

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, September 18, 2017

Meeting commenced at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 18, 2017.

Present at Meeting: Lt. Buckley (Chair Person), (Conference Call: Chief Melanson), Traffic Officer Noddin, Sgt. Kory Vincent, Matt Walsh, Russ Arnold, Scott Zenke, Kat Howroyd, Resident Konrad Krupa & Carol Golas

A. Old Business:

1. **0817-01- Request to Collect Data on Beech Street** – (Thomas Ladas) – Officer Noddin reported that data collected showed the average speed was 13 mph, the maximum speed was 35 mph with 200 cars per day on a 700 foot road. Officer Noddin said he has spoken with the complainant to follow-up and give him the data. Item Closed.
2. **0717-01 – RE-OPENED – Request a Stop Sign for River Road and Burlington Road Intersection** – (Mr. Konrad Krupa) – Mr. Krupa reported he is concerned for his son who is a new driver and almost had an accident at this intersection. Mr. Krupa brought some documents that he read to the group regarding what road conditions warrants a stop sign and wanted to know why there were 3 and 4 way stop signs off of Burlington Road at Old Field Street, Doris Street and Westmeath that did not have outlets and were short streets with little traffic and there was no stop sign on Burlington Road at River Road. It was reported that those signs were installed many years before the Traffic Review Board was commissioned and when there was much less traffic in town. It was reported that over the last 5 years there have been 4 accidents and 2 violations of motorists not stopping for the River Road Stop Sign. Mr. Krupa said he has noticed the brush was cut back on the corner lot and that has improved the site line somewhat. It was suggested by the Committee that Russ will again contact the person on the corner lot to see if more brush could be cut back and the Engineering Department will look at the site during and after peak hours, Selective Enforcement will continue and the traffic sign and tubes will be placed on Burlington Road to collect data for the next TRB meeting. Item Tabled.

B. New Business:

1. **0917-01 – Request an Audible Traffic Signal at the School Street, South Main Street & Farmington Ave. Intersection** – (Caren Reney) – Russ Arnold reported that this will be corrected in the near future with the State's Project No. 51-269 but it was recommended that a letter of request be sent to the state to install one. Item Closed.
2. **0917-02 – Request "School Bus Stop Ahead" Sign for Plainville Avenue for Cars Traveling South also Enforce speeding Cars on Plainville Avenue.** – (Alison Barto) – Russ Arnold reported they are looking for a sign due to children having to cross the street for the bus. Committee recommended sending a letter to the DOT to request a sign. Item Closed.
3. **0917-03 – Request "Warning Trucks Entering" Sign for Brickyard Road Near Farmington Ready Mix & Dunning Sand & Gravel** – (Jason Futoma) – Matt Walsh spoke with Mr. Futoma who has almost witnessed some close collisions. Committee agreed that a sign is warranted. Item Closed.
4. **0917-04 – Request a Fence Where Sidewalk is Close to the Road and Enforce Speeding on West District Road** -(Kurt Krauland) – It was reported that a fence would not offer much protection for pedestrians and sidewalks are the responsibility of residents. It was recommended to enforce the speeding and rotate the traffic sign along West District Road. Item Closed.

5. 0917-05 – Discuss Bus Stops Along Plainville Avenue (specifically stops at Snowberry Cobble) – (Russ Arnold)-
Russ Arnold reported he is trying to work with Dawn in the Board of Ed to change things up a bit to see where the issues lie and what is a possible solution as the residents don't want the 15 or so children crossing a busy street like Plainville Avenue to get to the bus. This Item tabled for further review

Issues:

Chief Melanson said there is a problem with the Light at High Street/ Rte. 4. When it goes to flash, all sides of the light blink red. This causes traffic gridlock on Rte. 4 because it obviously has a large volume of vehicles and now each car must stop at the intersection. The State denied a request to have Rte. 4 blink yellow while High St and Backage Rd blink red. They were concerned about the sightline coming off Backage Rd. Chief Melanson stated that when large events are exiting the Polo Club, Officers run the lights in order to clear Route 4 and allow cars to get to the highway. The operation would work better if the light allowed cars to continue on Rte. 4 without stopping. The other issue is that when the light malfunctions, it will create heavy congestion on Rte. 4. Russ Arnold suggested shutting the power off to the lights and putting a traffic horse across the left lane and make it a right turn only. Russ to work with Jim to send a letter to DOT to get a signal change denial information.

Chief Melanson reported that the Town Manager would like a letter from the TRB that she can pass along to the DOT with potential solutions for expediting the Rte. 4 construction. Russ Arnold said this was addressed at the quarterly meeting with DOT and it was suggested that a second shift at night take place to move things along, but construction said if the Town wants to pay for a second shift they will do it. Russ said the completion date for the project is set to be completed by June 2018. A letter should be crafted to ask for an incentive for the contractors to finish early and address the fact that this project is frustrating motorists and crippling some businesses in the area.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25pm. The next TRB meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 1:00 pm In the Administrative Wing Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted
Carol Golas, Confidential Secretary

Issues: None reported.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15p.m. The next TRB meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 1:00 pm in the Administrative Wing Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Golas, Confidential Secretary