

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
09/14/16

The Highway Safety Committee met on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 beginning at 9:00 AM at the Goffstown Police Department.

Members present: Public Works Director Adam Jacobs , Selectman Allen Brown, Chief Robert Browne, Chairman, Town Planner Jonathan O'Rourke and Citizen Representative Ruth Gage.

Citizen Present: Superintendent Brian Balke, Melissa Proulx, Union Leader Correspondent.
Sgt. David Rivard

Meeting opened: 09:03 AM

Meeting adjourned: 10:15 AM

1) Approval of Minutes:

Selectman Allen Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of 06/15/16 as electronically distributed.

Adam Jacobs second.

Motion approved 4-0-1 with Ruth Gage abstaining as she was not present at that meeting.

2) SAU19

Request for study of Maple Ave Elementary traffic pattern regarding safety concerns.

The Committee received input from Superintendent Balke. He advised there is an ongoing concern of traffic flow with drop off and pick up of children. It is chaotic at best. He added that buses have hit vehicles that are parked on Maple Ave when they try to turn into the parking lot.

Sgt. Rivard gave a presentation on his study of the traffic situation on Maple Ave in the area of the school. Sgt. Rivard stated that he counted 17 signs from Elm Street to Smith Road. There are 23 busses total that stagger in 3-4 at a time. Sgt. Rivard mentioned that there is no vehicle data available for Maple Ave.

Adam Jacobs advised he can ask Southern NH Planning to do a study of Maple Ave.

Sgt. Rivard proposed different parking and traffic patterns.

#4 in packet – On street marked parking spaces on Maple Ave in front of school.

#5 in packet – 10 faculty spaces in the pickup loop and 10 visitor parking in the parking lot up against the school. This allows parents and children to walk on the sidewalk and not on the travel lanes.

#6 in packet – Traffic would flow in north and south direction. The new landing zone entrance would be the lower section of the school where the exit currently is for the landing zone. Vehicles would still have to enter making a left turn only. The live parking zone would be extended from the current upper entrance to the lower new entrance to the landing zone.

Vehicles exiting landing zone would have to take a right only and buses and vehicles leaving the main parking lot would have a left turn only.

#7 in packet – A temporary traffic sign blocking traffic from entering Maple Ave from Elm St except for school busses. All other vehicle traffic would have to enter Maple Ave via High Street to Smith Rd. This causes a temporary one way traffic for regular vehicles during the morning and after school zone times.

Selectman Brown mentioned that the property at the corner of Elm and Maple Ave is vacant – he suggested that the school look into purchasing that property to help with parking.

Selectman Brown said that he likes #7. He would like to try it first to see how it works.

Adam Jacobs mentioned that there are hinged signs available.

Chief Browne suggests that it be put out on GTV/School Outreach. No parking from Elm Street to 42 Maple Ave on the right hand side.

Adam Jacobs made a motion to try #7 from 740-810 AM and 3PM to

Motioned failed for lack of second.

Adam Jacobs modify the pattern and still allow through traffic.

Adam Jacobs made a motion for temporary proposed traffic #1 (#6 in packet) with additional no parking on the northbound side of Maple Ave.

John O'Rourke second.

Motion passes 5-0.

There will be another highway safety committee meeting on October 11, 2016 at 9:00 am to discuss the Maple Ave Traffic Patten, and review of stop signs on Maple Ave.

3) Southern NH Planning Audit

Adam Jacobs advised that this is mostly meant for accident prone intersections.

Shirley & Wallace is always a challenge.

Adam Jacobs made a motion not to submit anything to SNHP.

Selectman Brown second.

Motion passes 5-0.

4) Old Business: - none

5) New Business: - none

Selectman Browne made a motion to adjourn at 10:15 AM.

Adam Jacobs second.

Motion passes 4-0.

These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting.

Next meeting is October 11, 2016 at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Roberge
Executive Secretary