

**Town of Auburn
Highway Safety Committee
October 19, 2016**

Committee Members Present: Mike DiPietro, Chairman; Lt. Ray Pelton, Eva Komaridis, Dan Carpenter, Road Agent Mike Dross and Rick Eaton, Selectman.

Also Present: Town Administrator William Herman

Mr. DiPietro called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Old Business:

Mike DiPietro inquired about the school bus lane adjacent to Eaton Hill Road for the pick-up area at the Auburn Village School, and the potential striping in that area. Road Agent Dross indicated the striping should occur within the next two weeks, noting the vendor was behind schedule due to equipment issues.

The Road Agent also noted there is an issue at the intersection of Hooksett Road and Depot Road. When the State had the most recent paving done on Hooksett Road, they did not connect with the joint cut made for Depot Road. The Hooksett Road paving did not connect with Depot Road, and there remains an eight-to-10-inch drop from Hooksett Road to the joint cut for Depot Road.

Dan Carpenter also noted that the school bus appears to be stopping again near the railroad bridge on Hooksett Road.

Police Report:

Lt. Pelton reported there had been eight motor vehicle accidents since the last meeting of the Highway Safety Committee in September. He also reported there had been two DWI (drug-related) stops and 251 overall motor vehicle stops through grant funded patrols.

He indicated there had been an uptick in speeding complaints. The Department had been able to have the speed trailer out on Buttonwood Drive (twice), Wilsons Crossing Road (twice), and Chester Road before cold weather developed and the unit stopped functioning. The Department has secured grant funding to help cover the cost of a replacement trailer. A replacement unit costs approximately \$15,000, and the Department has received approval for a Highway Safety Grant for half of the cost. There should be a warrant article on the 2017 Town Warrant seeking to fund the replacement unit.

Road Agent Report:

Mike Dross reported the reconstruction of Dearborn Road is moving along. They were currently placing crush gravel on the road and he anticipated the road should be paved around the middle of next week.

The Road Agent reported Firefighter Pat Glennon had inquired about the intersection of the Hooksett Road and Depot Road, and expressed concern for the safety factor of the intersection coming into Hooksett Road right at the crest of the hill. Mr. Dross indicated they would take a look at possibly shifting the road away from the hill and further down Hooksett Road by 150-to-200-feet. This would require working with Manchester Water Works, who is the property owner in the immediate area. Mr. Dross suggested he would speak with the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen about potentially working with Manchester Water Works on this item.

He reported his crew will be replacing delineators around the Town, and will be working on guardrail near Coleman Road. He also noted he will be having a tree service in to remove as many dead trees as possible in areas of Hooksett Road and Wilsons Crossing. He specifically noted that he has found ash trees dying.

For line striping, the Road Agent asked if committee members felt a single or double yellow center line was appropriate for Hooksett Road. The consensus was a double yellow line would be appropriate.

It was also suggested the Road Agent look at moving the stop sign at Lovers Lane out closer to the intersection with Chester Road (NH Route 121).

Other Business:

Mike DiPietro reported the Board of Selectmen had received a request from residents of Hooksett Road to consider closing the north end of Hooksett Road to through truck traffic. In general terms, no committee member observed big trucks traveling through this area, with the exception of trailer dumps that are working in the Tenn development.

Lt. Pelton was going to request patrol officers keep a visual lookout for potential truck traffic in this area, while he also indicated he would assign a few folks to actually count trucks at various times.

Concern was expressed for the Urban Compact area marked by NH Department of Transportation in this area and doing anything that may affect that designation. It was also noted Hooksett Road is an arterial road intended to carry traffic from local collector streets to the system of highways.

The Committee members agreed they would wait for better data as to the current vehicle traffic in this area before discussing it again.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Dan Carpenter moved to approve the minutes of the September 21st, 2016 meeting as presented. Seconded by Mike Dross. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Next Meetings:

Mike Dipietro indicated the meeting dates for the rest of the year include:

Wednesday, November 16th

Wednesday, December 21st

Adjourn:

Mike Dross moved to adjourn; Eva Komaridis seconded the motion. All were in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.