

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
OCTOBER 6, 2014
6:45 PM

ORDINANCE No. 7-15 AMENDING CHAPTER 13, POLICE
OFFENSES, SECTION 3.4.B MOTOR VEHICLE
OPERATIONS,SPEEDS, ROCKY HILL ROAD.

Mayor Hilliard opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 pm.

Jim Morrisette, 3 Rocky Hill Road, has lived there for 35 years and is a lifelong resident of Somersworth. He has worked as a police officer in a neighboring community for 25 years. He thanked the assembled Fire, Police, Emergency and Hospital personnel for what they do.

Part of Rocky Hill Road currently has a 30 mph speed limit, there used to be a sign but that is gone. The first 35 mph sign you see is near Mr. Pepin's house right before the 90 degree corner. Mr. Morrisette said that cars go by his house in excess of 50 mph even with his fluorescent police vehicle in the driveway. He is in favor of 30 mph the whole length of the road. The City recently put up five new "30" mph signs on Noble Street within ¼ mile. There are *two* sign on Rocky Hill Road; one going north, a mile up the road and one coming south. We need visible signage. We have a school there and no school signs, ...that's a nightmare (when school gets out), he said.

The other piece is enforcement. He knows they are busy. They can't be everywhere at any time. He know this, he has been doing this for 35 years. We can put signs up, but unless somebody sees blue lights, it is just a sign. He is not denigrating the local police department, they do a great job, but they just can't be there. Now with the construction people are going down Rocky Hill Road to Salmon Falls; it's a shortcut, he said

Please pass the ordinance, but at the same time, do all of the other things that need to come with it. ...proper signage, school zone signs, paint the road, etc. ...If we have the proper signage and enforcement and something terrible does happen, the City's liability won't be in question, he said.

Mayor Hilliard closed the public hearing at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elise B. Brellis, Deputy City Clerk