



## Selectmen's Meeting Summary June 22, 2009

Selectman Joe Laycox, Chairman	Present
Selectman Kathleen Doyle	Present
Selectman Ken Ross-Raymond	Present
Administrative Assistant Margaret Warren	Present
Office Assistant Kathie Downes	Present

**Visitors:** Jeff McCandless, Ruth McCandless, David Hodges, Sr., Marlena Dipre, Gary Clark, Bill MacDuffie, Sr., Ed Sawyer, Lorna Carlisle, Ray Deary

Meeting called to order at 7 PM by Chairman Laycox. This meeting is to review and discuss new information re: preliminary plans for Pingree Bridge. To put together questions/concerns with input from general public for meeting with VHB.

In the June 10<sup>th</sup> letter from VHB they cite the following:

- Bridge design has been further developed based on the findings of the geotechnical explorations as well as the detailed hydraulic analysis.
- Foundation recommendation – concrete sub footings to provide level surface at highest ledge elevation.
- Construct sub footings to spread footings which will support the concrete abutments and wingwalls. (Pile foundations not recommended because of rocky soils and relatively shallow depth to ledge).
- Detailed hydraulic analysis was conducted. A different superstructure type is recommended than was presented in the Engineering Report. Precast prestressed concrete butted box beams provide a shallower superstructure depth.
- State Historic Preservation Officer stated the design should take into account effects of its appearance on a possible rural historic district in the area. SHPO requested VHB make a recommendation re: bridge railing type. Aesthetic railing requirement has not been finalized yet because there are other cultural resource determinations to be made, both on bridge and the potential rural historic district.
- VHB provided two options which meet Town's request for bridge railing which provides a barrier for young pedestrians. If town goes with aluminum railing vs. T-101 standard guardrail components – an increase of \$40,000 – town's share \$8,000.
- Construction cost estimate has been updated based on the preliminary design.
- Total estimated cost of project is \$1,570,000. \$110,000 or 7.5% more than the total project cost estimated in the previous Engineering Report.
- Cost increase is largely due to the additional cultural resources permitting required by Division of Historic Resources. Change in superstructure type and configuration of the abutments also increased cost slightly. The current project cost estimate includes a 10% contingency of \$105,000.

## General Discussion and Comments from public at this meeting:

- Review and compare 9/08 plans and 6/09 plans  
Concrete Box Beams now 337,200 vs. 199,800 = \$137,400 more  
Originally was to be steel girder bridge

Bearing Pad - now 9800 (28) vs. 1600 (8) = \$8,200 more

Bridge & Approach Rail now 74,640 vs. 21,000 = \$53,640 more  
Aluminum aesthetic railing vs. T-101 bridge railing

Maintenance of aluminum railing could damage railing and it is easier and less costly to replace the T-101 railing if necessary

- Preliminary engineering 249,000 in 08 – 150,000 - 95,000 difference
- Net increase appears to be more than \$70,000 {\$199,000 +}
- Need more explanation about the need for the changes
- This has not been designated an historic area
- Town needs to send letter to DHR explaining it would be too costly to the town to go with esthetic railing system.
- Engineers hired by town and have obligation and responsibility to bring in a bridge at the amount town has voted. Talk with Engineers and review and compare items one by one.
- Check with State DOT to get their perspective
- Item for removal of existing bridge – what exactly does that include? Whose responsibility to move it where? Has final decision been made as to where existing bridge will go?
- If costs are higher than what town has approved – is special Town Meeting needed?
- Construction timeframe has changed – is this a factor that will be a problem for the State. Originally didn't State indicate the project needed to be started in 2009? Can the State scratch the project?
- Time factor – prices will keep going up.
- When did the town contract with the Engineers – and does the BOS feel they are meeting their obligations in good faith?
- Selectmen agreed that part of the constraints have been because of public meetings town required and weather related problems.

General consensus is for BOS to set up a meeting with VHB to discuss areas of concern brought up tonight. AA Warren will schedule a meeting.

**Selectman Ross-Raymond made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM, Selectwoman Doyle seconded. All voted in favor.**

Respectively submitted:  
Kathie Downes, Municipal Office Assistant

Meeting Summary reviewed and accepted at the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 Meeting.

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Selectmen, Town of Salisbury