

Transportation Committee

140 Worcester Street

West Boylston NA 01585

Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2018 at 6:00pm.

Present: Larry Salate, Kevin LaClaire, Paul Anderson, Raj Rajeshkumar and Butch Jackson

Not Present:

Also Present: Town Administrator Anita Scheipers

Chairman Salate convened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

Discussion and Actions:

1. **Minutes:** Kevin LaClaire moved and Paul Anderson seconded to accept the minutes of May 3, 2016. Vote: 4 yes. 1 abstention. Motion passed.
2. **Request for cross walk at Wachusett Plaza:** The committee passed over this item pending feedback from MassDOT.
3. **Traffic counts from CMRPC:** The committee passed over this item pending feedback from Rich Ryder of CMRPC and MassDOT.
4. **Scheduling public forums on Rt. 12 Intersection projects:** The committee passed over this item pending feedback from Rich Ryder of CMRPC and MassDOT.
5. **Various Intersection Improvements:**
 - a. **Request for “Slow – Children Playing” sign on Nuha:** After much discussion, it was agreed that the DPW Director should get feedback from the police department regarding a need for this sign. This will be added to the September meeting agenda.
 - b. **Request for “Not a Throughway” sign on High Street:** Butch Jackson explained many cars go up the street not realizing it ends at the cemetery. They then have to turn around and exit again. Kevin LaClaire moved and Paul Anderson seconded to approve the installation of the sign. Vote: All yes. Motion passed.
 - c. **Request for additional signs on Church Street:** Butch Jackson explained that the residents who live on that section of Church Street near the funeral home frequently see people going down Church Street against the designated one way direction. It appears that, despite having a one-way sign right at the driveway, many people exit the Mason’s building and head right against the one way direction, and then attempt to

enter into the signalized intersection with no light to signal their safe passing into the intersection. It was agreed that members would go look at the site before the next meeting. The police would also be asked to look at the issue. This will be added to the September meeting agenda.

- d. **Request for painting of rainbow colored crosswalks at the five Goodale Park area crosswalks:** Diane and Kelsey Hogue and Nicole Nelson were present to ask the committee to consider painting these crosswalks in rainbow colors as a symbol of inclusion and acceptance. Butch Jackson stated he was concerned about the cost as this would need to be done yearly. Ms. Hogue stated they would be glad to do a fundraiser to purchase the supplies. Raj Rajeshkumar was concerned that it appeared to be an issue that has caused significant discussion and disagreement on social media. After much discussion the committee suggested that the citizens place the matter before the voters at the October town meeting. Anita Scheipers explained it could be done as a citizen petition as a non-binding referendum question. She encouraged them to speak to the Town Clerk about the necessary process and forms. She stated she would be glad to provide some guidance on the article if they need it.

6. Other:

- a. **Sign Replacement Program:** Butch Jackson explained his department is inventorying street and stop signs and will be prioritizing locations for sign replacement as needed. It was agreed that at larger intersections, each street should have a sign, to better guide the drivers. It was also discussed that stop signs do not need to be at all “T” intersections except those of high volume or high risk.
- b. **Prescott Street – Complaint of heavy traffic:** After brief discussion, no recommendations or votes were made.
- c. **Process for Sidewalk Projects on Rt. 12:** Butch Jackson stated he recently spoke to someone at MassDOT who stated that the only way to get sidewalks installed or repaired on a state road was through a TIP project. Butch Jackson will discuss this more with the contacts suggested.
- d. **Four way Stops:** It was agreed there should not be a 4-way stop placed at Newton and Prescott, but it could be considered for Central and Prescott. This will be added to a future agenda.

7. Next meeting: September 6, 2018 at 6:00pm.

- 8. Adjournment:** Paul Anderson moved and Kevin LaClaire seconded to adjourn at 7:10pm. Vote: All yes. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Larry Salate

Date Approved: Sept. 6, 2018