

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2017

PRESENT: Chief Kilcullen, Commander Sheldon, Jim Rotondo, Jeffrey Wennberg, Gary Donahue and Dave Sears

GUESTS: Deb Poplawski Wilson and George Wilson

ABSENT: Bradley LaFaso of Lafaso Electric

The meeting was called to order by Commander Sheldon at 9:00 A.M. Minutes from the August 25, 2017 meeting were accepted as written. Today's meeting Agenda was approved. No further discussion.

New Business:

1. Request for parking meter to be replaced that was in front of 38 Wales Street – George Wilson

In June, we began renovations to the building. There are certain people who leave their car there in one spot. The parking meter was taken out by the snow plow, for this one spot. It was stated that this spot isn't a kiosk area, yet. Jeff Wennberg asked if the post is gone. The Wilson's replied that it is gone. It was hit and taken out. The Wilson's have spoken with Officer Blongy in regards to having DPW replace it. One person that work's at the Rutland Herald has a pit pass but yet was parking in this one spot in front of our business. Jeff Wennberg stated that if we put a meter back there, a 10 hr meter wouldn't meet their needs. Then, stated this is a 2 Hour district. The Wilson's stated that a 2 Hour meter or even a 15 minute meter would work. Jeff

Asked the Wilson's, if we have flexibility, what would be their preference. They stated that 30 minutes would be perfect. Jeff asked Dave Sears if he was aware of this request. He stated that he wasn't. The

Wilson's asked what the timeline would be? Dave stated that he didn't know. Jeff stated that this should have been dealt with and not put on the Agenda.

Jim Rotondo asked how often our parking meters are emptied. Jeff said usually every 10 days. Officer

Blongy is recommending putting more kiosks in. A kiosk can do 9 spaces. The kiosks are working well.

A shopkeeper was real upset and said there was a problem with the machine (kiosk). The shopkeeper wants to park in front of the store and the machine won't let them. You have to leave the spot for 2 hrs. before it will let you return to it. The battery was bad in a kiosk but it is now fine.

2. Request for No parking, private drive to be installed at the end of their driveway on Prospect Street – Rick Camden and William Pratico

We're not sure what the address is. The request and envelope didn't reference their address. Chief mentioned he thought that it was towards Strongs Avenue. Jeff Wennberg indicated that this particular sign request wasn't appropriate to put up. If we put this sign up, they could end up asking Police to enforce this. Let's try to find an address for them and see if there may be a better solution.

3. Request for lane lines and crosswalks to be painted throughout downtown – Regional Ambulance & Chief Kilcullen

Chief Kilcullen stated that the complaints he's been receiving are regarding Merchants Row headed South, turning & going straight. Jeff Wennberg stated that we could task his guys to go out in the

wee hours and touch up areas. Dave Sears said he would just do it during the day. With it being so cold and wet, it won't stick & dry if done during the night time. Jeff asked Chief Kilcullen what needs to be done. Chief asked what kind of program we can put into place to have them maintained. It comes down to liability. They are problematic. Jeff indicated that we need to minimize mid block crosswalks. We have 4 by the hospital and 2 would suffice. We had proposed to remove one of these.

Jeff indicated that he has a budget around \$27,000 for painting. Last year, we spent \$40,000. They have now doubled the price of paint. It will last like 3 years. He also indicated that he would like to do it in the Spring. He had made the decision to skip painting this year. It would take his crew about 2 months and an outside crew would take 1 week. Gary Donahue asked how much money Jeff will be asking for to do the painting. Jeff said probably \$60,000 and that's for paint that only lasts a year or so. Gary offered to voice these concerns towards the Public Committee to see what they think. Jeff indicated that in past years, it has been difficult when we couldn't do the painting until July, because of fiscal year.

Chief Kilcullen asked if we could get directional signs to put on the arm of the light pole, so that if the lanes aren't painted, there would at least be signs. Dave Sears said that he could look at the arm. He asked if they come off at an angle. Jeff Wennberg stated that this was a good suggestion to look into getting signs to put on the arm of the light pole. It's not cheap but a good guide to have. It was asked if we have capability of installing the signs ourselves. Dave doesn't think so. They will look into this and report back.

4. Parking complaints on Pierpoint Avenue

Chief Kilcullen indicated that he has received complaints that at the North of the school that cars tend to be in the roadway. Jeff suggested that we maybe put up "No Parking" signs. This would force them to use the parking lot. Dave agreed. Chief Kilcullen also stated that when cars are legally parked on the street, vehicles have to travel over the double yellow lines to pass. Jeff stated that we can't take the double lines out. It's a class 2 road. It's State Law.

Chief Kilcullen asked about Lincoln Avenue. What makes it a class 2 road? How is it defined? Can it be changed?

Jeff Wennberg indicated that a couple years ago, that the State painted the double yellow lines and didn't paint the white lines. When we asked them why, they indicated that we, the City of Rutland, would have to paint the white lines. He went to the Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns to ask if they could change the law. No change happened. The City paid about \$11,000.00 for the white lines to be painted.

Old Business:

1. Edgerton Avenue clearance photos

The photos presented are on the Dead End section of Edgerton Avenue. If we limit parking to one side and people are still parking in the green belt area, it creates an issue. Chief Kilcullen stated that something has to be done. Dave Sears stated that the Street is only 18 feet wide and that we could limit parking to the right side and put up "No Parking" signs on the left. Jeff Wennberg mentioned that if we put in curbing, this would help. Commander mentioned that at one location that maybe it's employees parking there, then getting in a work vehicle to go to the job. Dave Sears said that we need to limit parking to one side or alternate parking.

Jeff Wennberg stated that on Library Avenue, they had issues with parking. Then, when they did improvements, they had to put curbs in to control storm water. They wondered where people were going to park. A year later, they figured it out. If the alternate parking works on Library Avenue, it will work anywhere.

Gary Donahue suggested that he maybe talk with Chief Kilcullen and a few others to come up with a plan to try to address the green belt areas.

Jeff Wennberg said that maybe we could modify the winter parking ban. Maybe this is a way to address it? Maybe allow parking during good weather. We could send messages when we're anticipating bad weather and give a warning that the winter parking ban will be enforced. Jeff also stated that on Mansfield Place when we recently changed the parking to one side, we expected there would be issues and there hasn't been any.

Jeff asked if the committee wanted DPW to send notice to the homeowners that we're looking to address the parking issue. Chief Kilcullen responded with a Yes. Let's see what feedback we get and what their recommendations would be.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nora J. Moore
Records Clerk

Cc. Mayor
Police Commission
Board of Alderman
City Clerk
Post