Granite State News - October 6, 2011

Set forth below is an excerpt from the October 6th issue of The Granite State News regarding MLPA’s efforts to address the runoff issues on Lang Pond Road into Mirror Lake. This excerpt is from a report on the Tuftonboro Selectmen’s meeting:

Remediation of water runoff and erosion issues along Lang Pond Road is planned for next year. The selectmen met with Wolfeboro Public Works Director Dave Ford, Tuftonboro Road Agent Jim Bean, Dusty Davies of the Mirror Lake Protective Association and an engineer from Geosyntech Engineering Consultants. Two thirds of the road is in Wolfeboro; one third is in Tuftonboro, so a coordinated effort is underway. Sundquist said that Ford is working on a plan with figures to present to the Wolfeboro Board for approval for its portion. Tuftonboro will dust off plans prepared by H.E. Bergeron Engineers. Both will also take Geosyntech’s recommendations under consideration. Plans include a small precast bridge, centering the road and lengthening culverts to divert water away from the lake side of the road. Chairman Bill Stockman noted that two of the culverts flood every year and “it’s important stuff that needs to be done.” Sundquist will look into applying for a FEMA grant for an $80,000 portion of the project that includes a culvert in the flooding path.

Granite State News - October 13, 2011

Wolfeboro to help upgrade Lang Pond Road with Tuftonboro

BY THOMAS BEELER, Editor

WOLFEBORO — At the Aug. 16 presentation on the Mirror Lake Watershed, Lang Pond Road was identified as a significant source of phosphorus that degrades the quality of water in Mirror Lake, and the consultant recommended that the road be upgraded to minimize gravel washout into the water. At the Oct. 5 Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen meeting, Public Works Director Dave Ford reported that he had met with Tuftonboro selectmen, Tuftonboro Road Agent Jim Bean and Mirror Lake Protective Association President Dusty Davies to discuss the issue and what can be done. “The concern is with the gravel portion of Lang Pond Road from Tern Lane (in Robin Acres) to the bottom of the hill by the Tuftonboro/Wolfeboro Town Line,” Ford wrote in his report. “The gravel road is a maintenance problem in that it is the only gravel road on the north side of Town and requires a grader to travel across town 2 or 3 times a year to maintain a 400 foot stretch of road.”

One approach considered was to pave the Wolfeboro section of the road up to the point where snow plows turn around. Conservation Commission member Mike Hodder, who lives nearby and walks the road, urged Ford to see what he could do to preserve it as a gravel road. Tuftonboro has no plans to upgrade the road or pave it, but does plan to add culverts and raise the road level. Ford said he developed a plan on Monday that would not require paving but involve improving ditch lines and installing drainage pipe and catch basins. In all, 480 feet of road would be improved, with 68 percent of the road in Wolfeboro and 32 percent in Tuftonboro. Wolfeboro would do the project next spring using highway department personnel. Materials would cost $28,960 and town labor at standard rates would bring the total to $52,000, with $35,000 coming from the 2012 Road Repair and Maintenance budget an $17,000 (32 percent) being billed to Tuftonboro. The proposed plan is being reviewed by Geosyntec, the consultant on the Mirror Lake Watershed Study. Ford pointed out that there is a difference of $8,000 between his estimate of the town’s “out of pocket” costs and the $17,000, due mainly to labor rates allowed by state and federal agencies in calculating the value of contributed labor. Selectmen felt using the standard rates was appropriate since the Town of Wolfeboro would be managing the project and doing all the work. Ford said this project was not included in the Road Repair and Maintenance Plan for 2012 that he had submitted on Sept. 12, but that there should be room in the budget if the contingencies he built in come in lower, as they have in 2011. If not, he said he could delay the proposed Pork Hill Road or Cotton Valley Road projects. The board approved adding Lang Pond Road to the warrant article for 2012 road projects. [an excerpt pertaining to Lang Pond Road/MLPA Watershed, in the paper the article continues]

Dusty Davies, President, MLPA