

LONG RANGE CAPITAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE

Legislative Office Building, Room 201

Concord, NH

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. David Campbell, Chair

Rep. John Cloutier

Rep. Gene Chandler

Rep. John Graham (Alt.)

Sen. James Rausch

Sen. Sylvia Larsen

Sen. Nancy Stiles

ALSO PRESENT: Gerard Murphy (Governor's Office)
Michael Connor (Dept. of Admin. Services)

(Meeting convened at 2:49 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Okay. We're going to come back to order. Excuse me. We have to come to order. We are running very late on Capital -- on Long Range Planning and I apologize. We went over on the other. Going to give a minute to the members to get seated then we'll start. I think this is all there is, but we have a quorum; one, two, three, four, five, six, seven. We're good.

(1) Acceptance of Minutes of the April 21, 2014 meeting.

**** SEN. RAUSCH:** Move to approve the minutes.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Senator Rausch moves and Representative Graham seconds the approval of the minutes. All in favor say aye?

***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**

REP. GRAHAM: Whom I sitting in for?

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Representative Graham is sitting in for Representative Lerandeau.

(2) Old Business:

(3) New Business:

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Okay. Second order of business is New Business, disposal of Highway or Turnpike Funded Real Estate in the Department of Transportation. Mr. Schmidt is here. Good afternoon. We'll let him get seated before you make the motion.

REP. CHANDLER: Okay.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Okay.

CHARLES SCHMIDT, Administrator, Bureau of Right-of-Way Department of Transportation: Good afternoon. For the record, I'm Chuck Schmidt. I'm Administrator for the Bureau of Right-of-Way at the Department of Transportation. Today I'm here to request the sale of an access point off of New Durham Road which is in the -- for you guys from -- it's in Alton for you familiar with it. It's on the northeast side of the circle going out and it will be opposite the Homestead Drive which is where McDonald's and some of those other venues are. We're requesting for 66,100, including -- which includes the administrative fee.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Thank you. Representative Chandler.

** REP. CHANDLER: So moved.

REP. GRAHAM: Second.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Representative Chandler moves the item, seconded by Representative Graham. Any discussion on the item? Seeing none. All those in favor say aye? Opposed? Thank you.

*** {MOTION ADOPTED}

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MR. SCHMIDT: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: That's it for you? Sorry to make you wait so long.

MR. SCHMIDT: I know. I had Phil here.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Sorry about that.

MR. SCHMIDT: That's all right.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Next item is Office of Energy and Planning.

MEREDITH HATFIELD, Director, Office of Energy and Planning: Good afternoon. I'm Meredith Hatfield, Director of the Office of Energy and Planning. And I am here to request a submerged easement under the Squamscott River, and I actually, if the Committee is okay, I'd like to turn it over to Attorney Maureen Smith who represents Granite State Gas Transmission. That is the party that needs the easement. We are making the request on their behalf of the State.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Please come up. Thank you. You were before us earlier this year for one of these, were you not?

MAUREEN SMITH, ESQ., ORR & RENO, Concord, NH: I was very recently.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: It's a different river, different spot.

MS. SMITH: Yes, it is.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Okay. Go ahead, please.

MS. SMITH: Thank you very much. Maureen Smith, Orr & Reno.

SEN. RAUSCH: Same story?

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CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Same story. That's all right. Go ahead.

MS. SMITH: I'm Maureen Smith of Orr & Reno representing Granite State Gas Transmission and with me today is Roger Barnham, the Senior Gas Engineer from Granite State to answer any technical questions you may have.

The reason that we requested CORD review of the proposed easement is that the gas line that currently runs between Exeter and Stratham and goes across the Squamscott River as shown in Figure 3 in the court application, which I believe is in your materials, has experienced disbonding which is basically the coating in the pipeline is old and it becomes more difficult to protect the pipeline through cathodic protection. Granite State has decided to maintain pipeline integrity, replace the segment of pipeline and also put the pipeline under the river by horizontal directional drill, which as we discussed recently is the newest technology available to cross rivers using natural gas pipelines.

This is an interstate pipeline that runs between Haverhill, Massachusetts, and Portland, Maine, and it's basically a ten-inch pipeline, except for this segment which is eight inches. So Granite State would make the whole pipeline ten inches by replacing this segment so that technology can be used to inspect the inside of the pipeline continuously for the whole run. The pipeline would be new material. It would also be relocated just a little to go around the Exeter Wastewater Treatment Plant to avoid future expansion potential -- I'm sorry, to avoid any interference with potential future expansion of the Exeter Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Granite State and Exeter have reached an understanding on that, where the location would be, the new location. It would co-locate with another major pipeline that crosses the river to keep the pipelines together and off of the Exeter Wastewater Treatment Plant property. It would go under the river, as the pipeline already crosses the river, but we are going under the river a little bit higher next to the other pipeline. And then

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it will be crossing private property where it essentially crosses now, but just a slightly different location. That property owner is also agreeable. So we are before you today for just the river part of it, because the submerged lands are owned by the State.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Right.

MS. SMITH: We require an easement from the State in order to go under the river, and it's that 400 feet or so that we are asking that the State grant an easement for that pipeline to go under the river.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Thank you. Any questions?

****** SEN. RAUSCH: Move to approve.

SEN. STILES: Second.

SEN. LARSEN: Well, I have a question.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Yes, please.

SEN. LARSEN: Do you have approval for the other portions of the pipeline or is it just this that you need approval?

MS. SMITH: The pipeline is existing. It's all there.

SEN. LARSEN: Right. Just the replacement of the pipeline.

MS. SMITH: It's just a small segment and all of the property owners involved are agreeable.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: I'm sorry, who moved? Senator Rausch?

SEN. STILES: And I seconded.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Seconded by Senator Stiles. Senator Rausch moves, Senator Stiles second. Okay.

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REP. CHANDLER: Thank you. Is there any payment for this?

MS. SMITH: The payment would be in terms of covering the administrative fee to obtain the easement. But there will be no cost to the State otherwise. But the pipeline is there already crossing the river. It's a pre-existing pipeline. It's just that we're moving it to a different spot.

REP. CHANDLER: Further question. The other places you go do you pay land owners?

MS. SMITH: That's subject to negotiation. But there is -- there is some in some cases.

REP. CHANDLER: That's the question. Why wouldn't we be treated like a land owner?

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Refresh us on what happened earlier this year when you were before us for one of these. Wasn't it submerged?

MS. SMITH: That was also a submerged easement. That was an existing pipeline across the Little Bay Bridge and the DOT asked to have moved somewhere else and so it went under the river. And there was no payment as such other than then the administrative fee because it was already an existing pipeline. And so, you know, presumably Granite State has the right to have that pipeline there. It was built before any of these laws came into effect. It was since the 1950's. So in terms of obtaining this easement, it's just retaining its existing rights to have the pipeline there. So there has been no request for payment of fees in order to keep the pipeline running.

REP. CHANDLER: I just did. I just did request.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: I know.

MS. SMITH: Up until now, no one has suggested it. Sorry.

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CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: When is it estimated the pipeline went in?

MS. SMITH: In the mid-fifties.

ROGER BARNHAM, Senior Gas Engineer, Granite State Gas Transmission: 1956.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: 1956. Further discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor of the item say aye? Opposed?

REP. CHANDLER: No.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: One opposed. The item is approved. Thank you.

*** {MOTION ADOPTED}

MS. SMITH: Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Thanks for waiting. I apologize for the hold up.

MS. SMITH: No problem. Thank you.

(4) Miscellaneous:

(5) Informational:

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: With that, I think -- well, we have some informational items. Anybody have questions on those?

REP. GRAHAM: None.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: One thing we do want to do, I think, in our June meeting, if we can, just to tell LBA to go through a summary that we have done in years' past of what we sold basically.

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MICHAEL KANE, Deputy Legislative Budget Assistant, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant: Okay.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Disposition of properties. Just to go over it. You know, maybe compare it to other years if we can just to kind of figure out -- we've done it in the past.

MR. KANE: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: It won't be the ended summary, but we can probably update it in September; but it be good to do it maybe then.

MR. KANE: Okay.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: And anybody else wants to come in, I know you'll let them know that they won't probably get a chance in the summer so if they have something pressing they should do it. We can come in if there is an emergency, obviously.

MR. KANE: We'll stress that in our e-mail.

(6) Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Okay. We set a date of the 24th, was it, of June?

MR. KANE: Yep.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: So that was 10 o'clock meeting. With the Prison coming in, we probably should say 11 o'clock for Long Range and be done by noon. Okay. And motion to adjourn.

****** SEN. LARSEN: So moved.

SEN. RAUSCH: So moved.

CHAIRMAN CAMPBELL: Moved by Larsen, seconded by Rausch. All those in favor say aye? Good. Thank you.

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***** {MOTION ADOPTED}**


(Meeting concluded at 3:00 o'clock p.m.)

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CERTIFICATION

I, Cecelia A. Trask, a Licensed Court Reporter-Shorthand, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcript from my shorthand notes taken on said date to the best of my ability, skill, knowledge and judgment.


Cecelia A. Trask, LSR, RMR, CRR
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