

**BRATTLEBORO TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2013
8:30AM – SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM
MINUTES**

Members present: Interim Town Manager Patrick Moreland, Public Works Director Steve Barrett, Fire Chief Mike Bucossi, Planning Services Director Rod Francis, Police Chief Gene Wrinn, School Representative Betsy Gentile, and Chamber Representative Leo Schiff.

Selectboard representative present: None.

Other staff members present: Police Captain Mike Fitzgerald and Highway/Utilities Superintendent Hannah O'Connell.

Others present: Terry A. Carter and others who did not sign the attendance sheet.

Interim Town Manager Moreland called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

MOTION BY BETSY GENTILE, AND SECONDED BY STEVE BARRETT, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 26. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Participation - None.

Ongoing Projects – Updates:

South Street – Speed Signage and Enforcement. Barrett said that he drove the length of South Street, which was approximately 1.9 miles, and found two speed limit signs posted at the top of hill coming from Guilford, and speed limit signs at the bottom of the hill on both sides of the street by the Fire Department. He said that in his opinion the road was clearly marked with speed signs in appropriate locations. He said that some residents previously reported that a sign had been knocked down but he did not find where a sign was missing although he said he would look into it further. Chief Wrinn said there had been one police stop on South Street in the last two months and that it was not a heavily travelled road. He said that he would keep South Street on a patrol list but that Police Department resources were being utilized in other locations, such as Upper Dummerston Road during the I-91 bridge construction. There was some discussion by the Committee about signage on the South Street. No action was taken.

Loading Zones – Main Street. Moreland said he reviewed the ordinances regarding loading zones on Main Street. He had a map prepared by Public Works designating the various loading zones downtown and said that he would meet with Jacob Roberts from Building a Better Brattleboro (BaBB) and downtown merchants to gather more information by the January Committee meeting. Chief Wrinn asked that the loading zone in front of 75 Elliot Street be re-examined as it was located directly across from the Transportation Center entrance/exit and on a cross walk so that traffic would back up when that loading zone was being used. There was discussion by the Committee about the loading zone in front of 81 Main Street including utilizing a parking space in the front of the loading zone to move the loading zone forward and keep the driveway clear. There was further discussion about other downtown loading zones, the ordinances, and conflicting addresses. Moreland asked for additional information from Parking Enforcement regarding parking around loading zones and from the Police Department regarding traffic flow for the January Committee meeting.

Other Business – Schiff noted there had been a recent pedestrian fatality at the Western Avenue and Union Hill intersection, and he asked as part of the monthly agenda that the Committee be furnished with a report of incidents during the past month that reflect pedestrian and bicycle accidents and safety. The Committee agreed to add that as part of each meeting. Gentile asked for an update on the improvements to the Union Hill/ Western Avenue intersection. O'Connell said that a grant from VTrans to improve the intersection had been awarded and that the requirements of the grant were very rigorous. She said that a RFP for engineering services was out for bid and that bids were due January 8, 2014. She said that she had a site meeting on Thursday, and that public meetings would be coordinated to allow the public and

other organizations, such as Safe Streets, to review and comment on the plans. Gentile suggested that a campaign be implemented to inform the public about the Traffic Calming Plan.

Terry Carter inquired whether the funds requested by the Committee to purchase a radar sign or other traffic calming devices was still in next year's budget. She expressed frustration about the length of time it takes for action to be implemented around pedestrian safety. She said that she was a citizen who was trying to make a difference and had been attending meetings for over a year expressing her concerns about pedestrian safety on Putney Road in the area by Harris Avenue but no action had been taken. She suggested adding more striping on the road in that area.

There was some discussion by the Committee about the pedestrian accident and Carter's concerns.

There was no further business.

MOTION BY BETSY GENTILE AT 9:00AM TO ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.