

## **Transportation Committee**

**140 Worcester Street**

**West Boylston NA 01585**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**December 7, 2017 at 6:00pm.**

**Present:** Larry Salate, Kevin LaClaire, Barur Rajeshkumar (Raj), Paul Anderson, Vernon Jackson, Anita Scheipers

**Not Present:** John DiPietro

**Also Present:** Police Dept. Liaison Officer Dave Westerman

Chairman Salate convened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

#### **Discussion and Actions:**

1. **Minutes:** Kevin LaClaire moved and Raj seconded to accept the minutes of September 7, 2017 as presented. Vote: All yes. Motion passed.
2. **Rt. 12 Intersection Improvements project Update:** Anita Scheipers discussed the meeting she, Butch Jackson and Rich Rydant of CMRPC had at the MassDOT District 3 office last week. They discussed how to move ahead with consideration of adding Rt. 12 intersection projects to the future TIP list. It was agreed that given the current alignment of the roadways, and of the limited right of way land areas in which to potentially create intersection re-alignments, the design of any project will be challenging. MassDOT did say that the first step is for the Town and CMRPC to provide all of the necessary traffic counts and traffic turn data to allow thorough understanding of the traffic volume and flows. CMRPC will work pulling all existing data, and we likely will need to get additional counts done in the early spring when weather allows. Additionally, MassDOT did say that the Town should hold public meetings to gain feedback from residents regarding their thoughts on solutions to intersection alignments. They say this will also build public support for whatever work ends up being completed. They stated they would “most likely” ask the Town to fund a conceptual design phase in which several alignment options are delineated and discussed in depth for feasibility of construction. Once a potential best option is chosen, they would expect the Town to take the design to the 25% level, and the state would “most likely” take over the project from that stage. There was no discussion about the timing of any addition of this project to the TIP list at that meeting.
3. **Dangerous Curve Sign Request:** Butch Jackson presented a request to have signage placed at the curve at 247 Goodale Street by the retaining wall. Officer Westerman agreed that there have been many accidents in that stretch caused by the speed and the curve in the roadway. The committee looked at available standard signage and chose four options to be reviewed with the Chief of Police for confirmation of best signage prior to installation. The sign choices were as follows: a)

chevrons, b) "Slow – Curve Ahead", c) Slow – Road Curves Ahead-Caution", or d) sign with visual of curve and suggested speed limit underneath. It was agreed that placing two versions of signs for each direction was adequate.

4. **Requested Guardrail at Franklin and Prospect:** Butch Jackson asked that this item be passed over as the home owners no longer want the guardrail installed. No discussion or action taken.
5. **Review of Possible 4-way Stop Intersections:** Anita Scheipers explained the Selectmen had discussed the possible need for adding 4-way stops at additional problem intersections. They asked the Transportation Committee to look into this. The committee discussed some potential areas for 4-way stops such as Newton and Prospect, but it was agreed that Officer Westerman should review this issue with the police department and bring back suggestion for possible intersections to be considered at the next meeting.
6. **Draft Transportation Chapter:** Butch Jackson presented his updated draft chapter to the committee for their review. Other than suggesting some minor grammatical edits, the committee agreed the chapter was acceptable. They did discuss in detail the appendix which listed the top group of roads needing repair and paving. They made various suggestions to Butch for additions and deletions to this list. Butch will make those edits and send out the updated draft to the committee. Anita Scheipers stated the Town Wide Planning Committee is holding their first public feedback session on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>, and will require the draft to be ready for that meeting. Butch Jackson and Larry Salate said they would attend that meeting to aid in discussion of this chapter.
7. **New Business:** Larry Salate asked that the committee begin to look into the private streets plowed by the Town. He stated some are in very poor condition. It was agreed that the committee would work with Butch to develop the list of streets involved, review any existing policy related to this, and evaluate those streets this winter to determine the degree of issue involved. The list can be discussed at a spring meeting to make any decisions regarding recommendations for changes to the policy.
8. **Adjournment:** Paul Anderson moved and Kevin LaClaire seconded to adjourn. Vote: All yes. Vote passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anita M. Scheipers

Date Approved: February 8, 2018