

Norton Traffic Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

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DATE: Wednesday, April 10, 2024
Time: 12 PM
Location: Norton DPW Conference Room

2024 MAY -8 PM 1:00

In Attendance:

- Rob Welsh, (Citizen)
- George Hast, (Citizen Alternate)
- Bob Kimball, (Chair) Citizen)
- John Goodwin (Police)
- Kristine Hadsfield (Schools)
- Steve Hornsby (Select Board)
- Jason Robbins (Fire)
- Ralph Stefanelli (Citizen)
- Keith Silver (Highway)

Also present : Jared Ferrara, Alec Rich, Roger Marsan

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 by Chairman Kimball

Dan Viera and Dave Soares from Mass Highway, DOT, Division 5 were present to answer questions.

Discussion about the intersection of Pine and Elm Street. Wiring was installed during the new paving and questions were asked about getting traffic lights. The intersection is not considered dangerous at this time and will not be considered for a traffic light. There have been 48 serious accidents at this intersection from 2016-2023.

Discussion about speed limits on E. Main. The town owns and maintains E. Main but it is considered a state road, Rte 123. A traffic study will have to be done to get approval from the state to change speed limits. The last review was completed by state in 1981. Advised to reach out to SRPEDD for assistance on the traffic Study. Chairman Kimball will contact SRPEDD for assistance.

The Post Office entrance was discussed to see if DOT would allow the town to install and X in front to the Post Office not to block the road, Rte 123. The State does not allow communities to block off entrances on state roads.

Installing additional Crosswalk in front of Wheaton will have to be done by the Town or Wheaton. Raised sidewalks would not be allowed.

Installing new sidewalks to LG Nourse School was discussed .The Town has completed the Safe Routes To School document. The town should work with the Safe Routes developers for guidance. Once the application is filed with DOT. The state will fund the entire project. Kristine Hadsfield will reach out to Bonnie Roalson to see if she can attend our next meeting.

Ralph Stefanelli
Kristine Hadsfield
John Goodwin
Bob Kimball
Keith Silver

Crossing lights at schools was discussed. The light in front of Yelle will be installed as part of a town agreement with Cumberland Farms. A light at Middle School cannot be installed because we need sidewalks on both sides of the road for approval. The Solmonese School will be addressed with crosswalks on the reconstruction of N/S Worcester and W. Main.

A crosswalk in front of the new Community Building on Rte 123 will not be approved due to any sidewalks on both sides of the street.

Discussion both truck traffic and Jake Breaks on Newland Street. Jake Breaks are a safety device and cannot be monitored. Signage is not allowed legally. Lt. Goodwin will discuss the brakes with the owner of the farm that is located on Newland Street for cooperation.

Update on the Town Common improvements was discussed. The Engineering work is ongoing. Discussions about the different options on improving the intersection were discussed. The State is encouraging the use of turnabouts.

Motion was made by Jason Robbins to approve the minutes, second by John Goodwin, vote was unanimous

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday May 8, 2024, at the Norton DPW Conference Room at 12PM.

The Committee will discuss summer meetings at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jason Robbins and seconded by John Goodwin. Vote Unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM by Chairman Kimball.