

**TOWN OF HINGHAM
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

Police Chief Glenn A. Olsson, Chairman
Sgt. Robert Mansfield, Representative for Chief Glenn Olsson
Dep. Chief William Powers, Representative for Chief Steven Murphy
Harry Sylvester, Engineering/DPW
William Ramsey, Planning Board
Francis Donlan
Richard Wehter

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Chief Glenn Olsson
RE: Minutes of September 27, 2018 Traffic Committee Meeting
DATE: October 1, 2018

PRESENT: Sgt. Robert Mansfield, Hingham Police Department
Deputy Chief William Powers, Hingham Fire Department
Harry Sylvester, Engineering/Hingham DPW
Thomas Molinari, Engineering/Hingham DPW
Richard Wehter

Sgt. Mansfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

A motion was made by William Powers, seconded by Harry Sylvester to accept the minutes of the previous meeting on 7/25/18 followed by a unanimous vote in favor.

1. Request for crosswalk at Cross St./Little Pine Trail

Bonnie Raffetto from Little Pine Trail requested that a crosswalk be installed across Cross Street at the end of Little Pine Trail to make it easier for children to cross the street to get to their bus stops. Cars are less apt to stop if there isn't a crosswalk where people are crossing. Harry Sylvester (DPW) said that there is not enough of a volume of pedestrians on that street to warrant a crosswalk being installed. Also, it is not recommended to install a mid block crosswalk since it gives a false sense of security. Pedestrians need to look both ways and cross when it is safe to do so. Harry also recommended that the Traffic Committee adopt criteria for these requests. Sgt. Mansfield will contact Bonnie Raffetto to inform her of the committee's decision.

2. Request for flashing stop signs at North and Thaxter Streets

Dennis Ryan of Bradley Park Drive requested that flashing stop signs be installed at the intersection of North and Thaxter Streets due to the fact that many cars do not stop at the intersection and this would make the stop signs more visible. Harry Sylvester said that these signs do work well but we don't want to blanket the Town with them since the signs would become less effective. We will obtain the crash data, etc. from the past 3 years and will revisit the matter at next month's meeting.

3. High/Ward/French Street intersection

Sgt. Mansfield provided the committee with crash information on this intersection. The average number of crashes each year is 3 and has not increased over the past three years. The majority of crashes occur when cars are coming out of Ward Street. A 4 way stop sign is not recommended per Harry Sylvester due to the fact that the intersection doesn't line up correctly. Sgt. Mansfield said that enforcement has been increased in the area which should help to discourage speeding. Bill Ramsey (Planning Board) was not able to attend the meeting but will be updating the committee on the status of the Riverstone Project. He also offered to speak to the dentist (Dr. Perruzzi) whose office is on the corner of Ward and High Street. There are times that cars parked in the lot can impede the sight lines for cars coming out of Ward Street. This issue will be revisited when this information has been obtained.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Jacobson, Administrative Assistant