

HAMDEN BOARD OF TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MARCH 12, 2014

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

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

1 Approval of Minutes

Vice Chairman LaTorraca entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 8, 2014. Mr. Strickland motioned to approve the minutes of January 8, 2014, seconded by Ms. Curtis. *The motion carried unanimously.*

2 Public Comments on Agenda Items

Ms. Cindy Civitillo, welcomed the new Commissioner Ms. Murray and asked if Ms. would provide some background on herself. She thanked Chief Wydra for taking such quick action on the Rocky Top Road situation.

Mr. Gary Prestash. 127 Rocky Top Road – Mr. Prestash addressed the recent changes to Rocky Top Road and wanted the Commission to be aware that drivers are not adhering to the new direction and signage. He has witnessed various actions by drivers and stopped writing down the times and actions. Mr. Prestash sent a letter to Chief Wydra with some suggestions on possibly how to make the road safer. He also sent an email which is attached to the agenda and posted on the web site for review.

Traffic

3.1 Traffic Concern received electronically from a Rocky Top Road resident regarding traffic flow – Chief Wydra returned the compliment from Ms. Civitello. Chief Wydra addressed the statement from Mr. Prestash and noted that the decision to make this change was the result of a lengthy discussion at a previous meeting. The road is very narrow in some areas and the curves in the road are good at best on a clear day but in bad weather not very good at all. Chief Wydra acknowledges that the change is not working out. Sometimes you have to let time go by to see if a change is working. There is significant difficulty on parts of the road and that his has to be revisited. Chief Wydra would like to meet with the Town Planner and Town Attorney to discuss the options. Ms. Curtis motioned to table this item to allow Chief Wydra to meet with the Town Planner, Town Attorney and the Fire Chief and the residents to discuss the best and safest way to have the traffic move in a flowing manner, seconded by Mr. Strickland. *The motion carried unanimously.*

3.2 Stop Sign request received electronically for the following locations:

- 3.2.1 Bedford/Thornton
- 3.2.2 Bedford/Wakefield
- 3.2.3 Bedford/Filbert

Chief Wydra would like 4 Way Stop Signs at each of these intersections. At this time there are only Stop Signs approaching Bedford and he feels that safety is the issue here. Chief Wydra recommends 4 Way Stop Signs at these intersections. Mr. Strickland motioned to approve the 4 Way Stop Signs as recommended by Chief Wydra, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

3.3 Correspondence from John Bysiewics regarding the Cheshire Hal Marathon – Mr. Bysiewics is not present at this time. Ms. Curtis motioned to empower Chief Wydra to discuss the details of the Cheshire Half Marathon and if he feels it meets all the appropriate requirements he approve the event, seconded by Mr. Strickland. ***The motion carried unanimously.*** *Mr. Bysiewics was caught in traffic and didn't make the Traffic meeting in time, he arrived at 6:35 p.m. and the meeting was over buy that time. He waited for the next meeting to finish and at that time he met with Chief Wydra to go over the plans for the event.*

4 COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 Correspondence egsrding W-01-14 (request for exemption from the provisions for accessibility at 2750 Dixwell Avenue) – Attorney Gruen explained that the repaving of the Government Center parking lot and the addition of four existing accessible parking spaces with a non-compliant slope be the Town requested the exemption and it was approved.

5 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Any other business that may properly come before the Board in Regular Session – nothing at this time.

6 OLD BUSINESS – nothing at this time.

7 OPEN DISCUSSION – Chief Wydra advised the Commissioners that 3 additional Speed Compliant units have been purchased and they now have six. The units are helping with data collection and are also helping P&Z when they are reviewing site plans submitted for approvals.

Cindy Civitello advised the Commission that a lane of Whitney Ave. At Shepard Ave. is going to be closed for road work by the DOT starting March 24, 2014 from 8:00 – 3:00. Ms. Civitello noted that the 8:00 a.m. closing may cause traffic congestion.

8 ADJOURNMENT

At 6:30 p.m. Mr. Strickland motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

The next meeting will be Wednesday April 9, 2014 in the Activity Room at the Miller Library Complex 6:00 p.m.

Recorded by,

Catherine E. Gempka
Commission Clerk