

1 **TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (TSC)**

2 **May 26, 2017**

3 **MEETING MINUTES**

4
5 Attendees: Dave Wheeler, Chairman
6 Jason Plourde, Vice Chairman
7 Gary Daniels, BOS representative
8 Gil Archambault
9 Rick Riendeau, Director of Public Works Department
10 Lincoln Daley, Director of Community Development
11 Chief Mike Viola, Police Chief
12 Captain Craig Frye
13
14

15 Absent: Tina Philbrick
16

17 Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

18 He then addressed the Old Business on the agenda:

- 19 1. Approval of Minutes from February 6, 2017: Dave asked for a motion to accept the minutes and
20 Gill asked to wait until the end of the meeting. When revisited, Gil asked that a change be made
21 to the minutes changing copy shop to coffee shop. He asked if line numbering be used as had
22 been used years ago on the minutes to make it easier to point out certain things when reviewing
23 the minutes. The change has been made and the line numbering will be done from now on. As
24 Jason and Dave were absent last meeting, it was agreed to table the acceptance of the minutes
25 until next time.
26
27 2. Election of Officers: Dave asked if there were any nominations. Gil nominated Jason Plourde as
28 Chairman with a second by Gary. Gary nominated Dave Wheeler as Vice Chairman which was
29 seconded by Jason. All were in favor. Gary made a motion to close the nominations with all in
30 favor. Jason took charge of the meeting.
31
32 3. South Street Parking Spots Recovery – Mike and Lori Heeney Revisit: Jason opened up the
33 discussion, saying although he had missed the last meeting, he had read the minutes and had
34 taken the time to review the plans of the project along with watching the actual project during
35 construction. There is a lot of truck traffic in this area and he feels that the current design will
36 accommodate this traffic. He looked at possibly shrinking the 12 foot lanes down to 11 foot
37 lanes however in order to follow state and federal guidelines, the lanes must be looked at as
38 sharrows due to the fact that there are no separate bike lanes, etc. Therefore they cannot be

1 reduced. The only way to increase the parking spaces would be to narrow the sidewalk. That is
2 not addressing the cost or the change to the plan. This is strictly looking at things from an
3 engineering stand point. This plan has been in place for 12 years with ample meetings for
4 Public/Business input. There is a possibility of adding bike racks to the hatched portion of the
5 road without moving the curb. Gil mentioned that since the last meeting, Bravo's had closed.
6 Ricky noted that it had been sold and will be reopening soon. Gil also mentioned that the place
7 next to it had closed and Jason noted that that was also sold and now has an ice cream store
8 there. He felt that the design had been properly laid out. Gil concurred, stating that's why he
9 had voted as he did last meeting. Gary made a motion to "do nothing". Gil seconded the motion
10 stating that he had been doing research with Gary. Gary questioned if Mr. Heeney had been
11 notified of this meeting. He had not. Dave noted that Mr. Heeney should be notified at this
12 point by letter from the Board of Selectmen noting that the committee supports the design, and
13 that any changes to the current design would need to be approved by DOT and Federal Highway
14 which could take up to a year, if it would even be considered as there has been a lot of
15 thought/engineering that has gone into this plan. After discussion on who the actual letter
16 should come from, Community Development, the Committee or the Board of Selectmen; the
17 committee felt it was best coming from the Board of Selectmen. Gary noted that he would
18 convey the committees' finding at the next Board meeting. All in favor.

- 19
- 20 4. Striping – Rules of the Road (centerline) – Nick Darchik Revisit: Jason asked if anyone had
21 anything to note on this item. As no one immediately jumped in, he stated that he would like to
22 make a few clarifications. Based on documentation from Federal Highway that outlines safety
23 on rural roads, they have found that roads with center lines have reduced speeds by varying
24 amounts on rural roads. Common sense dictates that by placing a centerline marking, you are
25 narrowing the road and directing the cars closer to the shoulder of the road, therefore slowing
26 the speed. It is a traffic calming measure. Bill Lambert, head of the Division of Traffic stated that
27 it is the practice of the DOT to use center line and road edge markings. However, due to budget
28 constraints, manpower, etc. this practice has had to be revisited. They are now following the
29 MUTCD. They do not feel that a center line marking would increase speed. Gary spoke that
30 when Mr. Darchick was present last time (and confirmed that he was not notified of this
31 meeting) we discussed his opinion on the lines and he asked if the town would move forward
32 and create a SOP regarding road line striping. Making the SOP consistent and in line with the
33 MUTCD. Rick noted that he created the SOP and as far as he knew, it had gone to the Selectmen.
34 The guidelines are set by the MUTCD, but the Selectmen can select areas to be more stringent.
35 Gary did not think that they had acted upon it yet. A motion was made by Gary to recommend
36 that the Board of Selectmen review the SOP from DPW regarding Road Striping within the Town
37 of Milford and for the town to adopt a SOP Regarding Road Striping. The motion was seconded
38 by Gill, all in favor. Gil added that the system that has been in place for the past 12 years in his
39 opinion has been working as there are not that many accidents, etc.

- 40
- 41 5. Committee members' comments on items not on the agenda.
- 42

1 Jason brought up a case that was being handled by the Zoning Board reference to driveways and
2 sight distance. In the engineering world there are 2 references to sight distances. The first is
3 stopping sight distance and second is intersection sight distance (which is a similar
4 measurement to the Town's safe sight distance). In the case Jason was speaking about, not only
5 was the survey done wrong, they only showed the Town's safe sight distance. It did not show
6 the national guidelines for stopping sight distance, which is considered by AASHTO to be the
7 safer sight distance that should be met because a vehicle on the major street needs to have
8 enough time to stop before colliding with an object in its path. Because of the topography of the
9 land in question, they did not meet the stopping sight distance. Since they did satisfy the town's
10 requirement (safe sight distance), the Zoning Board chose to approve the plan because the
11 AASHTO requirements were not included within the Town's driveway standards. Jason feels that
12 maybe the TSC should have input on driveway standards. Rick felt that the committee should
13 pull the regulations and look at them to see if they need to be amended.

14
15 Gil voiced concerns over the parking in front of the diner on the bridge. The spaces were painted
16 for compact vehicles and motorcycles and there seems to continually be box trucks and pickups
17 parked there. The road is simply not wide enough to accommodate 2 lanes of traffic and
18 parking. He feels that the next time they do any work on the oval that this should be looked at.

19
20 A short discussion on traffic pattern markings in the oval area ensued noting that the markings
21 help the traffic with lane structure and crosswalk markings. Rick noted that the markings do not
22 hold up as well with heavy and turning traffic patterns.

23
24 Dave noted that the State will be fixing the expansion joints on 101 over 101A soon. They will
25 also be cutting the brush back on the Veterans Memorial Bridge.

26
27 Gary noted that the Courthouse passed the Capital Budget and is the number 2 item on House
28 Bill 25. He also got 150,000 In for relocating the DMV.

29
30 Gil noted that discussing items other than what was on the agenda is extremely helpful in
31 addressing safety concerns and hopes that it will continue.

32
33 Chief Viola asked for a clarification on who should be notifying the requesting parties of the
34 impending meetings? It was decided that the Chief's Office (Ellen) would be responsible for
35 notifications going forward.

36
37 A motion to adjourn at 4:52 PM by Gary, Gil seconded. All were in favor.