

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY MEETING
August 23, 2016 – 9:00 am
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: J. Carrington, D. Dilaj, M. Hart, J. Mullen (in place of L. Painter), B. LaVoie, F. Raiola, R. Cournoyer

Guests Present: J. Woodmansee, S. Baker, L. Sweeney, K. Bourquin

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by John Carrington.

Approval of Minutes

July 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes and August 4, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes – Motion made by D. Dilaj and seconded by B. LaVoie to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

J. Carrington requested to address New Business 4a (Traffic Signal Request) and 4b (Jonathan Lane Blind Corner) at the beginning of the meeting to accommodate those residents that were present at the meeting.

Old Business

- a. **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. Review in the fall and determine the capacity of the business sector. **Wilbur Cross Way will be studied once the buildout is complete to determine if the speed limit should be changed to 15 mph. Leave as old business.***
- b. **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.***
- c. **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.***

New Business

- a. **Traffic Signal Request at the Intersection of Old Kent Road and Route 32** (L. Sweeney) – J. Carrington asked for input from the two residents. L. Sweeney stated the sight distance is poor and she has seen two accidents at this location. The owner of 53 Stafford Road parks cars in the driveway which blocks the sight line. S. Baker is a school bus driver and stated it is hard to get out of that intersection. There are large snow banks in the winter and he cannot go across two lanes. The residents felt this intersection has sight line issues and is a safety concern. J. Carrington suggested to submit a request for the State to do a traffic study for a light. Motion was made by F. Raiola to forward a request to the State to look at the intersection for a traffic light. Motion was seconded by D. Dilaj and passed unanimously.
- b. **Jonathan Lane Blind Corner** (K. Bourquin) – K. Bourquin lives at the corner and it is hard to see walkers, bikers, and other cars at the northern entrance on Jonathan Lane. The Engineering Department is looking at suggestions to change the intersection which include changing it to a “T” intersection, add signage, or add striping. J. Woodmansee stated there is a lot of activity with kids on bikes. Can “Children at Play” signs be installed? J. Carrington stated signs give a false sense of security and the department is going away from these signs. K. Bourquin felt striping would be great. J. Carrington will have the Engineering Department look at all options which also include talking to the neighbor with the white fence in the front yard on the corner. J. Woodmansee stated the neighborhood would help to take down the fence.
- c. **Birch Road and Silver Falls Road No Parking Signs** (J. Carrington) – J. Carrington stated there are No Parking signs on Birch Road from the traffic circle to Route 44. There have been no issues in the past with parking on this street from Hunting Lodge Road to Silver Falls Lane. R. Cournoyer said there did not appear to be a need for No Parking signs on Silver Falls Lane. J. Carrington suggested to wait a month and re-access if any No Parking signs should be installed in these areas.
- d. **Overnight Parking and Enforcement at Goodwin School, Southeast School, Vinton School, and the Middle School** (J. Carrington) – J. Carrington suggested signs should be installed at the schools, no parking after hours. F. Raiola suggested to have specific signs, “No Unauthorized Parking. School Use Only”. J. Carrington will send a draft of the sign to the Superintendent for their input before ordering the signs.
- e. **Traffic Control Signal and Pedestrian Control Feature Upgrades – State Project Nos. 0172-0443 and 0172-0444** (J. Carrington) – Prior to this meeting, M. Hart signed the letter and sent to the State.
- f. **Community Connectivity Program Road Safety Audit** (J. Carrington) – J. Carrington explained the program looks at intersections for safety, lights, and crosswalks. J. Carrington suggested Will Bigl would be a good addition to the committee. J. Mullen volunteered to be on the committee. M. Hart wondered if this is annual program that we can apply for and if that can be researched. J. Carrington said the State is going back to roundabouts and maybe this will come out of the audit. J. Carrington will add W. Bigl and J. Mullen to the committee.

- g. **Storrs Center Loading Zones** (M. Taylor) – M. Taylor brought the issue of trucks unloading in his lot and on the street. Signage should be changed to “Loading Zone” not “CVS Loading Zone”. F. Raiola and J. Mullen suggested “Commercial Loading Zone” might be better. M. Hart said M. Taylor has enforcement in his lots now and R. Cournoyer and his staff will tell the trucks to move if they are unloading in the street.

Other Business

- a. **Sidewalk Lighting** (M. Hart) – M. Hart wants to develop a sidewalk lighting plan for pedestrian corridors. J. Carrington will have the Engineering Department develop a plan and criteria for the installation of sidewalk lights in Town. J. Carrington will put this item on the list of projects to be completed this year.

Future Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is September 27th at 9:00am in Conference Room B.

Adjournment

Motion made by M. Hart, seconded by D. Dilaj, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Baczanski
Public Works Specialist