

**SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2020**

A virtual meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was held via Zoom at 6pm.

**Attendance**

TAC members present: Kristi Morris, Springfield; Wayne Wheelock, Baltimore; Sharon Bixby, Ludlow; Tom Kenyon, West Windsor; Arne Jonynas, Chester; John Saydek, Cavendish.

Others present: Jason Rasmussen, SWCRPC.

Kristi Morris opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Kristi Morris welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introductions were made.

**2. Changes to the Agenda**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

*Sharon Bixby made a motion to approve the February 25, 2020 meeting minutes. Second by Wayne Wheelock. John Saydek and Arne Jonynas abstained. A roll call vote to pass the motion was unanimous.*

**4. Town Roadway Water Quality Projects**

Jason Rasmussen reviewed a summary of water quality funding programs, provided by Chris Yurek. He also provided an overview of roadway water quality projects, referring to a report from DEC about clean water investments in 2019. Town projects were discussed. Most were beneficial and resulted in a reduction of erosion, such as on Freedom Hill in Ludlow and Bailey Street and Holt Street in Springfield. There is one unsuccessful example in Baltimore.

**5. COVID-19 Impacts**

Jason Rasmussen led a roundtable discussion about COVID-19 related impacts to local highway departments. Impacts on the state budget and grant programs were discussed:

- The Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is on hold.
- The timeline to complete FY20 Grants in Aid projects was extended to Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. Funding for FY 21 is anticipated pending the state budget and availability of funding.
- A similar extension is anticipated for awarded Better Roads projects.
- There is no announcement yet on the Transportation Alternative Program. Applications are usually due in October. We will know more when the state budgeting process becomes clearer.

The spring delay slowed work down, but not significantly. Many town road crews are getting work done now, with some minor disruptions (e.g. temperature taking, etc.). Kristi Morris indicated that the House passed the “skinny” budget for July through September, in concurrence with the Senate. It includes one quarter payment for Town Highway Aid. Kristi also indicated that there was \$1 million included in the budget for Better Places, a new program for downtown and village center recovery.

Springfield passed an emergency ordinance allowing restaurants to use portions of sidewalks for outside dining and serving alcohol. Chester has tables on the green and many people are taking food out and eating on the green. Some meals are being served by restaurants in alleys.

## **6. Updates and Announcements**

- a. None

## **8. Adjourn**

- a. *Sharon Bixby made a motion to adjourn. Second by Wayne Wheelock. The motion passed unanimous.*
- b. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.