

HAMDEN BOARD OF TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
DECEMBER 11, 2013

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

Absent: Raeann Curtis, Deputy Chief Cappiello

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Iezzi entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 13, 2013. Mr. Strickland motioned to approve the minutes of November 13, 2013, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. *The motion carried unanimously.*

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Ms. Patricia Heiser, 81 Mather St. – Ms. Heiser would like to thank Chief Wydra and the Commission for all the work on Mather St. and notes that there is less confusion and a change in the traffic. She would like to see the Crosswalk painting at Mather and Servoss since this was part of the proposed changes in the Traffic Calming Report but would like to see a “Stop” sign installed on Mather St. at Servoss along with the Crosswalk painting.

Department Report

- a. Review of department activity – Chief Wydra reported that paving and line painting were completed at the Government Center, and on the first floor of the new parking garage. Line painting will be done at the Whitneyville Library and that work on the Whitney Ave. signal project continues.
- b. Review of Site Plans – none at this time.
- c. Correspondence – in packet.

Old Business

- a. Request for Walk/Don’t Walk traffic signs Ridge Road and Hartford Turnpike, b Request for Crosswalk and signs Furman Road and Thomas Street and c – Crosswalk Painted at Mather St. and Sevross, Chief Wydra advised the Commission that Ridge Road and Hartford Turnpike is being reviewed with Engineering working on a new design. Furman & Thomas and Mather and Servoss the Chief has sent letters to Engineering for information on these projects.

New Business

Mr. LaTorraca motioned to add Centerville Development to the agenda, seconded by Mr. Strickland. *The motion carried unanimously.*
Attorney Bernard Pellegrino addressed the Commission with the proposed site for a Hotel comprised of 121 rooms, a restaurant, bar, pool and meeting rooms. This

project has been presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Inland Wetlands Commission. Concerns by both bodies were reviewed and some changes made based on their concerns. Based on the new application process the Hamden Board of Traffic Commission is requested to make a referral to the Office of State Traffic Administration. Attorney Pellegrino presented the proposed buildings currently on the site to be either renovated or rebuilt and the hotel which will be located in the rear of the property. A traffic study was completed using the peak hours and the builder would like to request a traffic light be installed at the entrance to the facility. There will be a right turn only lane and the traffic turning left will be timed to allow a specified number of cars to enter onto Whitney Ave. traveling north. In addition the builder is in contact with the adjacent business and a possible rear exit only on to Worth Ave. is being discussed. Chairman Iezzi asked Chief Wydra for his recommendation and Chief Wydra stated that he is concerned because this intersection already has limited access. Chief Wydra agrees this is a great project but doesn't know if the Commission should agree with the current traffic report. There is a Grant that has been approved for a traffic study from School St. to Worth Ave. but this has not started yet. Attorney Gruen asked Mr. Kops if Planning and Zoning reviews reports submitted. Mr. Kops stated that all reports are reviewed extensively. Chairman Iezzi would like to see the minutes of the Planning and Zoning and Inland Wetlands Commissions. Attorney Pellegrino is asking the Commission to send a "Written confirmation to the Local Traffic Authority indicating concurrence with the assessment of no substantial impact to the state highway system contingent on the Department's agreement with said assessment must be provided." Mr. Strickland motioned to concur with the assessment with the report to the OSTA that the project will propose no impact to the state highway system, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

Adjournment

At 6:45 p.m. Mr. Strickland motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

The next meeting will be Wednesday January 8, 2014 in the Activity Room at the Miller Library Complex 6:00 p.m.

Recorded by,

Catherine E. Gempka
Commission Clerk