

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2019

Present: Chief Kilcullen, Commander Sheldon, Jim Rotondo, Ted Gillen and Rebecca Mattis

Absent: Jeffrey Wennberg, Dave Sears and Brad LaFaso from LaFaso Electric

Meeting was called to order at 9:04 A.M.

New Business:

1. Request for better enforcement in the area of the 2 traffic lights near intersection of Killington Avenue and Main Street – Tim Brennan

Tim had indicated to Rebecca that it is mostly southbound, where people are ignoring first light and not paying attention to pedestrians. Commander Sheldon will assign 2 cars to watch this. It was asked if we knew the timing of both lights and if they turn on at the same time. If we could delay the sequencing of the lights and have them change at different times. A phone call was made to Brad at LaFaso Electric. Brad indicated that the lights currently operate at the same time and depending on the pedestrian signal, it will trigger light to go red, first. Chief Kilcullen asked if he could sequence the light for when they hit Madison Street to turn yellow. Brad stated that he can program this to happen.

2. Request to fix beeper of the pedestrian crossing at Killington Avenue and Main Street – Tim Brennan

Jim asked Brad if this was fixed. He indicated it has been.

3. Request to designate one of Bardwell spaces in front of the Masonic Lodge as handicapped – Jerry Tomlinson

Chief indicated that there is already an agreement in place with the City, designating from corner to corner for Bardwell residents. He also indicated that he is reluctant to touch this without word from the City Attorney. Jim asked chief if it would be better to put this back to the Mayor. Chief would like this request referred to the Mayor.

4. Request for work order from Police department to cut back a private tree that is obstructing a stop sign at Forest and Hickory Street (SE corner) – Jeff Wennberg

Commander Sheldon and Chief Kilcullen looked at this. City ordinance says 75 feet and it's 120 feet, so complies. Jim asked what their feeling was in regards to this. Commander Sheldon also indicated that they were confused by Jeff requesting Police to issue a work order for this. It seems like there's a back story to this. They were also trying to figure out which tree Jeff was referring to. Jim indicated that he has had an issue with the North bound sign. The sign needs to be moved. Ted indicated that there is a seasonal tree that was an issue, here. Ted indicated that when he looked at 2012 imagery, the stop sign was set off the shoulder quite a ways. Maybe we could move it closer.

5. Request for a white line about 3' in from the road edge on either side of Harrington Avenue for bicyclists – David Coppock

Jim had expected David Coppock today to discuss this. This was identified in complete streets to be done when we re-do Harrington Avenue. We can look to see feasibility of this. He wouldn't recommend 3 feet, it should probably be 4 or 5 feet. Chief doesn't want to do piece meal, here. Rebecca indicated that she imagined he just wanted a line, felt bikes could use space on the right. Jim indicated that it's a lot more work that needs to be done. Rebecca asked if a bike lane was in the works. Jim indicated that was the idea. This isn't just a matter of painting a line. Just can't make a section and have it drop them off somewhere. We'll start looking at it, now.

6. Request for a “Watch for Children” sign on the one way side of Engrem Avenue, which starts at East Street and exits on to Route 7 – Don Tadio

Don had indicated that he had asked for this before and it was put up on the two way section, not the one-way section. Commander Sheldon asked Nora if she remembered this request. She didn't. Commander Sheldon will talk with Don regarding this.

7. Request for overgrown tree located at Main Street/Engrem Avenue intersection to be trimmed back so that the traffic light is visible – Ryan Brady

Brad LaFaso indicated that this is scheduled to be done on Tuesday, June 25th.

8. Request for a few “15 minute” parking spots in front of Rutland Middle School – Michael Derevjanik

Chief Kilcullen feels that this needs to be part of the discussion regarding parking on Church Street. There is currently a “no parking here to corner” sign which limits the parking. Jim mentioned parking on Church Street needing to be discussed and how our previous Mayor, Louras had suggested moving the sidewalk inside of the fence. Maybe we should meet with Michael at the school to discuss the bigger parking issue.

Commander Sheldon asked if there was any other new business. Rebecca spoke of “Watch for Children” signs where there aren't children, anymore. She asked who keeps track of this. Jim doubted that there was a policy in regards to this. He indicated that if a “Watch for Childer” sign gets defaced, they start talking to the neighbors to see if there are still children in the neighborhood and if the sign needs to be replaced or removed. Jim mentioned that he and Ted are going to be doing sign inventory, shortly and will create a list of where Yield signs should be replaced with Stop signs, they will check reflectability of the signs as well. They will start this in the next couple of weeks. It may take a month or so to complete. Chief mentioned there are a number of signs that are deteriorated, faded and are old. It seems the condition of signs on Killington Avenue is an issue. Jim indicated that this is probably going to run into money. They are hoping to look at guard rails at the same time.

Other old business -

Chief indicated that we'll have to go over this with Dave next month. I was asked to send an email to Dave Sears and ask that he send the status of these “Old Business Items” to the Committee by email so that we know now rather than wait a month.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by:
Nora Moore, Records Clerk

Cc. Mayor
Police Commission
Board of Alderman
City Clerk
Post

