



## HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 24, 2013

1:00 PM

POLICE DEPARTMENT –  
BRAD CROSS ROOM

Attendees: Chief Mark E. Doyle, Kyle Fox, Bob L’Heureux, Paul Konieczka, Norman Peppin, Tim Thompson and Claire Rioux.

Excused Absent: Finlay Rothhaus, . Fran L’Heureux, Tom Touseau, Glenn Wallace, Chief Michael Currier (came in late after meeting, discussed meeting with Chief Doyle)

Chairman Doyle called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Chairman Doyle called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ***Meeting Minutes:***

A motion to approve the minutes of April 11, 2013, was made by Kyle Fox and seconded Bob L’Heureux with the following amendments.

Pg. 10 Acronym for ITRAC: Intergrading Transportation and Community Planning

Pg. 16 Acronym for MUTCD: Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices

Abstained, Paul Konieczka and Tim Thompson. 4-0-2

***Comments from the Press and Public:*** None

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

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- ***Request submitted by Jennifer Page, 3 Nichols Lane, Merrimack, regarding placing a crosswalk from Bramber Estates to Lilac Ct. (on Bedford Rd)/ Chairman Chief Doyle***

### **Chairman Chief Doyle**

Jennifer Page was unable to make the meeting. I will keep her informed of the outcome of today’s meeting.

**Kyle Fox**

The number of children using the crosswalk in that area has remained consistent. should the number increase in the future, the crosswalk will be taken under consideration.`

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

I visited the area and found there is a crosswalk in front of the church without sidewalks. Also where Bramber Road comes out, it is an offset. I am assuming, that may be the area, in which Ms. Page is referring to.

Kyle, Is there any requirement that sidewalks have to be between a crosswalk?

**Kyle Fox**

I do not think there is a requirement.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

We will hold off on this agenda item, giving Ms. Page another chance to discuss this with the committee.

- *Update regarding Chapel Lane (meeting on June 19, 2012) whether this area is passable for fire apparatus if vehicles are parked on the street/ Chief Currier*

Recap: Mr. White is unable to back out of his driveway when the Church, across the street from his property, has functions. During many of the functions the church will place traffic cones which reduced the problem. Unfortunately, this is not done for all functions. Another concern, vehicles are parked on both sides of the street and this may hinder the ability for fire apparatus to pass through, therefore creating a situation whereby emergency vehicles cannot pass through.

**Action Item**

Chief Doyle will make contact with Chief Currier and they will visit the area to see if this is a continuing problem.

- *Railroad Ave and Rt. 3. Stop sign/ Kyle Fox*

**Kyle Fox**

Adam Jacobs and I went to the site in question. We have found that the stop sign height is within code. This particular location is difficult; you have a live road coming on to DW. When

we paved the area a couple of years ago, a white line was painted. Bear in mind when the line is repainted, the edge will be moved out in hopes to train drivers for that particular intersection. As far as the missing stop bar; it will be installed in warmer weather. The original work was done in the winter months and it was too cold to install.

**Norm Peppin**

The manner in which people drive in that area may require installation of a second stop sign.

**Kyle Fox**

No, the sign would have to be placed on the wrong side of the road.

**Bob L'Heureux**

Where the stop line is painted, are you going to paint the work stop?

**Kyle Fox**

Not typically.

- *Data from directed patrol and enforcement action re: Heron Cove in the area of Manchester Street Bridge*

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

Update:

Herron Cove residents had concerns regarding people climbing over the fence, or making their way on to the property to gain access by the back of the property. Between Herron Cove and Manchester St. we conducted about 12 directed patrols finding no problems at all. We also did an analysis on and around Herron Cove to see if there were suspicious vehicles, calls etc. We had none. The Merrimack Police Department received a handful of calls for service, however no calls for suspicious person or vehicle. From our perspective, there is no problem in that area regarding traffic or parking being a problem on Manchester St.

Kyle have you heard anything different?

**Kyle Fox**

I have not.

### **Chairman Chief Doyle**

I know the Manchester St. Bridge is on the list to be repaired. If there is any change once the bridge is repaired, we will re-address this issue. The dynamics may change.

### **Action Item**

Copy of the minutes will be sent to the Herron Cove Board, regarding our findings on Herron Cove and Manchester St.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

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- *Realignment of Patten Road at Baboosic Lake Road intersection/ Kyle Fox*

### **Kyle Fox**

Just wanted to let everyone know about a project being worked on this summer which is part of our Townwide Pavement Program. The department has been fixing problem intersections, throughout the years, notably Joppa Road Intersection, Turkey Hill, Wilson Hill, and Bedford Rd. This year we are going to work on the alignment of Pattern Road. It is a wide intersection; we want to narrow that area to make it a more appropriate intersection. The “Y” intersection will be changed and become at “T” style intersection. A condition exists when someone coming east, making a left hand turn into the northern leg at Pattern Road or someone heading west taking a right hand turn into the eastern leg, could result in a collision. Many accidents in this area are intersection related. We are hoping that this project will take place this summer; it is dependent on the utilities. They will be removing the pole and replace that pole with 2 new poles to accommodate the span.

### **Chairman Chief Doyle**

Will the chunk of pavement be removed on the corner of the northwest side?

### **Kyle Fox**

It will be removed on both sides. The light gray line (see diagram) out to the dark black line is where the pavement will be reduced. This also gives us credit when we re-do the storm water permit. The improvements will also simplify our winter maintenance, this is a win-win situation.

### **Chairman Chief Doyle**

We have had many issues in that area; this will be an improvement, and a much safer design.

**Kyle Fox**

From a logistics stand point, the first step will be to shut-off the western leg. Traffic will be coming straight out at that point. There will be temporary pavement in the triangle east of the telephone pole to allow traffic to continue while the placement of the new telephone poles are completed. The message board will be placed in this area at least a week in advance.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

When will you be starting the project?

**Kyle Fox**

We are coordinating with the utilities, we do not know at this point.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

Just let us know in advance and we will do our part in getting the word out.

**Bob L'Heureux**

Who pays for these poles?

**Kyle Fox**

The utility company, there are 3 utilities involved, Public Service, Fairpoint and Comcast.

This also addresses Item 2

- Request submitted by Mr. & Mrs. Goddard , 7 Patten Rd., Merrimack, regarding yield signs at the intersections of Baboosic Lake Rd. and Patten Rd. due to cars and school buses not yielding. / Kyle Fox.

**Other BUSINESS:**

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- *Twardowski Field*

**Bob L'Heureux**

A couple of years ago we addressed a traffic situation at Twardowski Field, where a very bad accident occurred. Did the accident have anything to do with the field?

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

No it did not. The cause of the accident was determined to be that the pick-up truck that was traveling west, had taken a left onto the field. The truck did not yield the right of the way to the motorcycle coming east. This accident had nothing to do with the sight line. Interestingly, the

motorcycle did not have a full time headlight on. We have not had any major accidents there for a while.

- *ADA Compliance*

**Bob L'Heureux**

Another concern I have is the Tractor Supply parking lot. The parking lot looks great but the at this time the handicap spots are not up to code.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

I think this may be a code enforcement issue.

**Bob L'Heureux**

At this point in time, there is only one legal handicap parking spot. The handicap symbol is painted on the ground but it is not enforceable.

**Norm Peppin**

In order to make these parking spots compliant more signs are needed.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

What we do (police department) is enforce the handicap violation piece. We have to get to the point where the signs are compliant. This may be a code enforcement issue.

**Bob L'Heureux**

This compliance issue has to be brought to the attention of the business.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

Office Kelleher spoke to the owners of the stores.

**Bob L'Heureux**

Yes, I did receive Office Kelleher's email and the owners did everything that was asked of them.

**Norm Peppin**

Unfortunately, that was not enough.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

We will have Officer Kelleher contact the management company and notify them that they still need to erect the signs.

**Bob L'Heureux**

My suggestion, is before you do that, more research needs to be done. (signs have to be 60inches from the ground, from the bottom of the sign.)

**Tim Thompson**

Due to the age of that sight, I can tell you it will not comply with today's ADA requirements. I will look into this further.

**Action Item**

Tim Thompson will look into regulations pertaining to the Tractor Supply parking lot. He will then report the findings back to the committee.

- *Manchester St Project Update*

**Kyle Fox**

Update regarding the Manchester St. project. The Manchester St. project is currently out to bid. Bald eagles were found nesting in the area, a petition currently is being filed. At this time there is no reason to believe that this project will not move forward.

**Chairman Chief Doyle**

Our next meeting will be sometime in the fall, unless there is an agenda item that needs to be addressed sooner.

All present were in agreement.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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*There being no further business, the meeting was voted to adjourn on a motion made by Bob L'Heureux and seconded by Norm Peppin. Motion carries 6-0-0.*

Meeting Adjourned 2pm