

HAMDEN BOARD OF TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
JUNE 13TH, 2012

Attending: Michael Iezzi, Robert LaTorraca, Gerald Migliaro, Mitchell Strickland,
Police Chief Wydra, Deputy Chief Cappiello Town Attorney Gruen

Absent: Raeann Curtis

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Iezzi entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 9, 2012. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to approve the minutes seconded by Mr. Strickland.
The motion carried unanimously.

Department Report

- a. Review of department activity – Chief Wydra reported that the work on the bus enclosures will start on June 26, 2012. An outside vendor has been retained to complete the work, Trans Clean Corporation. Traffic Logistics will be in Hamden to do measuring and surveying streets for future actions as recommended in the Fitzgerald and Halliday, Inc. a report of which the Commission has not yet seen. Attorney Gruen noted that any abandon or discontinued roads should be given serious review.
- b. Items of concern – Chief Wydra advised the Commission that the Mayor has applied for funding to SCROG to help with some of the possible projects in the F& H report. The department is currently doing a traffic study on Skiff St. as there are concerns that are being looked at.
- c. Review of Site Plans – none at this time.
- d. Correspondence – all correspondence is in packet with nothing unusual and will be covered under New Business.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Ms. Joan Howell, 74 Furman Rd. –Ms. Howell addressed the Commission regarding her request for closing the street for a Block Party to be held on June 23, 2012. She is looking for the Commission to approve this request.

Ms. Barbara Calabrese, 662 Paradise Ave. – Ms. Calabrese submitted a letter on April 20, 2012 indicating the problem in her area and the request for a 3 way “Stop” sign at the intersection of Howard and Paradise Avenues, a reduction in the speed limit and visible well placed speed limit signs. The intersection of Howard Ave. and Autumn Ridge Rd. is also a problem spot. Ms. Calabrese would like the Commission to give consideration to her request to help alleviate the problem.

Ms. Cindy Civitello, 61 Berkley Court – Ms. Civitello addressed the Commission regarding the Shepard and Sherman Avenues left turn arrow “she” thinks this an excellent idea. She would also like to get copies of the back up documents attached to the agenda as “she” didn’t have this to review and bring her opinion to this meeting

regarding items on the agenda. It was decided at a past meeting that the clerk would have a packet delivered to the Town Clerk for availability to the residents but that Julie Smith from the Mayor's office would be provided with this set of documents to be scanned and attached to the agenda on the web site. Why this has not been done will be checked into.

Ms. Eileen O'Neill, 47 Woodlawn St. – Ms. O'Neill addressed the report by Fitzgerald and Halliday, Inc. and noting that all items on the recommendation list can not be completed due to budgeting but the residents of Woodlawn St. have submitted a four page summary of their meeting of May 5, 2012 including recommendations they would like see completed. Chief Wydra stated that the items in the recommendations by F& H can not be taken apart and done in pieces and that the report is being reviewed in addition to the Department Reports section *a* a survey by Traffic Logistics is going to be done and all information will be reviewed and decisions made. Chairman Iezzi noted that the Commission would like to review the process but until they receive a copy of the reports they can't make any comments or decisions.

Old Business – nothing at this time.

New Business

- a. West Side Drive and Woodin Street – request for “Stop” sign or sight line adjustment – After a brief discussion it is decided that Public Work be requested to go out and view the sight line. Chief Wydra noted that Woodin St. has the predominant amount of traffic and that the Police Department will do a field study of the area. The clerk will send a letter to Public Works requesting they survey the area and cc Planning and Zoning. Mr. Migliaro noted that there was a question regarding this area a couple of years ago and that the trees there now are new and isn't sure if they do pose a sight line problem. The question of who planted the trees was asked but no one is sure who did plant them.
- b. Traffic Calming Steering Committee Mission Statement revisions – This item was addressed at the April meeting and it was noted that yes it needed revising but this is not done by the Traffic Commission. Chairman Iezzi noted that the Mission Statement has to conform with the Town Charter and Attorney Gruen again stated that the Steering Committee can only suggest and make recommendations to the Traffic Authority and that the authorization to make any changes is with the Traffic Authority.
- c. Request for “Stop” signs at Mather St. and Waite St., East & West – Chief Wydra does not recommend these. This area is part of the F& H report and again you can't do pieces. The Chief will keep the Commission included in his review of the survey that is going to be completed. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to table this item, seconded Mr. Strickland. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- d. Request for road closure Furman Road – A brief discussion ensued with the Chief recommending this request be approved. The rain date for this event is June 24, 2012 with the same time frame 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Mr. Migliaro motioned to approve the closing of Furman Road on June 23, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. with a rain date of June 24, 2012 same time frame. The approval also

includes that someone responsible will be available during the closure for emergency vehicles should that occur, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

- e. Request or 3 way “Stop” sign, speed reduction and well placed speed signs – (Howard Dr. & Paradise Ave.) Chief Wydra stated he did speak with Mrs. Calabrese and that speed enforcement is currently going on and that he would like to get statistics for the intersection and bring this information to the next meeting. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to table this item for the September 12, 2012 meeting, seconded by Mr. Migliaro. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
At this time Chairman Iezzi responded to the request of Mr. Secola to address the Commission and Chairman Iezzi agreed. Mr. Secola stated that the problem is actually at Paradise Ave. and Autumn Ridge Rd. and that he had been in an accident and feels this intersection does need review and changes and he would like to see the recommendations of the Chief after his review.
- f. Spring Glen Traffic Calming request – This item was covered under items ***b*** and ***c*** above and Chief Wydra advised that speed monitoring will take place and he will provide the Commission with the information obtained at the September 12, 2012 meeting.
- g. Sherman Ave. and Shepard Ave., left turn arrow request at stop light – This item was withdrawn from the agenda.
- h. Farmington Canal “Stop” signs where vehicular traffic crosses – Chairman Iezzi noted that the crossings are dangerous for the pedestrians and he would like to see some aggressive actions taken for the safety of the pedestrians. Chief Wydra noted that the pedestrians don’t always have the right of way. Chairman Iezzi requests the Chief take measures and come back with recommendations where necessary. Mr. Migliaro motioned to table this item for the September 12, 2012 meeting for the Chief to gather the information necessary for the Commission to discuss and make a decision, seconded by Mr. Strickland. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- i. Approval for reconstruction of intersection Whitney & Worth Avenues – Mr. Daniel Koeber, P.E. of Milone & MacBroom, Inc., Cheshire CT presented the Commission with information and maps of the proposed new crosswalk location on Worth Ave., and the reconstruction of the parking area for the AAA Southern New England company structure on the site. Chief Wydra recommends the proposal with proper signage and Mr. Kops of Hamden Planning and Zoning has no additional information to offer at this time. Mr. Migliaro motioned to approve the project as proposed, seconded by Mr. Strickland. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- j. Review of approval of letter for Memorial Day Parade – Mr. Migliaro motioned to approve the Parade, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

Open Discussion – Commission/Department Heads – Nothing at this time.

Adjournment

At 7:00 p.m. Mr. Migliaro motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

The next meeting will be Wednesday September 12 , 2012 in the Activity Room at the Miller Library Complex 6:00 p.m.

Recorded by,

Catherine E. Gempka
Commission Clerk