

Town of Mansfield Traffic Authority  
Minutes of the Meeting – September 27, 2011

Present: Hart, Hultgren, Cournoyer, Meitzler, Painter, Lindsey (Council-guest), Stachelsky – guest

The meeting began at approximately 9:33 am and there were no corrections to the minutes of the August 23, 2011 meeting.

72 Mansfield City Road – the adjacent property owner has been contacted and has no objection to the placing of guardrail along Mansfield City Road at this location. DPW will schedule the work.

Hillyndale, Baxter, Hanks Hill Road – in the queue for traffic data now that UConn is in session.

Pleasant Valley Road – traffic data was reviewed at the August meeting and the area was to be referred to Cournoyer's office for enforcement.

Ravine Road – Hultgren is still working to get UConn to make signs for Route 32 and North Eagleville Road warning drivers not to use Ravine Road to and from UConn. Painter will discuss the placement of these signs with the Zoning Officer.

Bassetts Bridge Road – Painter has discussed the Traffic Authority's position on stop sign placement to control speed with the area residents. She will invite them to the October meeting if they want to discuss it with Authority members themselves.

Community Center bus stop – DPW/Engineering will evaluate what improvements are needed for future permits and construction.

Depot Road – Ms. Stachelsky explained that she felt traffic on Depot Road was traveling too fast and that something should be done about it. Cournoyer explained the recent enforcement action on this road and the relatively few citations/warnings issued. Hultgren said that speeds measured after the speed humps were installed were considerably lower and in the context of other roads in Town Depot Road did not have a significant speed problem, although all roads experience occasional vehicles driving way too fast. Cournoyer said he would continue spot enforcement in this area on a rotating basis, and reiterated that he will investigate complaints made against a specific vehicle plate number.

Chaffeeville Road – Cournoyer said that since the request for speed enforcement he had directed this area to be a priority for monitoring speeds and issuing citations. Hultgren said that this area did not have a good location for the speed trailer, but he would try to set it up somewhere on the road. Enforcement will continue.

Gurleyville Road Scenic Road Application – Painter explained the pending application process for making Gurleyville Road between Horsebarn Hill Road and Codfish Falls Road a scenic road. Discussion ensued. Members were concerned that once the designation was made, pedestrian and bicycle improvements to this somewhat heavily used road for biking and walking would be impossible. As such members suggested that when the approval motion is made by the PZC, it include some language indicating that future improvements to make biking and walking on this road safer are still considered important, and will be considered in the future even though the road is designated as a scenic road.

Roundabout at Birch/Hunting Lodge Roads – A recent concern received by Hultgren regarding traffic safety in the vicinity of this mini-roundabout was discussed. Members reviewed the pre-roundabout

intersection condition and again concluded that the speed reductions necessary to negotiate this roundabout were beneficial. Meitzler will monitor this area during the AM/PM rush hours to determine if the severity of any mis-use. Hultgren said he would try to get the curb of the roundabout repaired before winter.

Walk facing traffic sign request – The letter request received from Fox suggesting these signs on Hunting Lodge Extension and South Eagleville Road was discussed. Noting that there is a pending capital budget project to put a walkway on South Eagleville Road, signs were authorized for Hunting Lodge Road (between Separatist Road and North Eagleville Road), but not for South Eagleville Road.

Town Parking fines – Hultgren passed out the present and proposed parking fines for the Town’s parking regulations and noted that the Storrs Center Parking Steering Committee thought that most of the fines were too low. The pros and cons of having higher fines were discussed. Hultgren will assemble comparative fine data from, UConn, West Hartford, Amherst, North Hampton and Windham for further review by the Traffic Authority and the Steering Committee. Discussion of how a database of parking violators could be orchestrated ensued. Some effort to set up this type of system for tracing other Town infractions is apparently being considered now.

Carriage House Drive Parking – Painter and Cournoyer explained that due to the lack of parking along Carriage House Drive, it was very difficult to enforce illegal parking and keep the road open during winter. A suggestion for additional “nose-in” parking along the road but off the traveled way was being considered. After discussion, this concept was approved by the Traffic Authority subject to a reasonable site plan that demonstrated the new parking will indeed be off the traveled way.

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren  
Director of Public Works