

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2018

PRESENT: Commander LaChance, Jeffrey Wennberg, James Rotondo and Ted Gillen

ABSENT: Gary Donahue, Dave Sears and Bradley LaFaso of LaFaso Electric

The meeting was called to order by Commander LaChance at 9:06 Hours. Minutes from the January 26, 2018 meeting were accepted as written. Today's meeting Agenda was approved. No further discussion.

New Business:

1. Handicapped parking in front of MSJ – Jeff Wennberg

Mount Saint Joseph Academy has requested multiple handicap signs to be installed on the right side of Convent Avenue. Jeff stated that it's the Police Department's jurisdiction to put these signs in. Commander LaChance asked Jeff how many signs he thinks will work. Jeff stated that 2 signs should do it. Commander LaChance has no problem with this. Jeff will have the 2 signs installed.

2. Audible: Pedestrian Actuated Device Wales Street and West Street – Jack Trainor

Jeff will refer this to LaFaso Electric to fix. LaFaso Electric has a long list of maintenance items. Commander LaChance asked Jeff if he knew if there was something wrong with this pedestrian actuated device. Jeff said he wasn't sure. He also stated that they have had problems with trucks hitting pedestrian heads.

Jeff also stated that at the intersection of West St. & Evelyn St. where we have the old style count down, he would like to upgrade the pedestrian heads with count down.

Jeff also asked if upgrading the River St., Madison St & Strongs Avenue, should be considered. Jeff stated that it has loops in the road, 2 loops are dead and they're just on a timer. He stated that they're not going to replace the loops. Do we spend the money to put up cameras at the cost of Approximately \$30,000.00.

Jeff stated that every set up can be modified to record. In Vermont, it's against the law and an invasion of privacy.

Jeff stated that if he has enough head room in the budget, he will upgrade it.

Jeff asked for the Police department to let him know if we have issues with traffic backing up. Jeff said that we can maintain cameras. Cameras cost approximately \$6,000.00 each and we'd have to upgrade software.

3. Signage "All Way" to be added below the stop sign at the intersection of Center Street and Wales Street – Jack Trainor

Jim asked if we would still want the flashing red light with the stop signs. Jeff stated that he wouldn't take the flashing red light out of there, yet. It's hard to miss. We need to add more permanent signage. Jeff was wondering if all way is to appease the motorists. It wouldn't create a dangerous situation. It makes it more, safe. Jim stated that we'll put in a stop bar and all way stop signs as a permanent route and will leave the flashing red light, temporarily.

4. Installation of a “Do Not Enter” sign facing south on Wales Street – Jack Trainor

This would be at the intersection of Center Street & Wales Street. Jeff will look at the area to see what we can do to improve the signage. Maybe we don’t need new signs. Jeff will also take a look at the intersection of West St., Center St. & Washington St to see if signs are needed at this location, as well.

We want to be sure that we have proper signage to discourage people from going the wrong way.

Old Business:

1. Edgerton Avenue

Jeff stated that the Fire Chief expressed his dismay about asking the neighbors on the upper part of Edgerton Avenue which side of the street they would like to see with no parking, being that there is a fire hydrant on the North side.

The responses Jeff received from the neighbors showed 8 homes in support of no parking on the South side, 16 homes in support of no parking on the North side and 1 home didn’t want anything to change. Two of these homes complained about limiting parking to one side on the street. We would normally wait until Spring to make changes. We will put notices in all the doors of the homes on the upper portion of Edgerton Avenue, letting them know that we will be changing to street to no parking on the North side. In April, we will install signage on the North side, to indicate there is no parking and will have bags on these signs. Then, a new notice will be put in the doors to say when the bags will be coming off of the signs. Then, hopefully, we can have the Police department issue warnings to people, if they see any cars parked on the North side. Commander LaChance stated that this sounds good.

2. Request to put a “Wrong Way” or “Do Note Enter” sign on the entrance to Merchants Avenue from Evelyn Street – Officer Eric Morgano

Commander LaChance will talk with Officer Morgano regarding this to see if there was an incident or incidents that took place at this intersection.

3. One Way section of Killington Avenue showing 3 different speed limits – Dave Sears, City of Rutland

Jim Rotondo brought a map to the meeting today, so we could map out school zones. Jeff Wennberg stated that Vermont Achievement Center has requested to be on the list for school zones. Jeff asked how do you want to designate school zones. Go out one block?

Jim, Jeff, Ted Gillen and Commander LaChance took a look at the areas around the Rutland City schools and mapped out what they would like to have the school zones, be.

The next thing to do, is to go out in the field and maybe GPS to see where the signs should go for sight level. Jim will mark the area.

Commander LaChance thought that lights around the stop signs would be nice. Jim Rotondo stated that there is a current lawsuit regarding rapid flashing beacons. People are having issues with epilepsy & other things. Jim has talked with the manufacturer of these and thinks we can

do these lights around stop signs. Jim thinks we should be back on track, now.

Jeff stated that the history of state law is that if we say we want to change the speed limit, we have to do a traffic study. He also stated that when wanting to change the speed limit for school zones, he doesn't think we are held to this standard. Jeff said that they need to check on this and also double check to see if the Police can write tickets, to enforce this. Jeff will see if a traffic study is needed and Commander LaChance will see if the Police will be able to write tickets to enforce the speed limit in a school zone. Commander LaChance asked if there is something about how much notice we have to give the public, that we will be making a change to the speed limit in school zones?

Other Old Business:

No other old business was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m. hours.

Respectfully submitted by,
Nora J. Moore
Records Clerk

Cc. Mayor
Police Commission
Board of Alderman
City Clerk
Post