreed it could be done early next year, with a June pavement date

3. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Kelley at 7:57pm. Upon a second by Supervisor Haubrich, the work session adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Smith – Harris Township Clerk