

## Highway Safety Committee Meeting Minutes from 1-14-19

Meeting called to order at 3:07 PM

Jim Belanger, Chairman

Mark Le Doux, Selectmen Chair

Paul Armstrong, Selectman

Todd Croteau, DPW Director

Lt. Brendan LaFlamme, Police (for Police Chief Joe Hoebeke who is in Concord at a conference)

Honorable Don Ryder, Member at Large

Fire Chief Rick Towne, Fire Department

Absent: Rebecca Crowther, Secretary and Vice Chairman

Meeting Minutes of 8-13-18 – Motion made by Mr. Le Doux, seconded by Mr. Ryder to accept without modification, and motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on old business – Mirror on Post at base of Merrill Lane intersection with Depot Road.

Discussion from Mr. Ryder suggesting a tweak in positioning allowing for better visibility.

Second discussion – Witches Spring striping, Mr. Croteau is going to get it done in late April or early May depending on weather. No further comment other than reminding folks this will be a three lane intersection.

Chairman Belanger discussed some deteriorated guard rails made of wood, and Todd will evaluate replacement issues and provide feedback.

New Business –

Anna Birch – request better signage at Ash Street/Glenice Drive crosswalk. More children are using this to go to the new Buckley's restaurant, and it appears people are disregarding the signage that is there. Anna shared a pedestrian activated blinking light – costing around \$5K to do this making the crosswalk more visible to motor vehicles in transit. Unknown is the cost for installation, but estimates are probably an additional \$1500 to \$2000 for conduits, hooking up solar lighting, etc.

Given this is a state road, perhaps the best solution is a discussion with the state highway engineers to see if money would be available to do this for both areas of concern, namely by the middle school cross-walk and the Ash Street/Glenice. Motion made by Mr. Le Doux to ask the DPW Director to reach out to the vendors as well as the State Highway Department to ascertain costs and then identify next steps for action items. Motion seconded by Mr. Croteau. Motion carried unanimously.

Karen Bridgeo concerned about traffic calming measures on South Merrimack Road. Her concern centers on how we can maintain rural character as well as reduce the potential for traffic congestion of 'pass-through' traffic. Specifically might there be a possibility to restrict tractor-trailer trucks on South Merrimack Roads? Mr. Belanger stated the fact that S. Merrimack is considered a collector road to the major roads, namely 101A and SR 122.

Discussion then transitioned to Horse Crossing or Horse Present signs near Alison Flynn's operation on Rideout Road. Ms. Flynn was not present to discuss. The Chairman indicated that we do not have a consensus of opinion on this, and until such time as we have further data it shall be tabled on motion of Mr. Le Doux, and seconded by Mr. Ryder and passed unanimously.

Three potential members to replace Paul (who is now the Selectman's representative to the HSC), are Paul Miller, Herm Stickney and Ted Chamberlain. These three names will be submitted to the Selectmen for selection.

Jane O'Neill – on the subject of painting lines on Pine Hill Road. She indicated in inclement weather it is difficult to ascertain the correct location on the road. In the past, white barrier lines were present on the sides of the roadway. Todd indicated it was sort of a weird bike lane that was painted in there some time ago. Pine Hill Road is now a cut across from 101A to Massachusetts, including all kinds of vehicles transiting into and from Massachusetts. She called neighbors who also agreed that we need lines on the road to improve visibility and safety. Main issues from the taxpayer are putting in some lines at least as fog lines. Estimate from DPW Director is around \$3000 to \$4000 to do this. To put in a yellow center line would cost an additional \$3000 to \$4000 to do that. The motion was made by Mr. Le Doux and Seconded by Mr. Armstrong to initiate this for next year's budget. Motion approved unanimously.

Mr. Le Doux made motion to Adjourn at 4 PM, seconded by Lt. La Flamme. Unanimously passed.