

HAMDEN BOARD OF TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
JUNE 11, 2014

Attending: Raeann Curtis, Michael Iezzi, Betty Murray, Police Chief Wydra, Deputy Chief Cappiello, Town Attorney Sue Gruen

Absent: Robert LaTorraca, Mitchell Strickland

Call to Order

Chairman Iezzi called the meeting to order at 6:05 p. m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Iezzi entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 14, 2014. Ms. Curtis motioned to approve the minutes of May 14, 2014, seconded by Ms. Murray. *The motion carried unanimously.*

Public comments on agenda items.

Chairman Iezzi proceeded to address the residents present. He inquired if anyone had any comments on the agenda items. A dialogue started with a resident inquiring why her request to be on the agenda was not responded to. She stated she wanted to address her street Hayward Road and that she had sent an email to Chief Wydra. (Chief Wydra went back and checked his emails and did not find one from the resident. He did provide her with his card so she would have the correct email address and request she contact him.) A large group of residents from the Woodin St. area were present and starting shooting questions to Chairman Iezzi about the actions of New Haven removing a fence located on New Haven property. Chairman Iezzi tried to inform the residents that the Traffic Authority can't address an item unless they have all the proper information. It was stated by a resident that Town Officials were purposely keeping information from them. Chairman Iezzi advised the residents present that unless information is presented to the Traffic Authority administratively they can't act on it. Without complete information an issue can't be properly presented to the public. When it comes time for the Traffic Authority to act on an item it is then put on the agenda for discussion and approval. Unfortunately the agenda for this meeting was not posted on the web site until Tuesday, June 10, 2014 but it was posted in the Town Clerk's office on Monday morning. The residents stated that there were signs posted in the street advising people to come into the Traffic Authority meeting to ask questions however these signs were not posted by the Traffic Authority or the Town. Ms. Sherri Roberts stated that she sent a letter and an email requesting she be put on the agenda. Ms. Roberts was contacted by phone advising her that because the Traffic Authority didn't have information that the item would not appear on the agenda. Ms. Roberts stated that she and other residents were coming to the meeting anyway. The residents didn't seem to understand that Hamden is waiting for information from New Haven and that the fence that was removed was on New Haven property therefore Hamden had no say in the matter. One resident noted that only 460 feet of the New Haven fence was to be removed and that 1,000 feet was removed. The residents want a meeting before the next regular meeting in September. Chairman Iezzi

stated that a meeting can be held before the September meeting if the Traffic Authority has received the information necessary to respond to questions that will be asked, he has no problem holding a meeting as long as he has the information necessary to be as informative as possible to the public. The residents are angry because their phone calls, emails and other attempts to speak with someone who can answer their questions are not being responded to. One resident stated that they feel the Mayor is advising town employees not to respond to anyone regarding this issue and Chairman Iezzi assured the residents that this is not the case. Chairman Iezzi assured the residents that there will be a meeting, it will be in a larger area to accommodate more residents, they will each be allowed to address the Traffic Authority on a time limit basis, but he will not leave the residents hanging out there.

Ms. Cynthia Civitelli, 61 Berkley Court – Ms. Civitelli would like to be notified if an item is not going to be discussed at the beginning of the meeting so they can leave. Unless Chief Wydra advises the Chairman it is not known until the item comes up can he advise those present that no information is available.

She also noted that the agenda states that “Please go to Hamden CT web site for PDF of applications for the supporting documents” under “Review of Site Plans” to explain to people how to navigate the site to find the documents. She stated that only thanks to being in the office of Planning and Zoning was she told where to find the documents. Ms. Civitelli attends most Planning and Zoning meetings and comes with copies of the documents so she is aware of how to find the said documents. Under Boards and Commissions, Planning and Zoning the first page that comes up the second line in red reads **Current applications before the commission**, this seems to be very clear.

Ms. Barbara Callan, 71 Augur St. – Ms. Calla is here to find out what information Chief Wydra was able to find out after the discussion at the May 14, 2014 meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

- a. Review of department activity – Chief Wydra reported that due to the recent weather conditions the work at Whitney and Dixwell Avenues is delayed a week. Parking at the Town Hall is still being worked on and that the Thornton Street signs have been removed.
- b. Items of Concern – Chief Wydra advised the Commission nothing unusual at this time.
- c. Review of site plans –
 - 1 – 1154 Dixwell Avenue – Dan Kops noted there is no significant change in this site.
 - 2 – 861 Dixwell Avenue – Dan Kops noted there is no significant change in this site.
 - 3 – 1349 Dixwell Avenue – this location is a former night club the owner wishes to convert to a catering facility for 300 people. Chief Wydra noted the lack of parking previously at the location. Attorney Gruen noted this is a high occupancy load for the interior and has Planning and Zoning considered this? Ms. Curtis motioned to table this item until necessary information is received from Planning and Zoning and perhaps Planning and Zoning will table the item also until sufficient research has been completed seconded by Ms. Murray. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

- d. Memorial Day Parade – information provided for Commissioners regarding request and approval.

Ms. Curtis motioned to move item 5/b Augur Street Safety Concerns, seconded by Ms. Murray. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

Old Business – 5/b – Augur Street concerns, tabled from May 14, 2014 meeting – additional information from Chief Wydra – Chief Wydra collected data from 2012 indicating speeds below the limit and that the perception is that vehicles are traveling faster and the high was 31-32 mph which is not excessive. Chief Wydra feels the appropriate solution is stop signs, painted lines, stop bar in the street and painting stop ahead in the street. Ms. Curtis motioned to approve the recommendation of Chief Wydra, painting in the street at Augur and Carlton and Augur and Barraclough, seconded by Ms. Murray. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

5 OLD BUSINESS

- a. Thornton St. tabled from May 14, 2014 meeting – additional information from Chief Wydra – Chief Wydra reported that the previously installed signs have been removed (there were a couple missed and are being removed now) and proceeded to present two options. He reviewed the options along with input from Mr. Annis and Elizabeth Lowe residents of Thornton St. The options show paintings, yellow lines, white lines and crosswalks. Option B has a few modifications from option A which can be changed if needed. Ms. Murray motioned to approve option B with modifications and removal of old signs, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- b. Augur Street – please see above for discussion and approval.
- c. Rocky Top Road, tabled from May 14, 2014 meeting – information from Chief Wydra concerning the future of the traffic on this road – Chief Wydra advised the Commission that the past plan didn't work. He stated funds and engineering for this road is required. After a brief discussion it was decided Chief Wydra would address the problem with the Mayor. Ms. Murray motioned to have Chief Wydra send a letter to the Mayor and cc Engineering and Planning and Zoning and the Commission to address and review the problem with Rocky Top, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Request for “Handicapped” sign at 50 Cherry Ann St. – Chief Wydra recommends the request be approved as Ms. Grant presented a complete outline of the needs of her family. Ms. Curtis motioned to approve the installing of a “Handicapped” sign in front of 50 Cherry Ann St., seconded by Ms. Murray. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- b. Request for “Handicapped” sign at 15 Duane Road – Ms. Bogue the requestor is not present and Chief Wydra has not received the necessary completed

- application. Ms. Murray motioned to table this item until the September 10, 2014 meeting, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- c. Request for approval of Block Party Ms. Ramona Barnett, 80 Carroll Road – event to be held July 19, 2014 or July 26, 2014. After input from Chief Wydra Ms. Murray motioned to approve the request for the Block Party, seconded by Ms. Curtis. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

Chief Wydra presented a letter requesting a Block Party be added to the agenda. Ms. Curtis motioned to add item d, request for Block Party, 2nd St, Warren St. seconded by Ms. Murray. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

- d. The request Chief Wydra feels does not contain sufficient information regarding the Block Party and Chief Wydra will be contacting the requestor for additional information. If the information obtained is complete Chief Wydra will give the okay to the requestor and advise the Commission of the outcome.

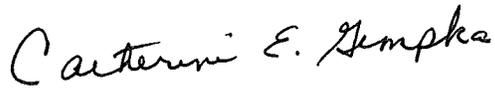
OPEN DISCUSSION – No discussion at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:28 p.m. Ms. Curtis motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Murray. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

The next meeting will be Wednesday September 10, 2014 in the Activity Room at the Miller Library Complex 6:00 p.m.

Recorded by,



Catherine E. Gempka
Commission Clerk