

# Norton Traffic Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

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DATE: Wednesday, March 8, 2023  
Time: 1PM  
Location: Norton DPW Conference Room

## In Attendance:

- Steve Hornsby (Rep from Selectboard)
- Ralph Stefanelli (Citizen)
- Kristine Hadfield (Schools)
- Keith Silver (DPW)
- Jason Robbins (Fire)
- Rob Welsh, (Citizen)
- George Hast, (Citizen Alternate)
- Bob Kimball, (Chair) Citizen)
- John Goodwin (Police)
- Luis deOliveira (SRPEDD)
- Thomas Rebello (DOT)
- Barbara Lachance (DOT)
- Samuel Hawkins (DOT)
- Jay Barrows
- William Titus (Aid to Senator Feeney)
- Steven Howitt (MA Representative)
- Michael Yunits (Town Manager)

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Kimball at 1:08PM

**Minutes from the Jan 10 and Feb 8 meetings were reviewed and approved. Unanimous.**

DOT came to address our proposals for the Town Center, Mansfield Ave, Taunton Ave and Main Street.

- Proposals for B&C, going through the Common or to the right of the Church, from the two town center reports were discussed along with our process for taking this forward.
  - Either proposal requires property being taken by eminent domain. Bob will reach out to the town on what process steps so folks can know that is on the table.
- It was confirmed that a roundabout is not feasible.
- If we want to do a study for the TIP process the town has to pay for the initial engineering and layout of the intersection. The State will pay for the construction and improvements.
- This is currently not a DOT priority
  - The Town would need to prepare to have it reviewed.
  - Next DOT review in May so not sure if we can get approval in time.

- Town needs to hire traffic consultant
- **The motion was made by Hornsby, seconded by Robbins, to ask the Selectboard to put an article on the next town warrant for an article to fund the traffic engineering and study for the intersection of Mansfield Ave and Taunton Ave at Main Street, unanimous.**

#### Truck traffic

Currently there are no enforceable restrictions on trucks. Current truck traffic signage is not enforceable by law.

- To get a legal restriction we need to show amount of traffic and that road conditions are unsafe for a truck
- We can have differentiation between a Box truck and an 18-wheeler.
- A study is needed to address Whole Foods, S. Worcester and Woodward Street intersection.
- Discussion about Truck Parking and limiting hours at local businesses. Simmons and Goodwin volunteered to meet with Whole Foods to see if they can work out some compromises. They will report back at the next meeting.

#### General topics not anticipated

- Blind spots around town, we have asked Public Safety reps to get a list

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 12, 2023, at the Norton DPW Conference Room at 1PM.

**Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Hornsby seconded by Rob Welsh. Vote Unanimous.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM