

Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes
Bolton, Massachusetts
May 10, 2023

Members present: Mary Ciummo, Michael Keller, Shandy Carpenter, Steve McKeown.
Guest: Eric Hansen.

The meeting was held online via Zoom and called to order at 7:00 p.m. The April 12, 2023, meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. The April 26 meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Follow-up of meeting with Police Chief and DPW Director: The Committee felt that the meeting on April 12 was productive. Noted was surprise over the need to secure extra funding, due to increased costs, for the Main/Green/Forbush Roads roundabout.

S. Bolton/Spectacle Hill stop sign evaluations: Mary reported to the Committee on the discussion of the signs at the Selectboard's April 27 meeting. Due to objections from a resident, the Selectboard decided to delay their decision and conduct a site visit to evaluate the situation. Yesterday (May 9), the Selectboard and the Police Chief did the site visit and will report their findings and decide as to whether to keep the signs in place at their May 11th meeting. At our meeting, resident Eric Hansen spoke out against the signs, citing the lack of accidents at this intersection and the misuse of stop signs to slow traffic. He was also critical of the Town's lack of notification to the public when road changes are planned. The Committee agreed that stop signs should not be used for speed control, but sight line obstructions, pedestrian and cyclist usage, a recent two-car accident on S. Bolton Road, and two new residential developments justified the placement of the signs.

Request for No Parking Zone sign on Main Street: Randy Has drafted a memo to codify a no parking zone on the north side of Main Street between the Houghton Building and the driveway to the Common. Chief Nelson has given his approval, and Randy would like the Committee to review the memo and vote on it. To justify the need for the sign, Article V of Bolton's Traffic Rules and Order was cited that prohibits parking at a crosswalk, within 20 feet of an intersection, in front of a private driveway, and where parking will not leave a clear and unobstructed lane 10 feet wide for passing traffic. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the memo. Mary will notify Randy of our vote.

Meeting with Town Planner: rescheduled to May 24th at 6:00 p.m. The Committee will schedule a meeting with Don Lowe next.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Minutes submitted Mary Ciummo