

Public Notice

Exeter Local Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 11th, 4:15 p.m. Town Offices Wheelwright Room

Attendees, Deb Perou, RNMOW, Debora Hartley, Lamprey Health Care, Carol Gulla, TASC, Don Woodward, Chairman

Meeting began at 4:15 p.m.

Topics for discussion,

The meeting began with a review of a transportation-planning document from 1989. Several of the providers using volunteers have ceased due to insurance liability concerns. Legislative action is currently being proposed to alleviate this problem.

1). Local Transportation Planning grant update,

Scott Bogle of the Rockingham planning commission was unable to attend and had requested in one or two sentences to describe Exeter's local transportation grant. The consensus was,

Exeter's local transportation committee requests planning funding to develop a series of fixed routes connecting outlying affordable housing communities to a local transportation center at the town's Amtrak station. A 14-passenger hybrid paratransit bus is benchmarked & needs life-cycle operating costs to be determined.

2). Proposed Warrant Article regarding Local option Fee.

The committee felt at this time an increase of \$1.50 in the local option fee would cover basic transportation costs with a small balance to allow for matching funds for grants to improve or expand transportation service improvements. The maximum allowed per state law is \$5.00 per vehicle registration. This would provide a 20% cushion for contingencies or future growth. As the State in 2009 drastically increased its rates on all types of motor vehicle related fees, the committee felt any increase should be kept as small as possible. The following was suggested as a warrant article,

Shall the town vote to increase the current motor vehicle local option fee from \$2.50 to \$4.00 to fund transportation services for senior and disabled residents and transportation service needs in Exeter as authorized by R.S.A. 261:153s VI? This is would allow the Town to qualify and apply for grants and other unanticipated funding from State, Federal, other governmental units and private sources for the purposes in which they were intended. Proceeds of said fees will be deposited into the Town's Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund, with the Board of Selectmen appointed as agents to expend from this capital reserve fund for the purposes for which it was established.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45p.m.

Don Woodward, Chairman, 08/05/2010