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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
275 Douglas Street
UXBRIDGE, MA 01569

Received by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: November 7, 2013
MEETING LOCATION: Uxbridge Police Department

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeffrey Lourie Uxbridge Police Department
Benn Sherman Uxbridge Department of Public Works
Bill Kessler Uxbridge Fire Department

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sean Hendricks Uxbridge Town Manager
Kevin Carney Uxbridge Public Schools

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Peter Emerick Uxbridge Police Department
Jeanne Daley Recording secretary PSC
Holly Gallerani Uxbridge 1st Holiday Night
Tom Bellacqua Uxbridge 1st Holiday Night
Jen Modica Uxbridge B.O.S

CALLED TO ORDER: 9:30 AM

OLD BUSINESS:

#1 Approval of minutes:

No quorum for the September 11, 2013 meeting.

**** Motion made by Bill Kessler to accept the October 3, 2013 minutes as amended, seconded by Peter Emerick. Motion Carried 3-0-1 Jeffrey Lourie abstained, was not present for the October 3, 2013 meeting.**

NEW BUSINESS:

#4. 1st Holiday Night Bonfire at Pout Pond 12-04-2013.

Uxbridge 1st Holiday Night committee members addressed the Public Safety on the upcoming event which will be held on December 4, 2013. The event will begin at 5:00 pm and end at 8 pm. There is no charge for this event and there is no rain date.

Areas will be roped off for safety; there will be three lights set up; the first at the path, second in parking lot, third end of road. They are hoping to put all the cars in the Pout Pond lot with no parking in the field and electronic signs will be in place letting people know.

Bill Kessler will be bringing the tanker to the field. Benn Sherman will have extra barrels at the fields. Peter Emerick inquired about the gravel pit side of the fields and will there be a fence? Tom Bellacqua did say there would be tape up in those areas. Peter Emerick had a concern about the parking and pedestrian traffic. There will be lighting between gates so that the vehicles will see any pedestrians walking in that area and it will

be lit for pedestrian safety. There is a trail between the field and parking lot at Pout Pond, Tom Bellacqua said that they will be placing cones to discourage use due to safety reasons.

There will be no parking 25 feet before the entry way to the field and 25 feet beyond the entrance to Pout Pond. They will designate this by putting cones up along the roadway. Peter Emerick also informed the 1st Holiday Night Committee that they need to notify the abutters about this event.

Sean needs to get Bill permission to get a ceremonial Bon Fire Permit.

Jeffrey Lourie wants an officer present for security.

Conservation Committee approved this event at their meeting on Monday, November 4th with a vote of 3-0.

Agreement that there will be no parking within 25 feet of both entrances on South side of West River Road. Permit for ceremonial Bonfire to be obtained.

***** Motion by Bill Kessler that the Public Safety Committee is in agreement with the Bon Fire subject to requirements of Police, Fire and Department of Public Works, seconded by Jeffrey Lourie. Motion carried 3-0.**

OLD BUSINESS:

2.Speed limit sign changed – Mendon St. data report.

Speed data both areas east and west bound traffic.

West side showed average speed for the week at 40 Miles per hour (mph) or lower with 26 mph being the average speed.

8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. over 50 vehicles in violation for that area with 2 vehicles doing between 61 – 70 mph one at 8:59 a.m. and the second at 9:59 a.m.

Police log on both those days showed no police or fire calls on that day during that time.

Data shows that 65% of vehicles for that week were traveling between the posted speed limit or lower on the West bound side of the street.

East bound side of the street showed that between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. 2 vehicles were traveling between 61 – 70 m.p.h. In conclusion the data shows there is an issue with traffic on the West bound travel side of Mendon St. and the officer did not notice any noise or see any defect in the roadway. The neighbors were concern about the East bound side of traffic. The officers have been made aware of the issues on the West bound side and there is an increase in traffic enforcement in that area. Benn Sherman said there was more of an emphasis on big trucks. Peter Emerick said that speeds are down during school times and that Saturday evenings and weekends are not an issue.

Benn Sherman to send a letter to the resident at 89 Mendon St. letting them know that the Public Safety Committee recommends increased presence of police in that area and there will be targeted enforcement. Benn to inform them if they are not satisfied to please contact the Police Chief.

3.Stop sign on Old West St.

This was discussed and Benn Sherman said a stop sign is warranted for West St. onto Paine St.

4.Landry Lane Safety Issue.

Average speed in that area is 18.2 m.p.h. in a 35 m.p.h. zones. The main concern was speed with a line of site issue to allow time to enter into traffic.

The data that was taken does not support any action to identify a speed problem north bound traffic at Landry Lane looking south or site issue. Peter Emerick did not feel there was any additional need for signage in that area.

Benn Sherman would like to put two “intersection ahead” signs on each approach of Landry Lane and Richardson St.

***** Motion by Bill Kessler that the Public Safety Committee recommends to the Board of Selectmen that an intersection ahead warning sign be placed on both sides of Richardson Street approaching Landry Lane seconded by Jeffrey Lourie. Motion carried 3-0**

5.Town Hall security update

Peter Emerick updated the Public Safety Committee members letting them know that the grant was approved for the entire town network.

6. Restriping of parking spaces in front of Town Hall

Benn Sherman informed the Public Safety Committee that the “No Parking” will come down today. The painting and modifications to remove 1 parking space by the hydrant has been completed and they need to come out and redo the markings.

7. Identifying and codifying traffic management.

There is no policy with the Board of Selectmen on the signage. Benn Sherman will print out and identify where all signs are. Peter Emerick said the BOS should revote on the revised list so the Public Safety Committee can have a current list. There is also restricted parking on N. Main St. and sections of Mendon St. that were approved by the Board of Selectmen but were never posted. The East Bound side of Mendon St. was the concern of neighbors. The officers have been made aware of the complaints and the officer’s will increase traffic enforcement for the west bound area.

Winter Parking ban is in effect beginning December 1, and the fee is \$10.

This will remain on for update.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Speed limit sign on Hazel St.

Peter Emerick to gather data to verify and bring it before the Committee at the next meeting.

2. Street naming policy/regulation.

A Street naming policy should be written and the Board of Selectmen should have a process that includes the Public Safety Committee.

Benn to send a memo to the Board of Selectmen. This will remain on for a follow up from Sean Hendricks. The project should go through Planning Board to make sure street names are approved before going to registry for recording. Bill Kessler said that the Building Dept. is trying to push something through at this time.

3. King Street access.

Peter Emerick questioned if it was a public way. In order to close it off it has to be an official action by the by the Board of Selectmen. It can be closed but not officially abandoned unless it goes to town meeting. Peter Emerick questioned if Board of Selectmen can restrict access to a Public way? If they go through town counsel they could. It is a dangerous road and the town has a liability. Board of Selectmen need to limit the access to King St.

***** Motion by Jeffrey Lourie that the Public Safety committee recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they take action in consideration to limiting access on King St., seconded by Bill Kessler. Motion carried 3 – 0.**

5. High St. / Richardson St.

Benn Sherman identified a site distance issue there. There are 2 minor roads intersecting with a site distance factor which result in endangerment and traffic flow. Peter Emerick and Benn Sherman will come back with traffic data at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. Next meeting scheduled for December 5, 2013.

UXBRIDGE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES ACCEPTED

January 9, 2014

MEMBERS:







