

TOWN OF STOW
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 13, 2021 Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present: Chief Michael Sallese; Fire Chief John Paul Benoit; Steven Nadeau; Jesse Steadman

Chief Sallese called the meeting to order at 1 pm.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Members reviewed the minutes of November 16, 2021.

John Paul Benoit moved to approve the minutes of November 16 , 2021.

Jesse Steadman seconded.

VOTED: 4-0 Unanimously in favor (Chief Sallese – Yea; Chief Benoit – Yea; Steve Nadeau – Yea; Jesse Steadman - Yea)

Town Wide 25MPH Recommendation

Committee members discussed the forthcoming recommendation regarding a 25mph speed limit regulation in Stow for all roads that do not currently have a posted speed limit. Michael Jordan of Packard Road raised concerns with the regulation, but realized after some discussion that it was not meant as a blanket reduction on all roads, but only those that were currently un-zoned. Jesse Steadman said he will amend the letter accordingly and include information regarding the potential safety zone along Crescent Street.

Budget Discussion

Jesse Steadman noted that with several developments in the pipeline in Stow, each of which will likely have an impact on Hudson Road, it would be proactive for the Town to gain engineering and design plans for the signalization of the Hudson Road and Route 117 Intersection, which is one of the more accident prone intersections in Stow. The Committee discussed that if private sector investment were to account for the costs, the Committee could pull the article. However, members agreed that in the event the Town was unable to garner investment, it would still be necessary for the Town to act on its own accord. Members agreed they would like to discuss the issue with the Town Administrator, as well as the Complete Streets Committee and Planning Board to gain support from different stakeholders.

Tracking Progress

Chief Benoit indicated that he is working on updating the comment tracking system on an excel spreadsheet which will be designed to communicate to residents the status of various comments and concerns before the Committee in line with the Traffic Safety policy of the Committee.

Data Collection Stage I Recommendations for Crescent Street

The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee discussed the recent correspondence regarding Crescent Street speeding and the potential for confusion regarding overlapping speed zones along Crescent Street. Jesse Steadman described Crescent Street as containing three of the top ten Complete Streets projects as listed on the Town's Prioritization Plan. Jesse Steadman said that the Complete Streets Committee will be discussing the potential to advance design and engineering of sidewalk improvements to the north side of the road from Hartley Road to Warren Road despite the larger Town Center Traffic Improvement project that is being advanced. Jesse Steadman said that the intersection improvements are likely years away due to overall cost and complexity, but the Town could apply for Complete Streets funding to improve the pedestrian environment if the Town had completed design plans. Jesse Steadman recommended that the TSAC revisit the issue of supporting the project after the Complete Streets Committee has had the opportunity to vote.

Approval of Letters to Residents

Jesse Steadman said he will plan to send the Committee the letters to the residents in the days following today's meeting, for consideration at the Committee's next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 22, 2021 at 1pm.

Chief Sallese motioned to adjourn

Steve Nadeau seconded.

VOTED: 4-0 Unanimously in favor (Chief Sallese – Yea; Chief Benoit – Yea; Jesse Steadman – Yea; Steve Nadeau)

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesse Steadman