

TOWN OF STOW
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of February 16, 2022 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 1:00 pm.

Review of Minutes

February 2, 2022

Steve Nadeau moved to approve the minutes of February 2, 2022.

Chief Benoit seconded.

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

Member Updates

Chief Sallese noted that enforcement on priority roads in Stow continues.

Chief Benoit indicated he has reached out to the recruiting director regarding potential for driver etiquette training.

American Rescue Plan Act Proposal | Hudson Road/Route 117 Intersection

The Committee discussed the draft proposal for engineering and design funds for improvements to the Hudson Road/Route 117 Intersection.

Chief Benoit moved to submit the proposal for improvements to Hudson Road/Route 117 to the Select Board as written.

Chief Sallese seconded.

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

American Rescue Plan Act Proposal | School Zone Light Replacement

The Committee discussed a quote for solar and remote program capable school zone lights in an amount of \$9100.00. Steve Nadeau indicated the request of \$10,000 seems adequate as the Highway Department will install.

Chief Sallese moved to submit the proposal for the replacement of the Center School zone lights to the Select Board as amended.

Jesse Steadman seconded.

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

American Rescue Plan Act Proposal | Town-Wide 25 MPH Signage

The Committee agreed that based upon a recent estimate, they should request an amount of \$4500.00 for the purchase and installation of signage to implement the Town-wide 25MPH policy.

Jesse Steadman moved to submit the proposal for Town-wide 25 MPH signage as written.

Chief Benoit seconded.

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

American Rescue Plan Act Proposal | Traffic Safety Policy Implementation Funds

The Committee discussed the \$15,000.00 request for funds to implement the Traffic Safety Policy. Jesse Steadman said that because the funds would not necessarily be spent in one year, the Committee could submit a brief annual report to the Select Board on the use of the funds and any expected requests for funding in the future.

Chief Sallese moved to submit the proposal for Traffic Safety Policy Implementation funds to the Select Board as written.

Jesse Steadman seconded.

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

Discussion of Heights Street Complaint

Katharine Clark of Heights Street indicated that the condition of Heights Street, which is accessed via roads in Maynard, has caused their waste removal company to indicate they will no longer pick up their trash. This is due to the rutted, dirt road, which becomes muddy in the winter and spring. Katharine Clark said that the issue with the road has become worse and as property owners in Stow, they are asking the Town to improve the road and eliminate brush that has overgrown and caused issues with sight lines.

The Committee discussed the issue noting that further research is needed to determine whether the road was ever laid out, what the extent of the public right of way may be and what authority the Town may have in making improvements. Chief Sallese indicated that although it is not the purview of the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, they will look into the issue and respond to the homeowner.

Complete Streets Letter of Support

The Committee reviewed a letter drafted by Jesse Steadman, which supports the Complete Streets Committee request to use American Rescue Plan Act funds for improvements to pedestrian infrastructure along Crescent Street.

Chief Sallese moved to approve and send the letter as drafted.

Steve Nadeau Seconded.

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

Sudbury Road Truck Restriction

Steve Nadeau stated that it may be time to discuss a truck restriction on Sudbury Road to limit the size of vehicles using the ailing Sudbury Road bridge. The Committee discussed whether it would need to be a restriction on Sudbury Road as a whole or just the bridge, which types of neighborhood truck usage, such as oil deliveries, etc. could still take place and whether a study would be worthwhile for providing a meaningful lifespan extension for the bridge. Steve Nadeau indicated he would continue researching the particulars of such a policy.

Traffic Delineators on Wheeler Road

The Committee discussed the use of single post traffic delineators on Wheeler Road, as Steve Nadeau has discussed he has some funds in his budget to pilot their use as a speed mitigation strategy. Steve Nadeau said that he has considered their installation along the yellow center line at Wheeler Road and along the fog lines at the intersection of State/Sudbury Road.

The Committee discussed the need to do sufficient outreach to notify drivers of the change prior to installation.

Chief Sallese motioned to adjourn

Chief Benoit seconded.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesse Steadman