

**Traffic Safety Advisory Committee**  
**August 30, 2010**  
**Minutes**

Present: Bill Ruoff – Chairman  
Gil Archambault  
Chief Fred Douglas  
Richard Tortorelli  
Dave Wheeler  
Bill Parker

Ali Stewart – Graduate student in the UNH Public Administration  
Program

Absent: Gary Daniels, Board of Selectmen representative  
Dana MacAllister

Secretary: Kathryn Parenti, Recording Secretary

1. *Roll Call vote required by the BOS.*

2. *Approval of minutes from April 28, 2010.*

G. Archambault made the motion to approve the minutes.

B. Parker seconded the motion

All were in favor of approving the minutes from April 29, 2010; none were opposed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

3. *Emerson and Armory Roads, Route 13S intersection – Update from Bill Parker*

B. Ruoff noted B. Parker had been on the agenda since April and wanted to update the Committee, even though there were no new submissions for this meeting. He invited B. Parker to present his information.

B. Parker began his presentation by noting the grant application for that intersection was turned in to Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) in April, 2010. It is one (1) of two (2) applications for the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant; the other application was from Hudson for a synchronization of signals. That application has a greater air quality benefit than Milford's application. Each application was granted bonus points for being high ranked in the grant process; Milford received fifteen (15) bonus points and he believed Hudson received thirty (30) points. Milford's project is ranked number two (2) of the two (2) projects. He spoke with Julie Chizmas of NRPC who checked with the state to see when the review process would be complete. The applications are in the review process, which should be finished by November 10, 2010 and announcements regarding the grant will be in December. He asked her what chance Milford had in obtaining the grant. She replied there were nineteen (19) grants that have gone to the state and there are \$60 million dollars available. Due to the fact that Milford is ranked high, she stated we had a reasonable chance of getting the grant but nothing was guaranteed. If the grant was approved, a warrant article would have to be drafted for appropriation of matching funds from the town; 20% is required. The entire project would cost between \$440,000 and \$450,000 with federal funding of \$368,000.

B. Ruoff noted this project has been in the works for a long time, perhaps since the lights were installed at the intersection.

B. Parker asked when the lights were installed.

F. Douglas noted it was before Bob Courage, Public Works Director, retired.

D. Wheeler stated it had gone before the Board of Selectmen. He noted there was Highway 101 money available. He wondered if the current project on Route 101 was under budget and if it was, can this be slipped into that project. He noted the monies generally cover everything within a mile of the interchange. It could be considered related to the current project. The next step in the grant process is political in terms of who gets what.

B. Parker stated the Transportation Enhancement project grants got political. There is a nine (9) or eleven (11) member advisory group and even if ranked high locally it didn't mean you would get the grant. Brookline's project for sidewalks was rated number one (1) for the region but it didn't make the top cut.

D. Wheeler stated that would be the Government Advisory Committee for Intermodal Transportation (GACIMT).

B. Parker stated they are now trying to take away the subjectivity of the CMAC. It is based on air quality improvements.

D. Wheeler thought it wouldn't hurt to send a letter to Deborah Pignatelli stating the town wants this project as it is a top safety concern.

B. Parker referred to his memo that brings everyone up to date on the other projects such as South Street. It is a lengthy process and they are currently waiting on comments from the railroad and are working with property owners on easements. They should be ready to award the bid by the end of the year and begin construction early next year.

D. Tortorelli asked if it would go all the way to Clinton Street.

B. Parker replied it would go to the railroad tracks.

R. Tortorelli asked if the rest of South Street would be repaved.

B. Ruoff noted they will be grinding down, repaving the road, putting in new sidewalks and replacing curbing from Sanel's Auto Parts to Papa Joe's. He noted they picked Sanel's to start from as the intersection of Prospect, Marshall and South Streets will be improved at some point He originally wanted to tie the two (2) projects together but he can't wait any longer.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

##### *4. Roundtable discussion – Right turn lane at McDonald's on Nashua Street*

B. Ruoff continued by noting nothing had come into the Committee for discussion since April and he felt a meeting was warranted to take care of B. Parker's update. He asked if anyone had anything to discuss at this point.

F. Douglas noted he had received two (2) complaints regarding the east bound turn lane into McDonald's on Nashua Street. It is a right turn only lane and people who don't realize it end up going straight at the intersection. There is a right turn only sign but it is on the grass before the intersection. He wondered if it was possible to install a sign on the traffic light post as there is inadequate signage at the intersection. When this came up three (3) weeks ago, he asked the state about this. The state says they don't own the traffic lights but the town does not either. He was aware the town only owned the set of lights in front of Walgreen's.

B. Ruoff stated when they were running the gas lines on Nashua Street in 1997 and at that time the poles belonged to the state.

F. Douglas replied when the Walgreen's was constructed he fought for a four (4) way intersection and the state said the town needed to make sure the new light was coordinated with the state lights.

R. Tortorelli stated he dealt with the state when they were installing the Opticon system – they would install the system on their lights.

B. Ruoff wondered when ownership changed – he did remember the discussions regarding sequencing the lights with the new one at Walgreen's.

B. Parker stated he would do a little research to figure out the ownership of the lights.

G. Archambault thought the painting of a right turn arrow in the lane would help.

B. Ruoff noted there was one already there. He thought installing a sign on the light mast would help. He wondered if they were shown in the engineering design and never installed.

#### 4. Roundtable discussion – Parking issues on Union Street near Merrill Court

D. Wheeler made an observation that people have been parking on Union Street near Merrill Court. There are not any “no parking” signs but whomever parks on road parks away from the curb. When passing by, drivers must cross the yellow line to get around the parked car.

R. Tortorelli asked if it was across the street from Merrill Court. He noted the cars have been parked on the road overnight. It is legal now but it won't be after November 15 when the winter parking ban is in place.

D. Wheeler noted there are apartments in the house and room for three (3) cars in the driveway. He thought it would be good for everyone to keep their ears and eyes on the situation between meetings. That area gets even busier when there are children going to and from school.

#### 4. Roundtable discussion – Savage Road/Whitten Road stop sign

G. Archambault noted there is a stop sign on Savage Road at the intersection of Whitten Road and when there are cars parked by the house with the fence near that intersection, there is no room to get down the road; cars must drive into the on-coming lane to get around. To go up the hill, the cars must cross the double yellow line. He also asked when the lines on Savage Road will be repainted. B. Ruoff replied they would be done on Thursday of this week.

#### 4. Roundtable discussion – Turning lane on Nashua Street onto Ponemah Hill Road

D. Wheeler asked when that turning lane would be corrected to allow for a turning lane into the trailer park.

F. Douglas noted he recently had to go into the park and the only entrance he saw had signs stating there was no entrance there.

D. Wheeler stated the park would like people to enter the park using only the road by the mailboxes, closest to the Oval.

B. Parker noted the lane painting is not quite right in that area.

D. Wheeler thought making the existing turn lane a bit longer to accommodate a couple of cars would be beneficial.

B. Ruoff asked D. Wheeler to contact him tomorrow to go out and look at the striping.

#### 4. Roundtable discussion – Intersection of Pine and Nashua Streets

B. Parker noted a woman had come into the office of Community Development who lives in Granite Square. She complained about how hard it is to get onto Nashua Street from Pine Street. He suggested she go to the BOS 5<sup>th</sup> Monday meeting to bring this to the attention of the Board. She thought the sign should be moved; it's not visible and people may think it's a private drive and not a street.

F. Douglas noted the same problem exists on School Street and the BOS decided against eliminating the parking spot on Nashua Street.

B. Ruoff noted it was tough to get anywhere in town at certain times of the day.

B. Ruoff asked if there was any additional business; there was none so he asked for a motion to adjourn.

R. Tortorelli made the motion to adjourn.

D. Wheeler seconded; all were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.