

## Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes

Bolton, Massachusetts

Zoom Meeting

August 11, 2020

**Members present via Zoom:** Mary Ciummo, Michael Keller, and Holly Lauer. Leslie Breeze logged on but was unable to participate because of technical difficulties. Guest: Bolton resident Joshua Etzey

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM.

The minutes of March 11, 2020 were reviewed and approved.

**Resident concern:** Josh Etzey spoke of traffic concerns in the area of Wattaquadock and Main Streets. He was pleased to see the additions and improvement to sidewalks in the area, but had safety concerns over speed limits on Main Street and truck use of Wattaquadock. He relayed an incident where gridlock was created from a truck turning at the intersection requiring police involvement to get traffic moving again. He also mentioned there being approximately 14 children that will be walking to Florence Sawyer School from the neighborhood. His safety concerns for the kids lead him to questions about speed limits. The committee expressed that we actively support and are pursuing both a reduced speed in the center of town and a truck exclusion for Wattaquadock Hill Road. Mr. Etzey may write to Representative Kate Hogan about his concerns in the hopes that she can help bring the issue up at the state level.

**June radar speed sign data:** Data is consistent April, May, and June, but notably higher than the same months in 2019. Speeds were up everywhere with reduced cars on the road.

	April	May	June
sign data 2019	28 mph	28 mph	28 mph
sign data 2020	30 mph	30 mph	29 mph
Decreased traffic vol. from normal in 2020	121,413 less	80,710 less	25,520 less vehicles

**Master Plan Update:** In looking at the citizen survey results it is clear many would like to have more sidewalks in the community and there are concerns over traffic and safety on the roadways. Some members on the Master Plan committee are looking into Mart Van for the Council on Aging and could it be doing more in our community as it does in others. Mary's group will be presenting their findings to the Master Plan committee on the last Thursday in August.

**DPW Update:** We are still waiting on work of what is happening with the Director of the DPW. The committee is hoping to know more about the situation in the coming week.

**Future of the Committee:** There are concerns about the future of this committee as our numbers have shrunk and some may wish to retire from it. There is a need for more members.

Minutes submitted by Holly Lauer.