

HAMDEN BOARD OF TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
JULY 10TH, 2013

Attending: Raeann Curtis, Michael Iezzi, Robert LaTorraca, Mitchell Strickland,
Police Chief Wydra, Deputy Chief Cappiello, Town Attorney Sue Gruen

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 June 12, 2013. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to approve the minutes of June 12, 2013, seconded by Ms. Curtis. *The motion carried unanimously.*

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Ms. Amy Saltzman, 12 Murlyn Rd. – Ms. Saltzman addressed the speeding vehicles on her road. The cars have used this street as a cut thru from Whitney Ave. to Evergreen and have always speeded. The street was in serious need of paving but the neighbors never brought it to the attention of the Town because they knew if the street was paved the speed of the vehicles would increase. The street now has been paved and the residents would like speed signs posted and speed humps installed for when the students return for the fall. Also during the winter storm the street signs were destroyed and would like new signs installed.

Margaret Murphy, 30 Lincoln St. – Ms. Murphy stated what was in her letter regarding the vehicles blocking the exit from the Town Center Complex and would like some relief of the situation. The traffic on Dixwell Ave. blocks the intersection for cars exiting the driveway and wishing to cross straight onto Washington Ave. There is another egress onto Whitney Ave. but again you have a significant amount of traffic, vehicles don't let you in and once you do get onto Whitney Ave. you could be in the traffic to go north and wait for as many as 4 traffic lights to cross Dixwell Ave.

Ms. Pricilla Jenkins, 87 Ingram St. – Ms. Jenkins would like crosswalks and/or "Walk/Don't Walk" signs installed at Hartford Turnpike and Ridge Road. She walks that area and the vehicles don't always see people walking and they are driving too fast to stop before hitting someone.

Department Report

- a. Review of department activity – Chief Wydra reported that the work on the Mather St. project has been completed and the Chief gives credit to Engineering and Public Works for all their work. The work on Treadwell St. will start along with painting in other areas. Unfortunately there has been another accident on Haverford St. and Ridge Road and enforcement was present in the last couple of weeks and has issued a substantial number of infractions. Chief Wydra would like a review of this area again and this item will appear on the agenda for a future meeting.
- b. Review of Site Plans – none at this time.

Old Business

New Business

- a. Request for “Walk/Don’t Walk” traffic signs Ridge Road and Hartford Turnpike – Chief Wydra advised the Commission that this issue is not new, that it has come up before but the cost of a project like this is not in the funding. After a brief discussion Ms. Curtis motioned to table this item, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- b. Request for Pedestrian Crosswalk and speed hump Brook St. & Wintergreen Ave. – Chief Wydra advised the Commission that this is a parking problem at a Town park and that it should be addressed by the Park and Recreation Dept. and Attorney Gruen agrees. People attending functions are parking in an area not properly designated, not paved and having to cross the street to get to the park. This request will be sent on to the Parks and Recreation Dept.
- c. Traffic congestion problem Dixwell Ave. and Washington Ave. – This area has had significant problems of which the Chief is aware. Chief Wydra noted this is a part behavior problem, it is a state road and the lights are timed properly, there is just so much traffic it is overwhelming. The Chief will review the Town’s options and let the Commission know of his findings and what if any action can be taken.
- d. Request for Block Party, 79 First St., September 1, 2013 - Mrs. Inez Zackery was present to answer any questions. Chief Wydra addressed the blocking of the street and that any inflatable items and the wooden horses to block the street must be easily accessible for removal should an emergency arise. Mrs. Zackery understood the regulations and the department will bring the wooden horses 24 hours prior to the party. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to approve the Block Party, September 1, 2013 with Mrs. Zackery following the instruction of Chief Wydra, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- e. Request for Crosswalk and signs Furman Road & Thomas St. – the resident requesting the Crosswalk is not present to address the issue. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to table this item, seconded by Mr. Strickland. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- f. Request for speed hump Murlyn Road – Chief Wydra will do spot enforcement but needs to get data before recommending speed humps. Chairman Iezzi noted that a process must be followed and maybe temporary measures can be taken. Ms. Curtis motioned for Chief Wydra to review the required data for speed humps, slow signs and take any temporary measures necessary, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

Adjournment

At 6:38 p.m. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

The next meeting will be Wednesday September 11, 2013 in the Activity Room at the Miller Library Complex 6:00 p.m.

Recorded by,

Catherine E. Gempka
Commission Clerk