

## Traffic Safety Committee Minutes

Meeting held on Friday, November 20, 2020 at 9:00am

Persons in Virtual Attendance: Chief Kilcullen, Jim Rotondo, Commander Sheldon, Rebecca Mattis and Dave Sears

Absent: Ted Gillen, Jeffrey Wennberg and Bradley LaFaso from LaFaso Electric

Guests in Virtual Attendance: Devon Neary, Jody Sabataso, Giovanni Falco, Gregory Schillinger, Laura Maclachlan, VEEP and Maeve.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Commander Sheldon.

Commander Sheldon asked if everyone got the minutes from the last meeting, Jim Rotondo said it looks fine to him. Commander Sheldon asked if everything was accurate. There were no comments made, indicating otherwise.

New business discussed.

1. Request to consider 4 way stop signs on Lincoln Avenue & Roberts Street with lowered speed limits once work is finished there and painted crosswalks like in front of Paramount – DPW on behalf of Kathleen Krevetski

As of **10/16/20**, Chief Kilcullen asked if anyone know the concern? Jim stated no and mentioned that he wasn't sure if Jeff gets the facebook posts. Chief asked if Jim knew when the work would be done in this area. Jim said it should be mid November. The pipework is in, just have loose ends & cleanup. Put on Agenda for next month.

2. Request to discuss the area of Route 7 between Woodstock Avenue and West St and the "lane shifts" currently in use to at the very least, add some signage that reads: "LANE SHIFT AHEAD, STAY IN YOUR LANE" – Bruce Rhodes

Chief mentioned that this comes up fairly regularly at these meetings. We have signs coming from Woodstock Avenue. Thinks we have plenty of signs, here. The bigger issue is the lane markers. This is one area that needs some extra love, especially heading South, the lines are very narrow, like 4". I would like them larger.

Officer Blongy mentioned that it doesn't taper like it used to. Jim asked Dave Sears if paving contractor is done. Dave mentioned they were supposed to come 2 weeks ago. They're not here, anymore. Dave mentioned he didn't feel this would solve the problem. Chief mentioned that he thinks a different application will help. It's not clear what you're supposed to do, here.

Jim mentioned that he got a call from someone regarding this and they do get lots of calls about this. He said he feels that this is one of the most important areas in the City.

It needs to be done right, laid out correctly, so we don't have to paint every year. Rebecca stated that the wider lines would help. Dave mentioned that they had it in their budget to buy our own paint truck but they took it away from us. Jim and Dave will discuss this further, after the meeting today. Chief asked if we knew what application they were going to use. Dave said it would go with whatever the State specs are. Jim mentioned when it's a State Rd, permanent marking is usually epoxy.

3. Request for a "Slow/Children at Play" sign to be installed near 42 Edgerton Street – Tisa Farrow

Chief mentioned that he's been through there. We don't see a lot of activity. Dave asked if this was the daycare. Chief replied, No. Jim will talk to Katie in DPW regarding this request and also reach out to Tisa. Chief mentioned that we had an issue regarding parking and that he went there. The sign is still up for work. Jim, they need to take the sign down.

4. Request to discuss no parking issue at Hill Pond and Victor Place – Jeff Wennberg

The work was done here. Curbs were put up, "no parking here to corner" signs were put up. Victor Place is posted on West side, no parking and Hill Pond, no parking this side. Dave mentioned that these signs were put up a few years ago. Chief asked if these signs have addressed concern? Dave stated that he hasn't heard from anyone regarding this.

5. Request to have street lights installed at the intersection of Baxter Street and Oak St, or in close proximity – Mike O'Neill

It was mentioned that there is a Street light on Baxter Street, close to Oak St. This doesn't create any safety issues. Jim stated that he believed we have addressed these here, before. Chief asked Rebecca where these concerns should be addressed. Rebecca mentioned that Street lighting would be a DPW issue. No action on this agenda item.

6. Request to have both traffic lights turn red at the same time, at the intersection of Woodstock Avenue and Deer Street – Royal Barnard

We had a similar item on here, before (South Main St. & Killington Avenue intersection) Jim mentioned that Brad LaFaso with LaFaso Electric called before the meeting and stated that there are a lot of movements tied into this. Officer Blongy asked if this would be West bound. Chief said Yes. Officer Blongy mentioned when these lights were installed, they mentioned that the reason why the 2<sup>nd</sup> light stays green is to clear intersection. Chief suggested that we ask our Crime Analyst to look at our Crash data & bring this item back next month to be discussed, further.

7. Request for some speed enforcement on Killington Avenue between Stratton Road and East St. – Joe Roy

We have some speed detection devices. We will move one here to compile data and will do enforcement in this area.

8. Request for “no parking here to corner’ sign to be installed – Cheryl Hooker

Pulling out of Royce St. onto Strongs – poor visibility due to auto shop, cars parked Along Strongs Avenue, blocking view.

Dave Sears that the sign is there and has been up awhile. This is an enforcement issue. Chief mentioned that they have discussed this with the owner of Greg’s and it hadn’t been an issue for awhile.

9. Pulling onto Stratton Rd from Jackson Avenue – fence on right blocking view of cars Approaching from the south – Cheryl Hooker

There is some limited visibility. The landscape kind of contours, there. Dave mentioned that there is a telephone pole here, that doesn’t help. Jim asked about it contouring and asked if that was in the green belt. Chief said no. It contours on the property. Dave mentioned that the building is too close to the sidewalk. Chief mentioned that we could look at crash data at this intersection.

10. Request to install a Handicapped parking space on Merchants Row in front of the Salt Cave/Pyramid. There is a hole in the sidewalk, already for a meter or sign pole. This is The first space south of the crosswalk and there isn’t a Handicapped space on this block of Merchants Row – Officer Kevin Blongy

Officer Blongy mentioned to Chief Kilcullen that when the bump outs were put in, the meter was taken out. Chief though we approved this awhile ago. He has no issue with doing this. Jim doesn’t object to this. Officer Blongy mentioned that the concrete is already drilled, there.

11. Request to move or replace the Handicapped sign in front of Freeman’s / Bloomer building. The space was moved when they re-did the road 2 or 3 years ago and the sign did not get moved to align with the parking space.

Officer Blongy stated that the sign needs to be moved South. Dave doesn’t know the space in particular. Officer Blongy mentioned that the sign never got moved back. Dave mentioned that he will talk to our new sign guy, Tom. Dave and Tom had previously discussed getting rid of signs on plastic poles, downtown. Officer Blongy stated that this is one of them.

12. Request to install a 15 minute meter on Wales Street next to Timco's – Officer Kevin Blongy

Officer Blongy mentioned that we have one 15 minute meter East of Center Street on Wales Street. This would just be a matter of changing the head out. With the Yoga business in the area now along with Timco's, Domino's and the coffee shop around the corner, this would be helpful for all of these businesses. Both Tim from Timco's and the girl from the Vermont Grow have asked for this. This request was approved.

13. Request to move the "Rutland Police Parking Only" sign to the other side of our parking lot and remove the Red "Police Employees Only", being that it isn't visible and we have Had many people driving around back of the building, recently. Maybe we could install a "Do Not Enter" sign above the Rutland Police Parking only sign – Several Police Department employees

Chief didn't feel this was a traffic issue. We will talk with DPW about getting this done.

14. Request to replace the extremely faded Handicapped sign at the entrance to the Police Department parking lot

This request was approved.

Rebecca mentioned that she had requested two items to be added to the Agenda but they must have been forgotten. Nora told her that Commander Sheldon had requested that they be removed from the Agenda.

Her first item was regarding people blowing through the stop sign driving north or south. Chief Kilcullen and Commander Sheldon checked this out the other day. Heading North is clear. Heading South on Stratton Road, 100 yards North of intersection, you can't see the stop sign. There's typically a van or another vehicle parked there.

Rebecca mentioned that she doesn't drive this area that often. This area, the street is broad and the stop sign is way over here. Doesn't stand out. Need something to make drivers feel constrained, need attention brought to this sign. It was asked if we could put reflective material on the post of the sign. Officer Blongy mentioned that truck reflector tape, red & white would work there, both stop signs. Jim will look at this. Dave mentioned that he lives in this area and people don't pay attention to the sign. Chief will have our Crime Analyst look at traffic data for this area.

Her 2<sup>nd</sup> item was regarding people driving wrong way on Terrill Street.

Chief explained that this was an enforcement issue and our Police Officers are doing extra enforcement in this area.

Officer Blongy mentioned that the area in front of the Transit Center is a terrible spot for pedestrians. It isn't well lit and there are a lot of people who cross here. Anything we can do to promote pedestrian safety, here would be appreciated. He mentioned to Jim that he noticed there is a pad there. He asked if it was for rectangular rapid flashing beacon lights. Jim said that it wasn't. They are set up for the Welcome signs. Officer Blongy stated that this is a spot where it would be a benefit to put up rectangular rapid flashing beacon lights here.

Jim said we just have to try to put it in our budget and see what happens.

#### Other old business

1. Bardwell House parking signs

On **4/19/19**, it was decided that the signs should be at a 90 degree angle (2<sup>nd</sup> priority)

As of **7/19/19**, signs still need to be moved to a 90 degree angle

As of **10/18/19**, Dave mentioned he needs to take out post, re-core holes, then Will be able to hang the signs

On **11/15/19**, Dave said this could be done pretty soon. It's a little bit of a Project, definitely before Spring.

As of **1/17/20**, Dave mentioned that they broke the coring bit. This Agenda item Is in process of being done.

As of **10/16/20**, Dave Sears mentioned that he believed 1 or 2 signs still need to be turned and replace the brown signs with standard signs.

2. Kiosk signs

On **4/19/19**, it was decided that a 7 foot post would be installed and new signs would be hung (1<sup>st</sup> priority)

As of **7/19/19**, not completed

As of **10/18/19**, Dave said this would be an end of construction season project

As of **11/15/19**, will be done pretty soon, before Spring.

As of **1/17/20**, Dave mentioned needing to order brackets & corer. Chief Kilcullen asked if the corer is the best application. Dave mentioned it is, in order to get them up high enough. Jim stated that if Dave needed help from Engineering, they could look at & see what would work best.

As of **10/16/20**, Dave said there is a plan. This will be a Winter project and he thinks that Center Street is all coming apart on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

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

On **6/21/19**, it was decided that we would add a delay to the sequencing of the lights so that the first one would turn yellow, then the second one would turn red.

As of **7/19/19**, was discussed but no action taken

On **10/18/19**, there was a brief discussion that it might work better to have first light turn red and second light to turn yellow, instead of the other way around. Jeff will talk with Brad to see if he can do this.

As of **11/15/19**, Jeff was asked to please check with Brad. Jeff asked him to Check this out & didn't hear back from him.

As of **1/17/20**, Jeff mentioned that he hasn't heard from Brad regarding this. It was also mentioned that the other area of concern was Evelyn & West and also Pine & West. He will also ask Brad if the same can be done at these other lights.

As of **2/21/20**, Dave talked with Bard and this can't be done. It's an old system wired together. Jeff mentioned having called Brad twice and didn't hear anything from him regarding this. Dave also mentioned that Brad is going to look into Pine & West and let us know.

As of **10/16/20**, We can't change the sequencing. This can be taken off the Old Business.

4. Request for the East Business 4 sign with arrow, Columbian Avenue & State St signs to be replaced or repaired – Sgt. Joseph Bartlett

On **08/16/19**, it was decided that Dave Sears would look into this

On **10/18/19**, Dave said he will see if he ordered these signs. Jeff asked if we go after people who have damaged signs, for reimbursement. Chief asked if we should be having the Officer forward the crash reports to DPW when this happens. Jeff indicated that it would be helpful, because when a sign is knocked over or damaged, there's a cost to fix this.

As of **11/15/19**, Dave said he's not sure if this sign was ordered but will check on it.

As of **1/17/20**, this is still a pending item.

As of **10/16/20**, Dave mentioned that this sign isn't back up. Chief asked if they still have the signs. Dave will need to make sure we have them and if We don't, he will need to order them.

5. Requests a look at information from Glens Falls about pedestrian safety in crosswalks – Glenn Reed

(Print-outs of the Articles are attached)

As of **10/18/19**, we are working on this.

As of **11/15/19**, it was mentioned that we're looking to personalize handouts. Sgt. Whitehead had some officers out, doing some enforcement. Education

piece side is on Pedestrian side. Issue with drivers are that they're not paying attention.

Caprice mentioned that when you're in Montpelier and step into the road, people stop. This doesn't happen, here. What's the purpose of doing bump outs? Thinks its dual education. Commander Prouty agreed.

Jeff mentioned that people here, could have expectation they won't be in trouble if they don't stop. Commander Prouty said that he wouldn't want to write a citation, a \$220.00 ticket, just to get to the ASA Bloomer building. Mayor Allaire asked if that would be for jay walking. Commander Prouty stated that there's a term for it. Dave mentioned an instance where there was a girl at the crosswalk, phone in her hand, never looked up, people were stopping, she wasn't paying attention.

Mayor spoke about bump-outs and that they are more visible and you're taking a conscious effort to try to do in a safe manner. That's not what's happening all the time. He indicated that he walks all the time.

Jeff got a report that someone got a grinder and watched 11 people who didn't Use the crosswalk or bump-out. The point you're making is well understood. Jeff isn't sure how you change the behavior. Phones are a problem, people have injured themselves by being on the phone trying to cross a street. Jeff asked if a local ordinance with less punative fine, do this to make Policeman's job easier?

Chief said if it's going to happen, we're going to see it. It's difficult to allocate Resources to monitor this when we have officers dealing with other involved Issues.

Commander Prouty said that maybe language could mirror statute, and make fine reasonable.

Jeff mentioned that he sees a lot when he's out walking Evelyn Street & Merchants Row, people aren't paying attention. Jim mentioned when Mario was here regarding the all way stop at the Bardwell House. It backs up Traffic to Center Street. Jim indicated that they didn't discuss this area.

Commander Prouty asked where the Chief wanted the speed sign, next. Chief Indicated that he'd like it on Stratton Road, near the school.

As of **1/17/20**, it was stated that we looked to identify grants for enforcement in this area. We can use the Highway grants. Day shift is doing safety enforcement on Merchants Row. Next month, we should be able to tell you how many tickets and warnings were written.

As of **10/16/20**, we are still working on this. We need to personalize it and create the brochures. This can be removed from Old Business.

6. Request for law enforcement around bicycles on the sidewalk, right turn on red in regards to pedestrian safety and crosswalks – Karen Ranz

From **9/20/19**, we are working on law enforcement regarding bicycles

From **10/18/19**, a couple of signs were put up regarding right turn on red. At the intersection of West & Merchants, should we change to left turn lane and then a right & straight lane? Jim said he wouldn't change the timing or anything. Said we need some pedestrian education and suggested that we put up Yellow, Yield to Pedestrians in crosswalk signs, on the crossbars.

As of **11/15/19**, still working on this.

As of **1/17/20**, it was stated that we have some handouts that we got from Locomotion. We don't have any with our logo, yet. This item is also part of initiative with the Day shift.

As of **10/16/20**, we are still working on this. This can be removed from Old Business.

7. Is the "no right turn on red sign" at Lafayette operating?  
We will check this out before next meeting and report back.

Meeting adjourned at 09:47 am by Chief Kilcullen.