**Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes**Bolton, Massachusetts
Zoom Meeting
December 9, 2020

**Members present via Zoom**: Mary Ciummo, Michael Keller, Leslie Breeze and Holly Lauer. Guest: Bolton resident Kelsey DeCarolis

The meeting was called to order at 6:46 PM.

The minutes of Oct 28, 2020 were reviewed and approved.

**Resident safety concern**: Kelsey DeCarolis is a Main Street resident (near Bolton Spring Farms) with concerns about traffic speeds and difficulties in pulling out of her driveway. A couple of committee members had looked at the site and found there were no line of site issues associated with the driveway. The issue is the high speed limit set for that area and potential speeders. The committee explained the process involved in setting and changing speed limits and how it can lead to even higher posted speeds. It was suggested that Ms. DeCarolis fill out the police department form available online expressing her concerns with the area. This will bring the potential problem area to the department’s attention.

**Schedule Meeting with Randy Heglin, new DPW Director:** Mary sent the PWSC description to Randy to let him know about the committee and its directives. She informed him about Kelsey DeCarolis’s complaint and that we would be meeting with her. She asked about the small regulatory speed signs that have appeared around town and who is paying for them and putting them up. We will reach out to him to attend our next meeting.

**FY22 budget requests**: Our $9100 is in the DPW budget. Will discuss our budget when we meet with Randy.

**Sign Replacements:** The anticipated Sugar Road 20-mph near Houghton farms and another 30-mph sign have been put in place.

**Recommendation for replacing 4 warning signs on 117W by Sampson:** There are four signs in a row with poor reflectivity: Committee would like to eliminate some of the signs to reduce over-signage issues. The particular sign we would like, a turn with a cross street is not in the MUTCD. Another issue we will discuss with Randy when we can meet.

**October speed data:** Looking at the data on Main (near 626) Sept. to Oct., peak hour is one hour later. Traffic volume is almost back to normal pre-Covid-19. Data indicates speeds are up by Still River.

**Future of this Committee:** There are concerns PWSC has had the same members for an extended period of time. There was discussion about a Stow Independent front-page article from October 28, 2020. The article was about a traffic safety advisory committee whose members are town officials as well as citizens. Mary is going to find out more about the committee and if it is something Bolton should consider as an alternative to PWSC.

Minutes submitted by Holly Lauer.