

Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes
Bolton, Massachusetts
January 25, 2023

Members present: Mary Ciummo, Michael Keller, Shandy Carpenter, and Steve McKeown.

The meeting was held online via Zoom and called to order at 7:15 p.m. The November 22, 2022, meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. The January 11, 2023, meeting was cancelled due to zoom problems.

Annual Report: the Committee reviewed the 2022 Annual Report and voted unanimously to approve it. May will submit it to the Town Secretary.

Long Hill Road speed enforcement issue: the Committee discussed Chief Nelson's request for our input in traffic calming recommendations for this road. It was precipitated by a resident's concern about aggressive traffic speeds. The Chief has sent out directed traffic enforcement patrols on Long Hill Rd. when there are available officers; however, this is difficult to do all the time, as there are only two officers per shift for the whole town. Long Hill is a big cut through road that generates a lot of traffic, and Chief Nelson has made efforts in the past to slow traffic down by adding six 25mph and two 20mph signs, and a solar radar sign that records traffic data was installed on the road. The Committee reviewed data from the radar sign for March to December of last year. What was most surprising was that the majority of vehicles driving over the posted speed limits. Some traffic calming measures already exist on this road: it has safe posted speed limits, a radar speed sign, and enforcement, when possible. Other calming measures such as speed humps/tables, speed cushions, chicanes/curbs, extensions/islands, traffic circles, and lane narrowing would be difficult to install on our rural roads. The only thing that we could recommend is more enforcement, which is difficult at the moment. We questioned if the numbers indicated on the speed limit violations column, indicate the actual number of vehicles pulled over and given a ticket. Mary will contact Chief Nelson with our input.

368 S. Bolton Road Driveway sight line issue: a resident concern about near miss accidents and speeding at the curve on S. Bolton Rd. across from Wheeler Rd. near the driveway at #368 was made back in November. There is no stop sign at Wheeler Rd. A sight visit of the driveway was made by some Committee members, one Committee member was familiar with that driveway having driven on it many times, and a photo of the driveway intersecting with S. Bolton Rd. was

reviewed. The Committee agreed that sight lines were good in both directions and did not feel that a hidden drive sign was necessary.

Prioritization Report review and meeting with Town Planner: the Committee finalized its review of the Prioritization Report projects to be sent to the Town Planner and has agreed to meet with him on March 22nd at 6:15.

November Main Street speed data: It was noted that speed averages from the Main Street speed signs remain consisted year to year.

Master Plan update: the Master Plan committee has hired consultants and are in the process of updating the process moving forward.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Minutes submitted Mary Ciummo