

UNAPPROVED

Town of Auburn Highway Safety Committee May 21, 2014

Present: Mr. Mike Dipietro, Chairman; Police Representative, Lt. Ray Pelton; Mr. Rick Eaton, Selectman; Mr. Mike Dross and Mrs. Eva Komardais. Also attending were Auburn residents Mr. Dean Dyche, Mr. Steve Perira, Ms. Margaret Flinton and Ms. Audrey Trickett. Mrs. Helen Hiltz was recording minutes.

Old Business

Steam Mill Road Speeding

Lt. Ray Pelton noted that the speed trailer was placed in the Steam Mill Road area for two, four day intervals during the last month. One interval of time was during the week. The other timeframe included a week-end. There was a count of 364 cars during the week and 451 cars during the week-end period. The average speed was recorded at between 29 mph and 36 MPH. One car was recorded at 51 MPH at 9:30 PM. Police officers stationed in the area recorded average speeds of between 30 MPH and 37 MPH. Residents Dean Dyche, Steve Perira and Margaret Flinton made the point that, while the majority of the vehicles may not be speeding, the speed limit is excessive for a heavily populated, residential neighborhood. Mr. Mike Dipietro stated that he confirmed that the road was built to accommodate the 35 MPH speed limit. He noted that the residents may want to consider visiting the planning board with their concerns as well. The residents asked that a speed reduction to 30 MPH be considered for the neighborhood as a test case. Mr. Rick Eaton stated that only the Board of Selectmen could change speed limits in town. Mr. Eaton proposed that more "children playing" and speed signs be placed on the street. He also suggested that the Highway Safety Committee consider a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to reduce the speed to 30 MPH as a test case.

There was a discussion on other areas of town, such as Lovers Lane, etc. where excessive speed may become an issue in the future. Lt. Pelton noted that Manchester has adopted a system that has radar units on speed limit signs. The units could be moved from one area to another if needed. Lt. Pelton will investigate the cost of the units.

Mr. Mike Dross noted that stop lines in town have not been painted by the town. There are areas where a developer may have put down stop lines.

Mr. Dipietro noted that traffic counts will commence in the next couple of weeks. Areas designated include Steam Mill Road and Lovers Lane.

Lt. Ray Pelton made a motion to recommend a reduction to a 30 MPH speed limit in the Wethersfield neighborhood. Mr. Mike Dross 2nd the motion. All in favor. Mrs. Hiltz will forward the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen.

New Business

An Auburn resident requested that a flashing light be placed at the intersection (four corners at

junction) in town. It was noted that the road is a state road and the town can only make recommendations to the state.

The Highway Safety Committee recommends that the Board of Selectmen formally request a flashing light be placed at the intersection. There have been numerous close call incidents.

Road Agent Report

Mr. Mike Dross, Road Agent, reported that his crew is working on repairing guardrails, doing ditches and putting gravel on Depot Road. They will also be removing dead trees and limbs with the bucket truck. Reconstruction of the main road in Margate will be starting soon. Mr. Dross noted that speed limit signs and road signs are disappearing. They will now start to drill, bolt, and grease signs to stop removal.

Police Report

Lt. Ray Pelton reported that there were 7 accidents in the past month. There were 2 DWI arrests. The DWI patrols will start in June. The 101 corridor grant has been cancelled.

The April 16th and April 23rd meeting minutes were reviewed.

Lt. Ray Pelton moved to accept the meeting minutes. Mr. Mike Dross 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Mr. Mike Dross made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50. Mrs. Eva Komaradais 2nd the motion. All in favor.