

**TOWN OF HINGHAM
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

Police Chief Glenn A. Olsson, Chairman
Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy, Representative for Chief Glenn Olsson
Dep. Chief William Powers, Representative for Chief Steven Murphy
Randy Sylvester, Engineering/DPW
William Ramsey, Planning Board
Daniel Miller Dempsey
Matthew Person

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Chief Glenn Olsson
RE: Minutes of June 30, 2020 Traffic Committee Meeting
DATE: July 1, 2020

PRESENT: Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy, Hingham Police Department
Randy Sylvester, Hingham DPW
J.R. Frey, Hingham Projects/Engineering
Daniel Miller Dempsey
Matthew Person

Sgt. Kilroy called the meeting to order via Zoom at 6:05 PM.

The minutes from the previous meeting on 2/26/20 were approved unanimously.

1. Crosswalk safety – Route 228 corridor

Sgt. Kilroy presented an email from Chamberlain Road resident Ann Kealy requesting a flashing pedestrian crossing sign at the crosswalk on 228 at Chamberlain Run due to the fact that it is a dangerous crossing area which is heavily travelled. Sgt. Kilroy reported that this corridor along with others in town are going to be included in an application to the state for grant funding to upgrade our existing high volume locations. J.R. Frey of Project Engineering said that Mass DOT has a Shared Streets Grant for which towns can apply. If Hingham is awarded the grant, it would be an opportunity to improve pedestrian safety near schools, etc. Solar powered beacons could be installed which run approximately \$21,000 plus installation. The grant could be for as much as \$300,000. J.R. recommends that the Sgt. Kilroy and the committee compile a list to prioritize locations that would most benefit from these pedestrian safety measures and provide the data to Mass DOT to scale the grant to their budget. It might be possible to install rapid flash beacons in 5-12 locations. Beau Kealy of Chamberlain Run asked about the timetable for all of this to which J.R. replied that the presentation would be submitted to the Board of Selectmen in late July. A breakdown of how the money would be spent would need to be provided. The

Town would spend the money and then get reimbursed by the grant by the State. We are looking to install rectangular rapid flash beacon solar powered signs as well as possible speed limit blinker signs at schools. J.R. hopes to get 10 signs and will present it so that Mass DOT has options. We might just get enough money for 5 signs though. We need to first get approval, put the order in and installation could take place in September. At that point, the SRO's could educate the students and the public that they would still need to be a responsible pedestrian and not rely solely on the signs. Jason Fitzgerald of Chamberlain Run asked if there was money in the budget for this to which Randy Sylvester replied that there is not. The request would need to be submitted and approved by the Board of Selectmen. Daniel Miller Dempsey mentioned that crossing Main St. to the Barrel is very dangerous to which Sgt. Kilroy said that it's safer to cross at the light at High/Free/Main St.

2. Free Street speed/traffic analysis.

Speed study results were presented by Sgt. Kilroy as requested by Free Street resident TJ Mahoney. The street has a high volume of cars and is a heavily used access road both for the High School and Wompatuck State Park. The average speed was not excessive. Sgt. Kilroy said that it would be possible to add more speed signs on Free Street to increase awareness and improve safety.

3. Speed concerns on Whitcomb Avenue

Whitcomb Road resident Kimberly Gay contacted Sgt. Kilroy regarding speed issues on Whitcomb Avenue. Sgt. Kilroy said that it has a similar set up as Tower Road and similar signage would work well there. Randy Sylvester said that he would need to get the sign request form in order to proceed with the installation. Matthew Person asked if the signs slowed traffic on Tower Road to which Sgt. Kilroy said yes, but it is an advisory sign.

4. Request for stop sign at Manatee/Volusia Road

Sgt. Kilroy received a request from Michelle Maddiagan for a stop sign to be installed on the corner of Manatee and Volusia Road to improve safety and visibility for pedestrians. Road layout changed and sight lines were reduced. J.R. Frey said that a stop sign would improve safety, especially on Manatee Road. Sgt. Kilroy feels that it meets the warrants and that Volusia Road residents are in support of it. This will be reviewed further to ensure that it meets all requirements prior to making a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. Randy Sylvester said that we need to be careful not to install too many signs since they can be detrimental if people become too used to them.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Jacobson, Administrative Assistant