

**Town of Hollis**  
**Highway Safety Committee Minutes**  
**July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**1:00pm - Community Room**  
**DRAFT**

**HIGHWAY SAFETY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Belanger, Chairperson;  
Paul Miller, Vice Chairperson; Joan Cudworth; DPW Director, Joseph Hoebeke, Chief of Police;  
Rob Boggis, Fire Chief; Herm Stickney; Deb Lussier, Don Ryder (alternate); Teresa Rosetti (alternate);  
Willie Walker (alternate)

**ABSENT:** Joseph Garruba, Selectmen Representative

**STAFF:** Beverly Hill, Executive Assistant

**Non-Members in attendance:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Belanger called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and led all in attendance to the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 MINUTES:** D. Ryder made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by J. Hoebeke. All in favor, none opposed.

J. Belanger noted that the HSC keeps rehashing same issues and reiterated the reason for the committee is to make recommendations to the Select Board. He reminded the members that any issues to be discussed need to be noted ahead of time so they can be put on the agenda in order to make the other members aware of them.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Follow-up on convex mirror at Merrill Ln. and Depot Rd.**

Discussion ensued whether to keep the mirror or remove it. J. Hoebeke noted there were 10 accidents in the general vicinity of this intersection since 2020 which is minimal. He added that most of the accidents were caused by north bound traffic turning left from Depot Rd. onto Merrill Ln. It was suggested to leave the current mirror as there's still drivers who use it.

J. Belanger made a motion to not recommend any further study on this issue; seconded by J. Hoebeke. All in favor, none opposed.

**2. Discuss traffic study for Rte. 122 by NRPC**

J. Belanger noted this came before the HSC because a resident of Rte. 122 (Silver Lake Rd) had an issue getting out of his driveway and requested the speed limit lowered.

J. Hoebeke stated that history shows only 1 fatality and feels the posted speed limit on this road isn't unreasonable.

J. Belanger stated that speeding is a police issue and not a HSC issue.

D. Ryder left at 1:20pm

R. Boggis stated there isn't any reason to continue the discussion as Rte. 122 is a state road and the town hasn't any jurisdiction over it.

R. Boggis made a motion to not recommend any further discussion on lowering the speed limit on Rte. 122 (Silver Lake Rd.) seconded by J. Hoebeke. All in favor, none opposed.

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51  
52 **3. Follow up on sight issue at Merrill Ln. and 71 Depot Rd**  
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54 J. Cudworth stated she didn't investigate other options regarding the fence. She was told the fence  
55 that's currently there is cemented into place and feels there's nothing more that can be discussed or  
56 modified which will solve the problem. J. Cudworth added it's one of many intersections in town that  
57 that people need to creep up before pulling out.

58  
59 J. Hoebeke stated in 3 ½ years there were only 30 citations or violations on Merrill and 263 on  
60 Depot Rd.

61  
62 R. Boggis made a motion to cease further discussion and study consistent with item #1; seconded by  
63 J. Hoebeke. All in favor, none opposed.  
64

65 **4. Follow up on Wheeler Rd. and Pierce Ln. speed concern**  
66

67 J. Hoebeke revealed data from 2022 for Wheeler Rd and Pierce Ln and stated there hasn't been an  
68 accident at this intersection for 3 ½ years. He noted that there was approximately 5 to 7 accidents  
69 on all of Wheeler Rd. He added the volume of traffic per day is around 3000 and most vehicles are  
70 within the posted speed with some going 5 to 10 mph over. He stated there's sufficient signage and  
71 doesn't see the need to add a stop sign.

72  
73 J. Belanger made a motion that no further action be taken; R. Boggis seconded. All in favor, none  
74 opposed.  
75

76  
77 **NEW BUSINESS:**  
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79 **1. Committee vote on future agenda items:**  
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81 **A. Merrill Ln.** – Tabled indefinitely by unanimous vote  
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83  
84 **B. Wheeler Rd. at Pierce Ln.** – Tabled indefinitely by unanimous vote  
85  
86

87 **2. Request from Select Board for HSC to evaluate signage options for “reduced speed” and/or**  
88 **“no construction vehicles” and/or “local traffic only” on Rocky Pond Rd.**  
89

90 J. Cudworth received various traffic studies completed by NRPC on Rocky Pond Rd. She stated  
91 according to the data, there's not a lot of large vehicles, nor is there an increase in the normal daily  
92 traffic. She noted most of the higher traffic is the vehicles cutting through to and from Brookline, NH.  
93

94 It was noted this came to fruition after the March town meeting whereas some residents were  
95 requesting the dirt section of Rocky Pond be paved.  
96

97 After discussion it was agreed there wasn't any safety concerns warranting more signage on Rocky  
98 Pond Rd.  
99

100 P. Miller made a motion not to recommend any new signs be installed; seconded by J. Hoebeke. All in  
101 favor, none opposed.  
102

103 **3. Discuss traffic study data received from NRPC on Rocky Pond Rd.**  
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See notes from #2 above.

105 With no other business to discuss, J. Belanger made a motion to adjourn, seconded by  
106 R. Boggis. All in favor, none opposed.  
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108 The Highway Safety Committee was officially adjourned at 1:55pm.  
109  
110 Respectively submitted by:  
111  
112 *Beverly Hill*  
113  
114 Executive Assistant  
115 Town of Hollis - DPW