

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY MEETING
May 24, 2016 – 9:00 am
Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present: J. Carrington, D. Dilaj, M. Hart, L. Painter

Members Absent: F. Raiola, B. LaVoie, R. Cournoyer

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by John Carrington.

Approval of Minutes

April 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes – Motion made by D. Dilaj and seconded by L. Painter to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

- a. **Ravine Road** (K. Green) – *Road is temporarily closed to thru traffic. CL&P has an easement for the power lines. Research to be done for CL&P easement and to check with Town Attorney for abandoning/liability of a Town road. Mr. Drake Smith attended the 5/26/15 meeting with his concerns on keeping the road closed and suggested making the road a One Way Road. The Traffic Authority will bring this up at the next meeting. K. Green expressed there are more issues with her property with the road closed than there were with it open. She is fine with closing it permanently. Waiting to hear back from attorney regarding discontinuing or abandoning roads. E. Dorgan from Ravine Road attended to see what the status was. Plans are to have a neighborhood meeting in the fall to come up with options for the Traffic Authority to discuss. Neighborhood meeting is trying to get scheduled for September 16th to discuss options. K. Green would like to put a gate across with (two 12' sections) and pay for – Town would have key access for any maintenance, etc. LaVoie suggested that the Town do this as it is a "Town" road. "Neighborhood" meeting officially set for October 1st at 6:00 p.m. Anyone that wants to attend is more than welcome. Carrington distributed Power Point presentation which will be amended to include cost estimates. Recommendations will be given to Town Manager which then might require budget adjustments, PZC and/or Council action. Safety will be taken into consideration first, then access vs. cost. A paper poll is considered to be taken upon arrival at meeting with what recommendations or wants would be. K. Green stated that the signs were not consistent on either end of the road and that they should read "No Thru Trucks". She was worried that if an accident occurred with one of her trucks and the sign read "No Trucks" that she would be liable. B. LaVoie will remove all signs today. Signs will be put up that say "No Thru Trucks". J. Carrington state that estimated costs to "fix" (guardrails, etc.) the road would be in the \$100,000 range and that it would have to be included in next fiscal year's budget. In the meantime, the road will remain gated and proper signs will be installed. The road is closed, however, abutting land owner (the Green Family) can still use the road to include trucks, oversized trucks, commercial trucks, agricultural equipment, etc. Barricades and concrete blocks are installed. Item will be going to the Council in January with an estimate to fix the road to reopen safely. Item will go to Council first meeting in*

January. The group discussed alternatives to the proposed two options. The Town Council passed a unanimous motion at the 2/22/16 regular meeting to endorse the compromise option for Ravine Road and for Staff to work with the Town Attorney on a draft proposed agreement or other legal instrument for their consideration. In addition, staff would include a sum of \$110,000 for Ravine Road improvements in the FY2016/17 CIP. Town Attorney approved the "Draft" Agreement. M. Hart will forward the "Draft" Agreement to the Green family. **J. Carrington made a site visit with the guiderail contractor. About twenty trees were marked that are in the way of the guiderail. K. Green sent back the "Draft" Agreement to M. Hart with some requested changes that need to be addressed. Once complete, M. Hart will send her the revised "Draft" Agreement. Leave as old business.**

- b. **Speed Limits at Storrs Center** (F. Raiola) – Raiola stated that the speed limit through Storrs Center was 25mph and was almost hit. The State Traffic Commission has to review speed limits to lower them. Raiola consulted with Cournoyer with his recommendation it was to lower the speed limit to 15 mph. Research will be done to see if 25 mph was approved and do traffic counts. State Traffic Commission needs to approve if speed limit is reduced to 15mph. Waiting until businesses are completed then traffic will be checked. 25 mph speed limit sign is mounted. F. Raiola suggested to evaluate as business sector grows. **Leave as old business.**
- c. **Dangerous Intersection Mansfield City / Crane Hill Roads** (C.Liu) – Motion made by Dilaj, seconded by Dilaj to study intersection to figure out how to improve before paving. Passed unanimously. Survey is completed. Data needs to be compiled. Engineering continuing with this work. **Engineering has completed the design to change the site lines and will bring to the next meeting for approval from the Traffic Authority. Upon approval, this project will be added to the project list for Fiscal Year 17/18. Leave as old business.**
- d. **E.O. Smith / Bolton Road Extension** – Motion made by Dilaj, seconded by LaVoie to contact DOT to determine if turning area is warranted (signal arrow) on Bolton Road Extension. Passed unanimously. Letter needs to be sent to OSTA requesting light with green arrow. Letter has been sent to DOT – not heard back yet. **Still waiting to hear from OSTA. Leave as old business.**
- e. **Traffic Signal at the Intersection of Route 32 and Route 31** (S. Mitchell) – Light at the Intersection would not solve the problem as it would be in conflict with the flashing light at the drive-in causing more congestion. A letter will be sent to the State requesting a study to be done to install a traffic light at that intersection. Letter sent to the State to conduct study as both roads are State roads. Letter received by CTDOT, they are looking into it. **Still waiting to hear from CTDOT. Leave as old business.**
- f. **Accessible Parking at the Community Center** (M. Hart) – Hart will propose New Accessible Spaces at the Community Center for the February meeting. Will be sent to Town Council in March. Patenaude will add to the Special Traffic Authority meeting next week. Proposed changes handed out at meeting with recommended plan to add two parking spaces. Town Council approved the recommended plan and now Engineering shall submit a site plan modification form to Planning and Zoning. **Site plan modification to be given to Planning and Zoning. Leave as old business.**

- g. **11th Annual John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield** (J. Tracy) – *M. Hart received an email stating Coventry had received citizen concerns with the route going down Brigham Tavern Road. Coventry suggested that the route stay on Route 32 and not use Coventry roads or use a revised route through Coventry. M. Hart will forward the email to C. van Zelm, K. Paterson, and J. Tracy to review and decide what changed route the race will take. J. Carrington stated approvals will be made once the route has been revised by the event coordinator. J. Tracy sent in the approvals from all the surrounding towns. Motion was made by L. Painter, seconded by D. Dilaj, to approve with existing conditions. The motion was passed unanimously. S. Baczanski will send out an email with event conditions.*

- h. **Meadowbrook Gardens** (L. Painter) – *An outside consultant will do a traffic study for the roads in that area while school is in session. The main entrance also needs to be changed for emergency vehicle access. L. Painter will email the consultant regarding the traffic study. L. Painter emailed the consultant to find out when the traffic counts were conducted and has not received an answer. L. Painter stated the consultant performed traffic counts two more times and found no mitigation. There is nothing further for the Traffic Authority to address.*

New Business

- a. **Willimantic Athletic Club 5K Run** (M. Ferron) – Motion made by L. Painter, seconded by D. Dilaj, to approve with existing conditions. The motion was passed unanimously. S. Baczanski will send out an email with event conditions.

- b. **Wilbur Cross Way** (J. Carrington) – A request came into J. Carrington to put up “No Parking” signs on Wilbur Cross Way for Tuesday, May 24th and Wednesday, May 25th so curb inspections can be completed. Motion made by M. Hart, seconded by L. Painter to put up the temporary “No Parking” signs on May 24th and May 25th. The motion was passed unanimously.

Future Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is June 28th at 9:00am in Conference Room B.

Adjournment

Motion made by M. Hart, seconded by D. Dilaj, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:23 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Baczanski
Public Works Specialist