Town of Wareham BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS Tuesday, May 26, 2015

MINUTES

Location: The Wareham Board of Road Commissioners meeting of May 26, 2015 was held in Room 27 of Memorial Town Hall.

Members Present: Member Joseph Cardoza, Member David Menard, Member David Pichette, Recording Secretary John McGonnell and Member Howard Smith. Also present: Various residents and a member of the press. (Chairman Sara Forrest arrived at 4:17 p.m. Wareham Harbormaster Garry Buckminster was present for part of the meeting.)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by RS McGonnell, acting as Chairman Pro Tem until the arrival of Chairman Forrest. New member, Howard Smith, was welcomed by the Board.

Minutes: The Minutes of the Board of Road Commissioners meeting held on February 10, 2015 were reviewed and approved 4-0-1.

New Business:

Plymouth Road Parking: A resident of Plymouth Road appeared and spoke of issues with periodic and all-night parking at the end of Plymouth Road with occupants entering and exiting the nearby wooded area. She stated she has called this to the attention of the Wareham Police Department, and they suggested that the Board of Road Commissioners be contacted and possibly create a no-parking zone in the area. After discussion, the Board wished to obtain the input of the Police Department, and the matter will be put on for discussion at the June 9, 2015 meeting.

Parking on 12th Street, Onset: Discussion was had regarding the letter of the Onset Fire Department concerning parking on 12th Street in Onset. Chairman Forrest advised that a hearing should be held regarding this issue with residents and property owners being advised of possible changes, and the matter will be placed on the Agenda for the June 9, 2015 meeting.

Wankinquoah Avenue/Oceanside Drive: The resident of 7 Oceanside Drive complained that in his 35 years at this address, the street name and numbers have been changed on three occasions. He urged that no further changes be made because of public safety issues. He was advised by the Board that the change was State mandated, and the Board has no choice in the matter. A motion was made by Chairman Forrest, seconded by Member Cardoza, to implement the changes as directed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Vote: 6-0-0.

Parking on Union Street, Onset: A brief discussion was held with an area resident regarding prior noparking posting of Union Street and current parking congestion problems. Chairman Forrest advised that a hearing should be held regarding this issue with residents and property owners being advised of possible changes, and the matter will be placed on the Agenda for the June 9, 2015 meeting.

Request for Stop Sign at Fearing Hill and Main Street: Discussion was held relative to a resident's request for an additional stop sign at the Main Street/Fearing Hill intersection. Following the discussion, it was agreed that the current Stop sign on Fearing Hill is sufficient, and RS McGonnell made a motion to make no changes. Seconded by Member Cardoza. Vote: 6-0-0.

Old Business:

Board Vacancies and Applicants: The Board is now at full membership. There are no current vacancies.

Employee Parking Lot, Onset: Chairman Forrest indicated she would re-draft a letter to the Wareham Board of Selectmen supporting employee-only parking on town-owned land off Waban Avenue at the rear of the Onset Mobile Home Park. Harbormaster Garry Buckminster reported that much of this area has been cleaned up and that he has a flood light available for illumination if needed. The Board voted unanimously to have Chairman Forrest forward the letter to the Board of Selectmen.

Onset Parking Program: On-going issues discussed earlier in the meeting. (See above.)

Other Business:

Onset Avenue Parking Spaces: RS McGonnell relayed a resident's concern about large vehicles parking in the first three angled parking spots (in the vicinity of the cross walk and the Town comfort station) obstructing views and creating a safety hazard when vehicles crossed the center line to pass. The Board agreed this is a safety issue and those spots should be restricted to compact cars and motorcycles only. Member Menard indicated that Municipal Maintenance would change the signage.

Delivery Parking on Onset Avenue from Prospect Avenue to South Boulevard: RS McGonnell relayed a resident's concern that delivery vehicles parking in the no-parking zone between Prospect Avenue and South Boulevard create a safety hazard. Discussion was had that there should be three no-parking signs in that area. One appears to be missing, and another is faded and barely legible. After discussion, it was agreed this matter will be placed on the Agenda for the June 9, 2015 meeting for further input from the Wareham Police Department. Member Menard indicated that much new signage has been acquired for the Onset area and would be installed within the next few weeks.

Endorsement of Don't Trash Wareham: RS McGonnell indicated the Don't Trash Wareham committee is seeking endorsements from various boards, commissions and organizations to support their efforts in cleaning up litter in Wareham and Onset. The Board voted unanimously to support the mission and efforts of this group.

Stop Signs at Main Street and Tobey Road: Chief Walsh had previously expressed concern about these Stop signs. Member Pichette raised concerns that the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Appeals might have mandated the placement of these signs. Because no member of the Police Department could attend this meeting, the matter was tabled until the June 9, 2015 meeting.

Discussion of Three-Way Stop Signs: Discussion was held relative to three-way Stop signs at several intersections in Town. The pros, cons and legalities were all discussed. Chairman Forrest made a motion to remove the two Stop signs on Main Street at Hathaway Road. Seconded by Member Smith. Vote: 6-0-0.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John McGonnell, Recording Secretary

(These Minutes were reviewed and accepted by unanimous vote at the meeting of the Board of Road Commissioners held on June 9, 2015.)