

RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 3:31 pm, Mar 24, 2022



Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting

March 22, 2022
4:01 P.M.

The minutes reflect motions and a summary of the discussion from the transcription of the meeting. Refer to the attached link for the recording of this meeting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYEdw3v5O5U>

Present: Jean Speck, Rufus deRham and Glenn Sanchez.

Also, present: Melissa Cherniske, Leila Hawken, Donna Hayes, Barbara Herbst, Alice Hicks and Lynn Worthington.

Call to order:

Jean Speck called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Jean Speck:

- And the single item is to review the survey.

Barbara Herbst:

- Screen shared the draft survey (attached).

Jean Speck:

- So here we are in survey and I'm going to be able to make changes in real time.
- I did tinker with it a little bit you know upon rereading something always there's always words missing and I had a proofreader.
- The contents, all the same I just tightened up the wording.
- I started out very sort of lengthy and laying out the history, but then I realized that didn't make sense, we were needing to ask a single question.
- The motions that were made by the committee, to give them that little bit of background.

Glenn Sanchez:

- I saw this first page.
- I didn't hit next, so there's more to this after this?

Jean Speck:

- Very straightforward.
- I could bold the word asphalt, and the word concrete in the answer choices.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Yep, that would be helpful.

Jean Speck:

- Unbiased, I put them in alphabetical order so asphalt comes before concrete.
- So that's pretty much everything it's a very short survey.
- I think it's fair to offer a place for folks to comment and we can correlate all that information and get it out if we, the reason why.
- I set the deadline for March 31st.
- That gives us a week to collate all the information and get it out to the board for the April 7th meeting.

Glenn Sanchez:

- OK, is that enough time to collect the information?
- This wouldn't delay anything by keeping it open until then?

Jean Speck:

- No and that's our next board meeting.

Rufus deRham:

- Those who have educated themselves and people haven't so it's a yes or no.
- Do you want to see concrete, or do you want to see ask for?

Jean Speck:

- The deadline will close at midnight on March 31.
- That will give us time to get all the information in a presentable form to send out to the board prior to the board meeting.
- Give you guys' time because I imagine we'll get a fair number of comments and we want to read those.
- So that we can head into that meeting with plenty of information.

Jean Speck:

- I turned on the settings so people can only respond to the survey once.
- So that we don't get people just going back in because it's a one question survey.
- You don't want people going back in 25-30 times to skew the data.

Glenn Sanchez:

- How will this be distributed and how often?

Jean Speck:

- Survey monkey correlates the question data.
- Based on how many comments we get you know it might be a spreadsheet, it will be easy to read in linear sequential format for everybody.
- And it will all be in the public meeting folder.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Is it possible to shorten the timeline on this?
- Have a special meeting and make a decision?
- Do we have to wait until the seventh?

Jean Speck:

- We don't.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Again, this process is taking so long.
- I would hate to see it delayed in any way.
- I would love to keep the survey open for I don't know until the 31st and then I would love to maybe have a special meeting to make a decision.
- We wouldn't have to wait a week until the seventh.

Jean Speck:

- Well, but it's still going to take time to get the information to you guys.
- And then for everybody to be able to review it.
- If we get, where you know my guess is that we're going to have a really robust response, and if we get a few hundred comments that's going to take time to read through and sort of you know come to some sort of place where we can all comment on it.

Rufus:

- I'm considering the emails that we have been getting.
- How are we going to combine them?
- I'm thinking that those people might think that they've already had their vote by the email.
- Do we combine the two, how are we going without knowing who's responding?
- To me it's people in Kent who are paying for this

Jean Speck:

- Right, I completely appreciate that the residents are the ones who will be funding
- this but they are public sidewalks and they're going to be used by anyone who lives here or visits here.

Rufus:

- Yeah, but it's up to the people in town to make that choice.

Jean Speck:

- To redo the survey and to make it so that it's only a town resident is a whole different kettle of fish that means we'll have to have to register for the survey and then the ROV's will have to check it against the list of registered voters.
- It gets a lot more complicated.

Rufus:

- What if you had a place where people enter their name.
- Name and address.

Jean Speck:

- From what I've been through with creating surveys and dealing with data, we will get a better response rate if we don't ask for demographic information.
- What's the purpose of collecting demographic information?

Rufus:

- People of Kent, you should be voting on the materials for their sidewalks.

Glenn Sanchez:

- I'm just thinking how we're going to way the survey versus what we've received via email.
- For example, if you know the survey is going to go out and if the overwhelming view is concrete, then, then they both match.
- If we have a survey that's overwhelmingly asphalt then it's overwhelming then what does that mean.
- I mean the final decision is still the three of us, I believe.
- I'm assuming that a lot of these people, who have emailed us will also take the survey I'm assuming but that's a big assumption.

Rufus:

- It's great for people to come and visit but it's not their determination.
- It's the taxpayers who live here who should be determining the materials for their sidewalk project not visitors.

Jean Speck:

- I think that's sort of changes the meaning of the feedback that we're looking for.
- If we're looking truly for a vote and if you only want the vote of the residents, then maybe we should do that.
- Just take that route, this is a using technology to get feedback from the public,

- but if what you're looking for is a vote, then we should consider something else
- because that's not what we're going to get here.
- We're going to get feedback from the public.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Which is good, I mean it is another level.
- This is what we want.
- How much weight is given if we if there's any way at all, I mean it's simply input.
- And some people might want to email us again because they would want to be known.

Jean Speck:

- I think it's a simple question we're asking for feedback on.
- How much we shouldn't overthink it.
- From the perspective of the emails that we receive.
- That's one bolus of feedback that we got.
- This survey could be yet another bolus of feedback.
- Plus, we take in the committee's recommendation.
- That's what we're going to be putting all together for review and determination.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Again, the biggest thing for me is this.
- This is this is fine.
- I think this is good, I just don't want this to delay any of the process.
- So, if we think that we can get this information and make an informed decision by the seventh of April, then I'm okay.

Jean Speck:

- Yeah, I'm confident that we can.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Okay, yeah, I just don't want another delay.

Jean Speck:

- Alice is asking a question in the chat, does giving only cost information bias, the result?

Rufus:

- All right down that's my sense from the emails that we're getting.
- Mostly emails acknowledge that concrete might be more expensive.

Jean Speck:

- When I was writing the survey, I felt like that was the obvious piece of information that we do need to be providing so that people can make that cost comparison of how much is this costing me as a taxpayer kind of thing.

Jean Speck made a motion to send out the survey via constant contact, website and social media with a deadline of March 31st for review and decision on at our April 7th meeting.

Rufus:

- I don't know whether you could put optional please you know, give us your name and address.

Jean Speck:

- Yeah, as you were saying that Rufus we could, and this is sort of an honor system question but it very often does get people to sort of stop and think well you know I don't really live here, so I don't really maybe I shouldn't answer the question.
- We could put a question before the actual question that says, are you a resident of Kent with just a simple, yes or no, if people answer, no, it would take them to a thank for your interest this survey is primarily targeted for Kent residents.
- If you answer yes, then it would take you, to the question and the comment.
- We don't have a way to send it to every single email address in the town.
- Once you put it on social media its wherever social media flies off with to.
- I can add that honor system question.
- Not sure if there's another way.
- I think our response rate will be affected if we ask everybody for their name and address.
- You get better responses if you're not asking for demographic information personal demographic information.

Rufus:

- If you put "are you a resident of Kent", yes or no.
- It's kind of an honor system at least we have an idea that people saying yes.
- Hopefully, most people are honest.

Jean Speck:

- We will get that data that will say 400 people answered yes to the question and they then the other two questions and 200 people answer no and maybe that'll be meaningful, to sort of indicate if there's a lot of people who don't live in Kent who are interested about this issue.
- It may be revealing in in another way, so it might be it's easy to add the one question and the page skip algorithm.

Rufus:

- I think we should.

Glenn Sanchez:

- If it's easy to do then do it, yes.

Jean Speck:

- We have emotion on the table to send out the survey and I will make those.
- That one adjustment of adding that on or off just called the honor system question.
- All those in favor.

Jean Speck called for the vote, all the voted yes and the motion carried.

Jean Speck:

- I will make the changes as soon as I hang up and we'll get it on a constant contact website and social media this evening and it's kind of be perfect because it'll hit right in the dinner hour so that'll be a good pop of an extra few hours okay.

Jean Speck made a motion to adjourn at 4:31 p.m. Glenn Sanchez seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Joyce Kearns

Joyce Kearns
Administrative Assistant

These are draft minutes and the Board of Selectmen at the subsequent meeting may make corrections. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.

RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 11:54 am, Mar 18, 2022



Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Agenda
March 22, 2022 4:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83206134813>

Meeting ID: 832 0613 4813
One tap mobile: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Supporting documentation for this meeting:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1w3X3Am_uZXPgG0T66yKpuuJTNu_noj0B

1. Call to order.
2. Discussion and approval of the Streetscape survey.
3. Adjourn.

Town of Kent Sidewalk Materials Survey

Thank you for participating!

Kent is ready to award the work for the first Phase I of the Streetscape project and we want to hear from the community on which material should be used to construct the new sidewalks; asphalt or concrete.

When the *Request For Proposal* (RFP) was created, one of the requirements was that any interested bidders must provide cost estimates for each material.

Kent received a total of three bid packages by the deadline. The Streetscape Committee met and considered all three bid packages that were submitted. Based on their discussions, two motions were made:

1. Recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Mather Corporation be selected for this phase of the project based on the bids submitted. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Recommend to the Board of Selectmen asphalt as the material to use for the sidewalk project. The motion passed 3-2.

The bid from **Mather Corporation** is below, and shows the two different cost estimates and percent difference:

asphalt bid	concrete bid	% difference
\$1,506,082.00	\$1,762,000.00	+15%

The survey has only one question, and should take no more than 30 seconds to complete. We have also included an opportunity to submit any comments or thoughts.

The survey will be open until midnight on March 31st. Results will be shared during the April 7th Board of Selectmen meeting. The results, as well as the recommendations from the Streetscape Committee, will help guide the BoS as they move forward with this project.

Thank you for participating in the survey to have your voice heard!

Next

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Town of Kent Sidewalk Materials Survey

1. Please choose one of the options below to voice your opinion to the Board of Selectmen as to which material should be used in the Streetscape Project.

- ☐ I prefer the Board of Selectmen choose **Asphalt** as the material for the sidewalks.
- ☐ I prefer the Board of Selectmen choose **Concrete** as the material for the sidewalks.

2. Please use this space to provide any comments to the Board.

Prev

Done

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