

(APPROVED)



Town of Plaistow - Highway Safety Committee
145 Main Street, Plaistow, NH 03865

PLAISTOW HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING DATE – Friday, May 9, 2014

PRESENT - Chief Stephen Savage, *Chairman*; Chief John McArdle, *Vice-Chairman*; Sean Fitzgerald, *Town Manager*; Michael Dorman, *Building Inspector*; Dan Garlington, *Highway Department Supervisor*; Leigh Komornick, *Town Planner*; Dan Poliquin, *Selectman Representative*; Michelle Gaydos, *Pollard School Principal*; and Richard Latham, *Citizen's Representative*. (Please Note: Sean Fitzgerald stepped away from the table at the beginning of the meeting and did not return).

EXCUSED – Lisa Withee, *Citizen's Representative*

ABSENT – Ernie Sheltry, *Citizen's Representative*

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 9:35 a.m.

MINUTES – D. Garlington motioned to approve the minutes of April 18th, 2014, seconded by R. Latham. No discussion. None opposed. All in favor. *So Voted*.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

NEW BUSINESS – Discuss "Through Trucking" on Wentworth Avenue and Haynes Boulevard

Chief Savage spoke about the recent "No Thru Trucking" meeting that was held and that it revealed that Wentworth Avenue and Haynes Boulevard are still posted "No Thru Trucking". This is based upon a 1986 Board of Selectmen Ordinance and was a result of the residents who lived along Haynes and Wentworth expressing their displeasure with the trucks going out via Haynes Boulevard. Now that most of the homes that were impacted are now gone, there is really no reason to keep the ban on thru trucking. Chief McArdle motions and Mike Dorman seconds, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they eliminate this restriction.

No further discussion. None opposed. All in favor. *So Voted*.

OLD BUSINESS - Discuss whether or not to close truck traffic on the Town's portion of southern Main Street

Discussion ensued regarding whether the Town should make the very last section of Main Street in Plaistow that is now a Town road one-way or to post it as "No thru Trucking".

R. Latham inquired as to whether the issue of North Avenue being posted for "No thru Trucking" had come up at their recent "No Thru Trucking" meeting? Chief Savage informed the members that there is thinking that if the Town took over North Avenue (currently a State road), that the Town could go ahead and post it "No thru Trucking". However, D. Garlington needs to investigate how much it would cost for the Town to assume ownership of North Avenue.

(APPROVED)

M. Gaydos asked if Chief Savage would like a motion on the “No thru Trucking” on North Avenue. Chief Savage replied, “No, let D. Garlington investigate if the State is will to fix up North Avenue prior to turning it over, a timeline for such work, and what the additional road mileage would cost the Town.

R. Latham brought up the intersection of Palmer Avenue and Sweet Hill Road and the need for this intersection to be looked at as well. He noted that this is a bad intersection for trucks.

Regarding the posting of the southern portion of Main Street now owned by the Town, there was general consensus that this recommendation should be put forth to the Board of Selectmen.

Discussion ensued regarding how it should be posted with signs and if there should be one or two signs. It was noted that perhaps a discussion with representatives of the City of Haverhill about posting a sign to provide advanced warning to trucks travelling north on Route 125.

D. Garlington stated that he felt it was important to have this advanced warning sign. He also noted that the Town should contact Google to inform them about this change so it may become part of their maps.

Following all discussion on the matter of “No thru Trucking” on the southern portion of Main Street owned by Plaistow, D. Garlington made a motion, and Chief McArdle seconded, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the very southern portion of Main Street (from the Haverhill City Line to Hazeltine Avenue) be posted as “No thru Trucking”.

No further discussion. 7 in favor, 1 opposed (Mike Dorman).

OLD BUSINESS – Review first draft of signs for Safe Routes to School.

Chief Savage distributed copies of the proposed wording and graphics for the Safe Routes to School signs. There was extensive discussion as to how strong the wording should be on the signs, and how to appropriately get the message across for drivers to slow down.

Chief Savage noted he would continue to work with Lorraine at Sign DeSigns in Plaistow on the final drafts and will send them out to the Committee members. He also agreed to obtain three quotes as required by the Safe Routes to School agreement we have with the NH DOT and the guidelines contained in the Local Project Agreement (LPA) Manual.

Michelle Gaydos noted that the Bicycle Rodeo was being held at the Pollard School on May 17th and that all were invited.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion to adjourn by D. Garlington and seconded by Chief McArdle. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. None opposed – all in favor.

NEXT MEETING DATE – TBD

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Komornick for Sarah Gibbs, Recording Secretary