The meeting was called to order at 5:10pm by Mollie Miller. In attendance were: Kurt Grassett, Neal Cass, Chuck Willard, Alison Rossiter, Tyler Howe, Eric _____ (from the DPW), & Mollie Miller.

Mollie passed out the most recently edited version of the Routine Maintenance Guidelines for discussion. Kurt brought up the idea of different minimum standards for roads with the three different levels of traffic volume we’ve designated for Hancock’s guidelines (less than 100 cars per day, 100-250 & 250-400 cpd). Discussion followed for a brief period (Kurt had to leave early).

Tyler Howe brought up the 6 ton weight limit restriction on the gravel part of Old Dublin Road. The limit was put in place last summer on a temporary basis while the crack in the historic stone culvert in front of the Rodat’s barn was measured monthly to see if there was any movement. After a year of measurement with no movement or widening of the crack, Tyler thinks the weight limit should be removed. A one inch steel plate can be added at a later date if continued measurements determine that there is movement or widening of the crack. Tyler will take the matter up with the Select Board.

Tyler reported that the DPW has done a quick pass over the town roads to clear tree branches. The tree branches are supposed to be at least 14’6” straight up from the edges of the roads, but in some places in town, the branches are only 7’ up. Moreover, some branches are very close to the edges of the roads, causing scratches to cars and trucks. More work will be done on this task in the future.

A discussion followed about the desirability of communicating to town residents the need for tree branch trimming, yearly roadside ditching, and the illegality of dumping leaves and yard waste in ditches. It was decided to write short monthly articles for the Hancock Happenings describing the work being done and the reasons for that work. Alison agreed to write up a couple of paragraphs for the next meeting, so Tyler can review before publishing it in September’s issue.

Tyler also reported that he is using a different product to seal the gravel roads after they’ve been graded. “Safe Bind” provides both stabilization and dust control. Check saferoadsurfaces.com to find out more information about this product.

Tyler said the Southwest Regional Planning Board is currently conducting a survey of all the known culverts in Hancock. Metal culverts which have failed are now being replaced with plastic culverts, which last much longer.

The remainder of the meeting was spent going over the recent word changes and edits in the guidelines for routine maintenance. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30.