



TOWN OF NATICK Meeting Agenda

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF M. G. L. CHAPTER 30A, §§ 18-25

Safety Committee

Natick Police Department Date: March 29, 2023 Time: 10:00 AM
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Safety Committee Meeting March 29, 2023

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87395873059?pwd=YUgrZEluRExmdFNiMnhMRTZqMzZXUT09>

Meeting ID: 873 9587 3059

Passcode: 406412

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APPROVE MINUTES December 20, 2022 Meeting

OLD BUSINESS:

Walnut/Bacon/Chestnut Street intersection.

TABLE Town Engineer Bill McDowell will keep Safety Committee apprised of the status.

Resident request for a street light on the circle near 15 Bunker Lane. TABLE Deputy Chief Lauzon will work with DPW to research alternative means of illuminating this area as there are not any overhead utilities.

Resident concern for safety issues due to deteriorating conditions of the intersection of Speen Street and West Central Street. TABLE this is the State of Massachusetts responsibility. Petitioner contacted state and were told this included in the Preliminary Design Phase of the Bridge to be advertised in January 2025. Pending update DPW Highway Supervisor Brian Caissie.

Request to address multiple Upland Street names. TABLE pending neighborhood meeting.

Resident Request to address serious concern with cars turning right on red onto 135 at Washington TABLE pending further investigation into viable options to make this a safer intersection for pedestrian traffic. DPW Highway Supervisor Brian Caissie to do review of infrastructure improvement for crosswalk.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resident Request to address concerns for Pedestrian Safety on Cemetary Street (Attachment 1)

Safety Concerns for Campus Drive Bicycle Lane

Resident Request for a Street light at intersection of Madonna Street and Bishop Street

Request for reconsideration for One Way Street make Bee Street one way west between School Street and Church Street. School Street one way north between East Street and Bee Street.

Request for DO NOT ENTER sign on School Street at Bee Street.



Marylee Watkins <watkins@natickpolice.com>

Re: Cemetery Street concerns, context

2 messages

Paul Joseph <pjoseph@natickma.org>

Fri, Mar 10, 2023 at 9:38 AM

To: [redacted]@gmail.com

Cc: selectboard@natickma.org, Marylee Watkins <mwatkins@natickma.org>

With apologies for the late response, I want to confirm that we received your email and can understand these concerns about Cemetery St. I frequently run there and know first-hand about the dangerousness of the lack of sidewalk, poor visibility, and speed of traffic.

I suggest the following as a starting point to consider addressing your concerns:

1) On Wed 3/22, the Select Board will be receiving a report about a proposed approach for the Town to consider road acceptances based on a recent evaluation and planning process undertaken by the Administration working with the Town Engineer and head of DPW; also,

2) **I recommend that we add "Cemetery St. safety concerns" to the next Safety Committee agenda.** This cross-functional committee regularly meets to discuss issues that arise based on concerns from citizens as well as ongoing observations and continuous improvement recommendations from NPD and other Town staff and stakeholders.

I've copied Marylee Watkins on this reply to ask that we add the topic to the next available safety committee agenda, at which time you are welcome to share your concerns with the group directly (or, in the case that you cannot attend, I would be happy to articulate them including sharing your original email with committee members in advance.

From there, we can proceed based on feedback from the group and/or, in the case of potential road acceptance, the Select Board might choose to pursue this based on its forthcoming adoption of a policy.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,
Paul

On Tue, Feb 21, 2023 at 10:58 AM Eric Silverman <ericjasilverman@gmail.com> wrote:
see revised

Subject: Cemetery Street concerns, context
Date: February 21, 2023 at 10:42:45 AM EST
To: selectboard@natickma.org

ATTACHMENT 1

JOAN MCNAMARA, SELECTBOARD

Dear Ms. McNamara,

The Town's Chief Engineer Bill McDowell suggested I approach the Selectboard regarding traffic and safety on Cemetery Street.

Some context, presentation:

- The Town and or state has designated Cemetery Street as a two-way 'Unaccepted Street' that connects Rt.135 and Pond Street. It is used extensively by commercial and residential traffic.
- All traffic passes our house at 7 Cemetery, at the 'T' formed at end of Tucker Street. While there is a yellow 'Children' sign for southbound drivers, there is significant traffic during daytime hours.
- Cemetery Street is on the east side of Dellwood Cemetery, and has no pedestrian sidewalk nor curbage. Lack of traffic demarkation has encouraged drivers to the point where one must be very cautious when walking, or even crossing the street. This has prompted a call to Mr. McDowell, to make him aware of the need for traffic easement and to safeguard the lives of walkers at risk. I've also spoken with longtime residents who are aware that since the town designated Forest Avenue a one way street from 135 to Pond, Cemetery became the only practical connector.
- Blind Curve. Traffic to and from Pond to 135 speeds around this curve. As residents, we must always use additional caution when pulling out of our driveways for fear of drivers not heeding speed limits. Again, with no caution sign or mirror to alert oncoming traffic, drivers are prone to take the curve too fast. This poses a danger to everyone.
- I've seen young women with baby strollers along Cemetery Street who have no choice but to walk within feet of passing cars. Town hikers and bikers use Cemetery to access the trailhead for the Wilson Trail, next to our property. There is currently no way for any driver rounding that curve to know whether there is a pedestrian or bikers.
- I understand that any plan to rezone Cemetery Street will need to make use of residential and possibly cemetery property. Personally, i am not opposed to this, without speaking for my neighbors or any organization.

Both the residents I've talked to, and Mr. McDowell are in agreement that Cemetery Street is not at all personally safe for pedestrians.