

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 15, 2016

Attendance

Russell Timmons, Police Captain & Chairman of Traffic Safety Committee; Jeni Mosca, Superintendent of Schools; Robert Belmore, City Manager; Jennifer Soldati, Mayor Representative; Dave Witham, City Council Representative; Jenne Holmes, Member at Large; Harold Guptill, Member at Large; Keith Hoyle, Fire Chief; Mike Bobinsky, Public Works Director.

Absent

Paul Robidas, Director of EMS; Shanna Saunders, Director of Planning & Community Development.

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm.

I. Minutes

Jeni Mosca motioned to accept minutes from November 16th meeting seconded by Keith Hoyle. All in favor, minutes accepted.

II. New Business

- 1. Prohibit Travel of Commercial Trucks (Tractor Trailers) on Government Way and Station Street (Witham).** Dave Witham indicated this request comes from observations. He explained a month or so ago He witnessed a large 18 wheeler making a right hand turn from High Street onto Station Street. The Tractor Trailer cut the corner to sharply and potentially could have caused damage. Keith Hoyle was questioning how the Post Office gets their mail? Bob Belmore questioned prohibiting all commercial trucks, Dave Witham said no just 18 wheelers. Discuss by the Committee for several minutes. Concerns raised that trucks may increase use of Constitutional Way adding to the depleting condition of that street. Motion to request an Ordinance by Dave Witham to prohibit Tractor Trailer Units from turning right onto Station Street from High Street. Harold Guptill seconded, all in favor. Russ will submit an Ordinance change at the next Council meeting.
- 2. Prohibit Right Hand Turn of Commercial Trucks (Tractor Trailer) from West High Street onto High Street (Witham).** Dave Witham stated this is the same issue as Station Street, making this turn it's difficult to make the turn safely. This intersection is not designed for that. Harold Guptill said why not Washington onto High Street. Dave Witham stated they are going over our curbing trying to make this turn. Jeni Motioned to prohibit this turn Keith Hoyle seconded, all in favor. Russ will submit an Ordinance change for the next Council meeting.

3. **Parking Concerns (sight issues) Franklin and Green Streets (resident inquiry) (Witham).** Russ Timmons showed picture of intersection. Jennifer Soldati said she travels this road frequently and doesn't see any issue. Dave Witham noted that there is a handicapped parking spot but not clear where that spot is, maybe it should be removed. Russ said this handicapped spot should stay as it is helpful to folks at Charpentier's Apartment. At this time Committee members agree no action is needed.
4. **Crosswalk Barricade Signage, other Similar Signage, and the Impact to Downtown Use (General Discussion).** Russ Timmons said there are signs that retract when you run over them designed not to damage vehicles if struck. Dave Witham said he has experienced that they don't retract after a car hits them. Russ noted that we have used them before but they tend to go missing after a while. Jennifer Soldati asked if we have cross walk signage at each crosswalk? There is signage at the crosswalks. Harold Guptill said he does see people stopping for pedestrians. Jennifer Soldati said one of Vision 2020's agenda items is to calm traffic. Dave Witham said the developer has offered to assist in paying for signage. Bob Belmore said yes I thought this was going to be looked into, by other committees? Mike Bobinsky said Public Works has it on their radar to repaint lines for pedestrians. Dave Witham said I do not think we should have portable signs in the middle of roads. All agree to not move forward with portable signs at this time.

III. Old Business

- A. **Review Market Street Delivery Trucks parking illegally.** Russ Timmons stated a business owner is concerned with Delivery Trucks taking up valuable parking on Market Street. The owner indicates delivery trucks park on Market Street to unload items, and take up 2 parking spots. Russ indicates the trucks are generally parked reasonably well. Dave Witham seemed to recall Planning Board having addressed the issue. Witham suggested a little research, maybe flag it for Code to check. Mike Bobinsky said he will look at Planning Board research data.

Jeni Mosca motioned to adjourn, seconded by Keith Hoyle. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 19th at 2:00 p.m.