

Town of Stow
Traffic Safety Advisory Committee

Minutes of April 5, 2023, Traffic Safety Advisory Meeting
Members Present: Chief Michael Sallese, Fire Chief John P Benoit, Acting Highway Department Superintendent Brian Hatch, & Valerie Oorthuys
Chief Sallese called meeting to order at 1:00 PM

Approval of Minutes | March 1, 2023

Chief Sallese moved to approve the minutes. Brian Seconded.
VOTED: 4-0 (Unanimously in favor: Chief Benoit- Yea; Brian Hatch – Yea; Chief Sallese –Yea; Valerie Oorthuys-Yea)

Member Updates:

- Chief Sallese had a meeting with Honey Pot Orchards as well as a member of the Select Board and Conservation Committee. There is a discussion about widening the entrance to the BC lot off of Boon Road for the first 100 feet. The next step will be a site visit but Honey Pot is agreeable to the proposed changes so far.
- Brian reports the batteries have not yet been ordered but will be shortly.
- Valerie reports that there was a bid posted for the Kingland Access Path and that bids are due next week. Ideally the project would start in June.
- Chief Benoit reports that he met with Hudson and Eversource regarding the Chestnut Street Construction. Chestnut Street will be closed from May through October. Wilkins Street will remain open. During the meeting, Hudson stated that they would be open to revisiting the truck restriction now that Amazon is not opening in Hudson. Valerie will set up a second meeting with Hudson to discuss a possible truck restriction.
- Chief Benoit also reports that he has been speaking with HLP. The power has been shut off to the pole off to the right side of Athens Street. There is flooding currently in the area and the power was shut off on that side to prevent any injuries. Additionally, there are pipes currently across the road.

Tree Warden Updates re: Packard Road at Great Road Tree:

- Chief Sallese shared the response that Brian received from the Tree Warden stating that the tree is in good health, and he does not deem it to be a hazard right now.
- Chief Sallese motions to purchase a permanent “no parking sign from here to corner” for the area to replace the temporary “no parking” signs that are currently there. Chief Benoit seconds.*
- VOTED: 4-0 (Unanimously in favor: Chief Benoit- Yea; Brian Hatch – Yea; Chief Sallese –Yea; Valerie Oorthuys-Yea)*

Review of Street Lists:

- Continued to review the list of private and public ways for the FAQs. Additionally reviewed the list received from the Mass DOT website. There was discussion that some streets would need notes added to explain their classifications.
- For the next meeting, the list of streets will be classified into the three categories previously discussed for the team to review.

Lake Boon Dam Crossing:

- Traffic Calming options were reviewed.
- Brian had follow up questions that Chief Sallese will bring back to the design firm.

Harvard Road at Garner Road Line Painting:

- Highway Department to take a look at the area for line painting when the weather improves.

Next Meeting May 3rd, 2023 at 1:30 PM

Motion to adjourn at 1:54PM by Chief Sallese. Chief Benoit Seconds.

VOTED: 4-0 (Unanimously in favor: Chief Benoit- Yea; Brian Hatch – Yea; Chief Sallese –Yea; Valerie Oorthuys-Yea)

From: stowpolice
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2023 2:34 PM
To: Phoenix Dwyer
Subject: FW: Chief's Chat Question -- Old Marlboro Road Traffic Diversion

Stow Police
305 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775
978-897-4545

From: Rodger Burkley <rodger.burkley@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 12:01 PM
To: stowpolice <stowpolice@stow-ma.gov>
Subject: Chief's Chat Question -- Old Marlboro Road Traffic Diversion

Hi Chief. Regarding the current traffic diversion in effect on RT62/Gleasondale Lane into the Old Marlboro Road turn-out, it seems the current block/detour around a blind curve is not optimal for traffic safety and smooth flow. For instance, on a number of occasions westbound RT62 traffic gets backed up with stopped/turning cars into the temporary diversion turn and I've nearly been rear-ended twice. Have you/the Town considered restoring the previous turn-in/flow, but deploying temporary or permanent speed bumps on Old Marlboro Road to keep speeds down? That seemed to be the residents' main issue...excessive speed. IMHO/FWIW, installing several well placed speed bumps would be more efficient and less costly. Other towns (like Wayland, Hudson, Sudbury, etc.) use them for cut-off roads to great effect.

thx and rgds,
Rodger