



Town of Natick

Minutes

Board or Committee: SAFETY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: June 27, 2023

Meeting Location: Virtual via Zoom

Members and Staff Present: Chief Hicks, Deputy Chief Lauzon, Chief Ferschke, Brian Caissie, Alan Grady, David Krentzman, Joe Weiss, Robin Agostinili-Solivan, Lieutenant Allan Graham, Sergeant Scott Lacerra.

Members not Present: David Gusmini, Amanda Loomis, Peter Gray

Meeting Called to Order”

Meeting Motions/Actions and Summary of Discussions:

APPROVE MINUTES May 18, 2023 Meeting

OLD BUSINESS:

Walnut/Bacon/Chestnut Street intersection.

TABLE Town Engineer Bill McDowell will keep Safety Committee apprised of the status Fall of 23.

Resident request for a street light on the circle near 15 Bunker Lane. **TABLE** pending answer from Eversource on viable options.

Request to address multiple Upland Road street names. **TABLE** pending Community Meeting for residents of Upland on the south side of Route 9 to be scheduled this fall.

Resident Request to address serious concern with cars turning right on red onto 135 at Washington
TABLE pending discussion with Deputy Chief Lauzon, Highway Superintendent Brian Caissie and Ken Mitchell on possibility for No Turn on Red arrow activated on overhead on traffic signal light when someone at crosswalk.

Request for Speed limit signs in the location of 5 and 17 Strathmore Road. Ideally 1 Northbound and 1 Southbound or an establishment of a 20 MPH Safety Zone Sgt Scott Lacerra presented to the committee findings of the speed study, which revealed 85th percentile speed is 29 MPH. Significant volume between hours of 8 AM to 6 PM. Cars parked on both side of the road narrowing the road. 700 vehicles per day travel this stretch of Strathmore Road. Committee VOTED to recommend to the Select Board to

approve a 20 MPH Safety Zone on Strathmore Road giving the Natick DPW and NPD staff to determine geographical boundaries of the Safety Zone (ie between 7 and 17 Strathmore Road).

Request for a speed limit change on the following streets: Proctor Street, Fiske Street and Fairview Avenue. Sgt Lacerra presented findings of speed study conducted May 2 – June 9, 2023.

Proctor – 85th Percentile speed 29 MPH

Windsor Road – 85th Percentile 25 MPH

Fairview 85th Percentile 28 MPH

TABLE pending analysis of speed study does it meet criteria for 25 MPH Zone. Lieutenant Graham will have recommendation for committee at September Committee meeting.

Resident Request for No Turn on Right at the intersection of West Central Street and Speen Street in all four directions. **TABLE** pending evaluation of data collected by Town Engineer Mark Coviello.

Resident Request to re-evaluate adding a crosswalk at North Pleasant as well as address obstructed view at 22 North Pleasant Street. **TABLE** pending ownership and status of bushes obstructing view of intersection.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resident Request the following to address traffic and speeding concerns on Walnut Street

- Make the following intersections 3 Way Stops
 - *Walnut Street at Roundwood Road
 - *Walnut Street at Carlisle Terrace
 - *Walnut Street at North Avenue
- Make the following intersection a 4 Way Stop
 - *Walnut Street at Shattuck Street
- Prohibit all commercial vehicles over 2 ½ tons on the section of Walnut Street between Bacon Street and Route 9 East.
- Post 25 MPH signs each direction on the section of Walnut Street between Route 9 East and Carlisle Terrace
- Reduce speed limit from 35 MPH to 25 MPH on stretch of Walnut Street between North Ave and Bacon Street
- Consider other traffic calming measures including permanent digital speed signs, flashing signs at crosswalks, speed bumps etc.

Committee VOTED to **TABLE** pending further speed study in efforts to identify speed/traffic patterns in order to slow motorists down.

Request to address following safety concerns at the Sanctuary Estates neighborhood.

- Ability to make a left hand turn safely out of neighborhood
- Safety of children waiting for school bus
- Stop signs in neighborhood that do not have MUTCD approved Stop Line and Stop Stencil.

Committee VOTED to Take No Action, however DPW will move forward to paint STOP Bar and STOP Stencil to all existing Stop signs in Sanctuary Estates. DPW will also move Stop Sign at Cottage Street about 4 feet allowing for better site lines.

Request for Pedestrian Activated Crosswalk Signals at existing crosswalk on Speen Street at

Pinehurst Avenue. COMMITTEE VOTED to Recommend to Select Board to add this location to the list of Pedestrian Activated Crosswalk signals.

Request for a street light review on Bishop Street and Madonna Street

TABLE pending research with Eversource for the possibility of a stand alone light. Existing pole at intersection has a transformer on it and a light cannot be added to this pole. Can they install a stand alone pole and run power, in order to illuminate the area.

Minutes submitted by: Marylee E. Watkins

Meeting adjourned at: 11:38 AM

Next Meeting Date: September 26, 2023