

(APPROVED)



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

PLAISTOW HIGHWAY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING DATE – Friday, September 14, 2018

PRESENT – Police Chief Kathleen Jones, *Chairman*; Dan Garlington, *Highway Department Supervisor*; Michael Dorman, *Building Inspector*; Dee Voss, *Planning Coordinator*; Peter Bracci, *Alternate Board of Selectmen Representative*; Michelle Auger, *Pollard School Principal*; Richard Latham, *Citizen's Representative*; Arthur Wiggin, *Citizen's Representative*; and Sam Cafiso, *Alternate Citizen's Representative*

EXCUSED – Fire Chief John McArdle, *Vice-Chairman* and Lisa Withee, *Citizen's Representative*

ABSENT – Julian Kiszka, *Board of Selectmen Representative*

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

MINUTES – M. Dorman motions to approve the minutes of 6/15/2018. Motion 2nd by D. Garlington. No discussion. None opposed. All in favor except for P. Bracci who abstained. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

S. Cafiso states that in the absence of Citizen's Representative Lisa Withee, he will be a voting Citizen Representative instead of being an Alternate.

NEW BUSINESS –

None. However, Chief Jones informs the Committee about directed patrols being conducted with school back in session and the school buses back on the road.

R. Latham questions if the Safe Routes to School project will take care of the intersection of Elm St. and Palmer Ave. M. Dorman confirms it will stop at Park Ave.

Chief Jones briefly mentions homeless campground issues occurring at the Park-N-Ride on Westville Rd and that she's been in contact with NHDOT to install signs to deter this from occurring.

OLD BUSINESS – Update on Safe Routes to School

D. Voss states that the project was on the brink of substantial completion but NHDOT didn't like the drainage. States that when they started to open up the ground to do minimal drainage work, utility infrastructures were found that weren't reported correctly and conflicted with the drainage. Indicates that they're currently waiting for notice to proceed and that most of what was already completed will have to be ripped up again for the drainage to go in. States that NHDOT indicated it'll be an additional 21 days from start to finish. D. Voss also comments on NHDOT holding off on paving Main St. until next year with this delay and that the flashing beacons will still be installed in front of Pollard School.

D. Voss states that the drop dead finish date is 10/19/2018 and paving Elm St. should start on 10/02/2018. M. Auger mentions the 10/10/2018 Safe Routes to School event at Pollard School and questions if it should still take place. Chief Jones questions if they can push it to spring. M. Auger

(APPROVED)

explains it's the national event. Chief Jones advises that she'll have Officers assist the school during the event.

M. Auger questions the status of the tree. D. Voss indicates that the tree will be removed due to issues of the roots being in the way of drainage and the tree impeding the ability for the solar panels to recharge.

S. Cafiso mentions the catch basins on Main St. and if NHDOT is not paving it this year, that something will need to be done so they're not raised above the pavement causing plowing issues. D. Voss explains that she has spoken with NHDOT about this.

D. Voss briefly mentions the landscaping work on the island and how the Historical Society will be installing a bench and marker between the trees.

D. Garlington questions what the plowing requirements will be for the sidewalks this year, as it's his understanding that if they don't do the final pave then the project isn't complete. D. Voss explains how the only thing that will not be complete for the project is the sidewalk stamping. Indicates that the paving of Main St. isn't part of the project. D. Garlington questions if the project isn't completed will the Town be responsible for plowing the sidewalks. D. Voss says its substantial completion and stamping of the sidewalks would be final completion, not substantial completion. Further, mentions that J. Parker must bring the road up to the level it was before they started the project. D. Voss confirms that everything will be done this year except for the stamping of the sidewalks.

S. Cafiso inquires if the Town will take ownership of the landscaping. D. Voss states that the Town will and how she's already spoken with the Town Manager regarding this.

OLD BUSINESS – Speed Limits

Chief Jones mentions her recent presentation before the Board of Selectmen to explain the process involved to change the speed limits in Town.

S. Cafiso states that if the Town can't post anything below 30mph, what happens to the roads that are already posted less than 30mph. Chief Jones mentions that NHDOT isn't looking backwards only forwards. S. Cafiso speaks about signs he's seen entering other Towns that indicate what the speed limit is throughout town unless otherwise posted. D. Garlington questions why a sign like that would take more jurisdiction than posting it on the road itself in regard to enforcement. S. Cafiso mentions how there'd be less signs to maintain. Chief Jones explains how it's enforceable. D. Garlington briefs the Committee on the history of posting speed limit signs throughout Town and how all the existing signs would have to stay to show roads posted at 25mph.

Chief Jones mentions that moving forward, the Town should look at the shape of the road when it's being built. Mention how there's other methods to slow drivers down but if the Town is looking at a specific road to change, they now know the process to do so. D. Garlington suggests coinciding this with the way the Town prioritizes the roads to the road surface management. Briefly explains how the Town breaks down the criteria that makes a road primary or secondary based on where the roads are. States that if they can make recommendations on speed limits based on the RSMS that categorizes it down to five different types such as subdivisions.

OLD BUSINESS – Discuss resident's request for street light at Village Way/Main St. intersection.

Chief Jones briefly mentions that this was recently discussed at the Board of Selectmen. P. Bracci explains that the Board didn't know anything about it including what type of light. M. Dorman states that it's adding another light to the pole on the other side of the roadway. Chief Jones explains that it would be a sodium vapor light. P. Bracci mentions that if they do this and then the Town changes over to LED, that the Town will have to pay for the lifetime of the light. P. Bracci questions if there was a lot of interest

(APPROVED)

in having the light. M. Dorman states that Village Way residents brought the issue to the Committee. P. Bracci questions if it was an individual or an association. D. Voss confirms that there's a Homeowners Association. M. Dorman explains they brought the issue to him, so he brought to the Committee who then discussed it and brought it to the Board of Selectmen. Chief Jones states that she called Unitil and they'd install a sodium vapor light and also change out the other light so they'd match which, would be similar to the lights by PARC on Old County Rd. Further mentions that there would be a \$45.00 fee for the install and then the normal operating cost on the Town's electric bill each month.

P. Bracci comments about it illuminating the intersection. Chief Jones states how it would and that the Committee made the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. D. Garlington explains that historically it's been protocol to have requests for street lights go through the Committee where it either recommends it or not. P. Bracci confirms the light would be similar to what's across the street from Carli's Way. Chief Jones states it would be similar to the set up at PARC and how it will help the intersection by lighting up Village Way as well as Jesse George Rd.

D. Voss explains that the Energy Committee is looking at the possibility of LED street lighting and received information recently that could make it possible over the next few years. Further states that they'd be the first in Unitil's territory. Chief Jones explains that she'd still like to proceed with the recommendation and how the benefits outweigh any minimal costs and how it's a tough intersection due to the grade of the road and it will also help Jesse George Rd.

P. Bracci explains how Julian indicated it would be very expensive to put the light in and then take it out and have to pay for the lifetime of the light. D. Voss explains that Unitil has written the Town a plan and briefly explains the plan including how Unitil will verify the inventory. M. Auger questions inquiring with Unitil about installing LED lights at Village Way. M. Dorman explains the issues of tariffs that's involved. Chief Jones confirms that the Committee still would like to move forward with the recommendation.

R. Latham mentions the tractor trailers that leave Moynihan's proceeding onto Rte. 125 that have to use both lanes of traffic when turning and suggests recommending more lighting in this area also. M. Dorman mentions the service road that comes out at Planet Fitness to help with this.

S. Cafiso briefly mentions how the original plan changed moving the entrance for Village Way down further to allow for better site distance in both directions. This change caused the entrance to be in the exact middle from the nearest utility poles. Mentions how the consensus was to convert the existing light on the downhill side to a high pressure sodium that uses less electricity and install a new light on the pole in the other direction with a high pressure sodium light. Further explains how moving it from the current pole to the other will not illuminate it any more than it is now and how this is the only solution without adding a new pole. Chief Jones mentions her conversation with Cathy Gilman at Unitil and how this was their recommendation after viewing the area.

OLD BUSINESS – Reappointment of Lisa Withee

Chief Jones mentions the updating of reappointments and that L. Withee is up for reappointment and will reach out to her to see if she wants to stay on the Committee. Explains that when the reappointment is due members can either go before the Board of Selectmen or to the Clerk's Office to sign the reappointment once the Board of Selectmen receives and approves the reappointment recommendation.

ACTION ITEMS – #1. Quarterly traffic statistics from radar panels. Reports distributed.

S. Cafiso comments on the statistics being down. Chief Jones explains that many things can impact them including the time of year or if an event is going on causing more traffic to travel roads. R. Latham comments that between the Agenda and traffic statistics a good job is being done.

(APPROVED)

ADJOURNMENT- D. Voss motions to adjourn. Seconded by D. Garlington. All in favor. Motion passes, meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.

**NEXT MEETING DATES –
December 14, 2018 @ 9:30am**

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Gibbs,
Recording Secretary