

**Public Works Directors Association Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**9:00-11:00 a.m.**  
**GPCOG Conference Room**

**Present:** Erik Street, (Yarmouth), Chair; Tom Eldridge (Westbrook); Doug Fortier (Windham); Bob Malley (Cape Elizabeth); Roger Mosley (Standish); Jim Plummer (Freeport); Mike Shaw (Scarborough).

**Staff:** Carol MacKenzie (GPCOG), Sue McIntyre (GPCOG).

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Erik Street - Chairman  
Erik Street called the meeting to order at 9:00 and welcomed those present.
2. **Acceptance of Minutes from January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**  
*Tom Eldridge made a motion for approval of the January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting minutes, seconded by Erik Street. Vote taken. All were in favor. Minutes approved.*
3. **Roundtable Discussion-** Sweeping, Catch Basin Cleaning, Striping, Crosswalks, Crack Sealing, Universal Waste, Paving, Trench Repairs.

**UNIVERSAL WASTE:**

***Cape Elizabeth***

Cape Elizabeth has a Household Hazardous Waste Collection program. They take in the fluorescent tube lights, light bulbs, balusters, thermometers, thermostats, etc. The collection of hazardous wastes is done on an annual basis. Goodwill has a program to accept computers and has located one of their bins at the Cape Elizabeth site. Residents also have the option of dropping off these items at Clean Harbors and Uniwaste.

***Yarmouth***

Yarmouth takes in items such as fluorescent bulbs, tube lights, batteries, etc. Separate compartments are provided for sorting. Erik noted that Yarmouth was also approached by Goodwill to locate one of their bins at their facility to recycle computers. Even though Goodwill Industries was providing the bin, Yarmouth still needed to apply for the permit. Once you take in more than 200 items a month of what is considered household hazardous waste you must apply for a permit with the DEP. According to DEP regulations, items including computers are supposed to be logged and reports sent to the DEP. Goodwill must also sign a log sheet noting how many computers they have picked up from the town. No names and/or addresses of the residents that are dropping off the items are needed. DEP only needs the total number of items dropped off.

Erik will host a training class about Universal Waste. He will notify the group with a scheduled time and location.

***Standish***

Roger said that Standish provides a transfer station for residents only. Standish takes in hazardous waste items on an occasional basis. These include computers, televisions, fluorescent light bulbs, thermostats, batteries, etc.

***Scarborough***

Scarborough uses the services of Pinetree Waste Co. for disposal of universal waste products. Mike finds their fees to be very reasonable.

**PAVING**

The results of the paving bid are out. Anyone who did not get a copy can email Carol and she will send one out to them. The results will also be posted online. A short discussion followed pertaining to paving contractors.

**STRIPING**

The striping bid is out and the bid is scheduled to open on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Carol noted that she has been getting several requests for bid specs. So far, Carol has received only one bid. She is hoping to receive more. A discussion began about several line striping companies such as C J Fine Lines and Poirier Striping Company and whether the striping bid could be split. There was consensus among the group that it could be considered as long as the price was right.

## **CROSSWALKS**

A discussion began on different processes that are used for the “installation” of road crosswalks. One particular product uses an imprinted thermal plastic material that is below grade and can look like a brick pattern. They infrared the pavement and stamp it down, it has a thinner mill to it. Different opinions were expressed on the durability of similar products. It was noted that some companies will warranty their product for up to five years.

Some towns have seen lots of wear on their crosswalks, especially those roads that have a large volume of trucks. In some instances, the company that has done the work has had to return to repair it. It was pointed out that the thermal plastic process does however seem to work fine with straight-aways but more wear can be seen where there is turning traffic. Yarmouth was able to do four crosswalks through some funding from a safety grant and also received some funding from a group called “Friends of Yarmouth Village”. Freeport has used thermal plastic but will be going back to painting their crosswalks. They will continue to use the thermal plastic arrows for straight turns. Mike said that Scarborough uses the thermal plastic especially on the high speed roads. He felt that it does not mess up traffic and does not expose staff to roads with high traffic and unsafe conditions. The average cost of thermal plastic arrows is \$100 to \$120 apiece. Jim pointed out that you can buy two salamanders and double tanks and have your staff do the crosswalks. As soon as you heat the pavement, it only takes about 20 minutes to put down the plastic product and for it to adhere to the pavement. Scarborough has also been using a thermal plastic product from Zumar Industries that can be placed around manhole covers, using the same technique of heating the pavement and setting it down. Mike is very satisfied with it. Jim noted that Freeport will be working with the same product this spring and welcomed anyone who would like to be there when they apply it. An email will be sent out to everyone with a scheduled date.

## **SALT BID**

Cape Elizabeth and Scarborough recently bought some liquid calcium and had to pay a fuel surcharge. Carol pointed out that all of the COG bid prices are priced “delivered and in place”. There should be no fuel surcharge. Carol will follow-up.

Jim and other members of the group have been contacted recently by a company looking to supply liquid calcium to the towns. If the company is Granit State, the price may be right but there are questions on the promptness of delivery. COG’s current road salt bid goes through May 31<sup>st</sup>. We are a “free market” until the next bid goes out, which may be done before July. Carol pointed out that if the company that is currently trying to solicit orders from the above-mentioned towns is Granite State, they do not have any covered salt. International Salt continues to use the Sprague building. There had been talks about completely rebuilding the storage “shed” that is being used. International Salt has been told that if they want to use that building they would have to rebuild the building. Carol explained that that is when COG decided to use outside storage. In the meantime, International Salt has been giving preference to COG for the salt that is from their covered building.

## **ROADSIDE PICK-UP DUE TO ICE STORM**

Many towns are continuing to do roadside pickup due to the ice storm. FEMA’s guidelines indicate that it will reimburse by the yard or a lump sum.

Bob has been working on the FEMA paperwork that is required for reimbursement. Cape Elizabeth has based their reimbursement on the cubic yard and has made their own calculations based on past history taking into account the size of the truckload, how much debris they were able to pick up in the past, etc. His computation came to about 2400 cubic yards. As a result, Bob made his contract not to exceed 2400 cubic yards. He will be sending a copy of his contract out. In reference to brush material, Bob said that he brings in Fred Marshall. There is no disposal fee because Mr. Marshall keeps all of the chipped wood. Bob said he found the amount of FEMA paperwork worst than the storm and the analysis incredible, it has been very frustrating this year.

A long discussion continued. Freeport will only be picking up items on town property. Jim had his staff go with FEMA staff to verify and explain where trees, branches, shrubs, etc. had come down. Scarborough will be looking at items by the yard. Standish will not be cleaning any brush but will open up the transfer station for their residents. Mike noted that Scarborough residents will be directed to the Town’s website for the storm debris collection schedule. They expect to begin on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **ROAD SWEEPING**

Standish has put out a bid and sent out 8 courtesy openings. They have not received any bids. Roger may have to rent a road sweeper instead. This topic generated a short discussion on the disposal of the items, etc., that are picked up when road sweeping. Westbrook always includes monies for the disposal of such items in their budget. It was noted that disposal items must always be tested first according to regulation before being disposed of. But, once the disposals are found to be clean they can sometimes be used in beneficial ways.

### **4. Upcoming Meeting Schedule/Topics –**

Several ideas were discussed pertaining to upcoming agenda items and meeting topics. Among suggested topics and/or speakers were:

- Town operating budgets and how the decrease in personnel is affecting services provided
- PUC speaker
- DIG SAFE speaker
- Safety Works speaker

### **5. MCAPWA Report/Legislative Update**

A short discussion took place pertaining to URIP monies and monies from the “Stimulus Fund”. Steve Linnell will be invited to speak to the group at a future meeting on funding opportunities available for retrofitting of vehicles, energy savings, fuel reductions, etc.

### **6. Announcements – Discussed in next agenda item.**

### **7. Other Business**

#### ***- Cumberland County Snowplow Rodeo***

The Cumberland County Snowplow Rodeo was held in Falmouth last year. There have been changes in Falmouth and a new site for the Rodeo will be needed this year. There is also a need for volunteers and a new coordinator for the event. After a short discussion, it was decided that the Rodeo would be held in Cape Elizabeth on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Volunteers will be needed for judging, scoring, etc. A flyer and information on the Rodeo will be sent out to everyone. It was decided to make all checks payable to the Maine Chapter of APWA and ask them to facilitate the reimbursement for expenses for food, plaques, etc.

#### ***- Equipment Sharing Inventory List***

A short discussion took place pertaining to equipment sharing. Some towns provide an agreement sheet with a certificate of insurance when they share town equipment. It was also noted that procedures and guidelines are now provided for the sharing of equipment and/or personnel in the new Regional Disaster Aid Agreement for Cumberland County.

### **8. Next Meeting – May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

It was decided to skip July’s meeting and re-start in August.

### **9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.