

Traffic Safety Committee, Meeting Minutes, 11-19-21

Chief Welcomed everyone to today's meeting. There were three requests for items to be added as New Business Item's. Requests were granted. Agenda items 4, 5 and 6 are these New Business Item's.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Parking restrictions Request to discuss parking restrictions of a property near the dead end of Main Street Park (gazebo section) for a family that doesn't have any offstreet parking – The Bemis Family

Mr. Bemis couldn't make it to today's meeting due to an appointment. Mayor Allaire has a suggestion as there isn't a place to park there, front or back. Mayor Allaire mentioned that across Center Street, there is a building that houses the historical society on Nickwackett Street. It is used infrequently during the week and has 2 – 3 employees. There is sufficient parking there. It's off the street. Mayor Allaire also mentioned that it's property of the City and the City has control over it. Chief Kilcullen mentioned that this is out of our purview so no action will be taken by the Traffic Safety Committee. Chief Kilcullen asked Mayor Allaire if he would communicate with Mr. Bemis.

2. Request for a stop sign or a 3-way stop at the intersection of Crescent Street and Fairview Avenue – Jaimi Vajda

If you're headed North on Fairview Avenue, there's a Yield sign. No signage headed West. Chief Kilcullen feels that traffic flows well, here. Maybe we need to replace the Yield sign? Jim feels that it's fine the way it is. He looked at all of the movements. Most traffic travels from Fairview Avenue to Crescent Street. The Yield sign will be fine. Only less than 2 cars go straight here in the morning between 06:00 am – 08:00 am. Doesn't warrant a change.

3. Proposal to have 3 pedestrian crossings installed at the intersection of Stratton Road/Cessna Place, Stratton Road/Giorgetti Blvd and Stratton Road/Woodland Drive – Sarah Clapp

Chief Kilcullen and Commander Samson Delpha mentioned that there was previously a crosswalk at the intersection of Stratton Road/Cessna Place. There are no sidewalks on Giorgetti Blvd. headed to Stratton Road. Site lines are sufficient for safe crossing with or without a crosswalk. Jim mentioned that there's noting on East side of Stratton. There's no landing. Flashing beacons are expensive. They were like \$6,300.00 5 years ago. Just not figured into our budget.

Devon mentioned that he could always apply for a Grant to try to get some. We should definitely get one for West Street. Maybe we could add one at Cessna Place. A large amount of people come down Giorgetti to cross Stratton Road to walk on Stratton Road. Feels this one might be one to do, as well.

Commander Samson Delpha asked Jim if he had a map showing crosswalks on Stratton Road. Devon didn't. Devon asked if it could just be signage without having a Crosswalk? Jim indicated that he wasn't sure and that typically, they would like a landing. Jim mentioned that he would do some more research and asked that this item be brought back up at next month's meeting.

It was mentioned that there are 6600 cars per day on Stratton Road and don't feel that 3 flashing beacon lights are necessary here. Maybe 1.

4. Request to discuss safety concerns regarding a retaining wall near Price Chopper - David Searles

David mentioned that he lives on Royce Street. He talked of an old iron sign post where a child went down a hill and impaled their chest in the past and he doesn't want that to happen here. He said that there isn't a railing or fence here and is afraid a child is going to go over this hill and harm themselves. It was asked who owns this property. Looks like it is private property. Commander Delpha will reach out to Mark Stockton to see if they can address this.

David also mentioned that Greg's Auto blocks the sidewalk and parks cars in the belt area. They plow snow to the corner of the street. Chief Kilcullen mentioned that he had one ticket written there this week. David asked if it was possible to get letter from the City Attorney regarding parking in the belt area. Chief Kilcullen mentioned that this topic was brought up previously and there wasn't an appetite for it to be changed.

5. Concerns regarding West St./Merchants Row intersection – Chuck Groh

Devon mentioned that we could have left lane go to a turning lane and the right lane go straight on West Street. Lafaso Electric will provide us with estimate to change signals. Jim asked who has the authority to make this change? Possibly the Board of Highway Commissioners. Mayor Allaire feels that if Traffic Safety Committee and Board of Highway Commissioners sign off, feels that would be fine. Devon feels if we coordinate with VTRANS, maybe we could get it done with the paving.

6. Traffic Lights currently flash at Midnight – Chief Kilcullen

Maybe we could change this to begin at 10:00 P.M.. Jim will get with Brad and have him come to the next meeting. Chief mentioned it would help people who are sitting waiting to take a left hand turn, as there isn't much traffic at that time of night.

OLD BUSINESS

East Center Street - Removal of 2 way traffic ahead signs

This has been completed

Center Street – street sign modification @ South Main to Court Street paving project

This is half complete

Everything else on Old Business is done except for the crosswalk at Harrington Avenue. We're looking at repaving this. We will wait until next year.

We will put up "no parking on this side" sign at 194/196 Columbian Avenue.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

