



TOWN OF WINDHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

POST OFFICE BOX 120, 3 NORTH LOWELL ROAD, WINDHAM NH 03087-0120

HIGHWAY SAFETY MEETING - August 3, 2005

On August 3, 2005, the Department Heads discussed the following requests for highway safety improvements and made the following recommendations.

Attendance: David Sullivan, Al Turner, Thomas McPherson (for Don Messier), Gerry Lewis, and Jack McCartney were in attendance. Meeting began at 9:00 am.

HIGHWAY SAFETY ISSUES:

Griffin Park Parking -

The Committee met with Bruce Breton to review a proposal for additional parking being considered to be constructed on a property across from Griffin Park at the corner of Horseshoe Road and Range Road.

The Committee comments included: (1) to eliminate one of two entrances onto Horseshoe Road, the one to be eliminated being closest to Range Road; (2) to have sidewalks installed on both sides of Range Road in front of Griffin Park with a crosswalk between the Park and the proposed parking area; (3) to install down directional lighting in the parking area; and (4) to utilize the materials from the area to be cleared for parking to create a landscape barrier between the parking area and abutting properties.

Mr. Breton advised that a new plan was being finalized showing both the proposed parking as well as its relationship to the Griffin Park parcel. Once other issues are worked out, the proposal will go before the Board of Selectmen and/or Planning Board as applicable.

PLANNING BOARD PLANS:

Clarke Farm Subdivision - Faith Road.

The Committee reviewed plans to construct a +/- 25 lot subdivision off of Faith Road. Discussion included need for access to Route 111, interior access for emergency services, possibility of a round-about or other traffic calming measures at the subdivision's proposed intersection and Faith Road.

Mr. McPherson moved to recommend that no additional access be considered from the subdivision onto Route 111, but instead to consider connecting the two proposed cul-de-sac roads named Hanover and Dover Road, thus eliminating the cul-de-sacs. The reasoning for this is to eliminate safety concerns which are caused by having another connection to Route 111 while providing better interior access through the subdivision for emergency response vehicles. By connecting the two roads suggested, emergency departments will have alternative access points to the properties within the subdivision without the need for a connection to Route 111. Mr. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Lewis moved to recommend against the installation of four way stop signs at the intersection of Faith, Ridgemont, and the proposed Crowell Road as stop signs should not be used as a speed deterrent. Mr. McPherson seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Lewis moved to recommend that the Planning Board consider other traffic calming measures for the proposed intersection at Faith Road other than speed signs. Mr. McPherson seconded. Passed 4-1 with Mr. McCartney opposed.

Mr. Lewis moved to recommend that the Planning Board consider addressing the left turn lane turning movement from Route 111 to Faith Road. Mr. McPherson seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mr. McCartney moved to recommend that the name Baxter Road not be considered as too many roads in town have similarly sounding names (Barker and Baker). Mr. McPherson seconded. Passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY SAFETY ISSUES:

Middle Schools-School Department.

- The following request was received
 - Installation of stop signs at Golden Brook School and Center Middle School drives.

The Committee had previously reviewed this request and had sought input from Town Counsel as to the Town's ability to approve same. Based on advice from Counsel that the Town can regulate how private roads and driveways intersect with town roads (RSA 236:13), Mr. McPherson moved to recommend that the Selectmen approve such signage provided they are properly placed and are of legal size. Mr. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.

Armstrong Road.

- The following requests were received.
 - Reduce speed limits and install new signs indicating the new speed limit.
 - Install Slow Children signs
 - Possibly install speed bumps

This request is still pending results of speed surveys to be conducted by the Police Department.

Easy Street

- The following requests were received.
 - Concern for speeds on Easy Street by residents.
 - Concerns for drivers passing school buses
 - Concerns for drivers veering across center lane.

This request is still pending results of speed surveys to be conducted by the Police Department.

Meetinghouse and Easy Street Interection

The Committee discussed striping of Meetinghouse Road and Easy Street due to concerns expressed that traffic tends to cross the center of the road, particularly near the intersection of these two roads. Mr. McPherson moved to recommend the Selectmen approve installing a double stripe for the entire length of Meetinghouse Road as well as 150'+ up Easy Street from its intersection with Meetinghouse Road. Mr. Turner seconded. Passed unanimously.

High School Project

The Committee discussed the proposed high school and access to same. The Committee was unanimous in its opinion that the access road should be built to full town standards and designed for top quality construction to avoid future cost issues to the town.

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