

**Town of Wareham
BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, July 14, 2015**

MINUTES

Location: The Wareham Board of Road Commissioners meeting of July 14, 2015 was held in Room 27 of Memorial Town Hall.

Members Present: Member Joseph Cardoza, Recording Secretary John McGonnell, Vice Chair David Menard and Member Howard Smith. Also present: Selectman Alan Slavin, Wilma Engerman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, residents and a member of the press. Town Administrator Derek Sullivan arrived at 4:30 p.m.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Menard.

Minutes: The Minutes of the Board of Road Commissioners meeting held on June 9, 2015 were reviewed. Motion by Member Smith to accept the Minutes, seconded by Member Cardoza. Vote: 4-0-0.

New Business:

Paper Mill Road – Discussion Regarding Bridge Repair: The Massachusetts DOT intends to rebuild the bridge on Paper Mill Road over the Weweantic River. Member Smith indicated this will result in lengthy road closures and detours to and from West Wareham. The project is anticipated to take one year or longer to complete. Municipal Maintenance Director Menard stated he has received no information from the State regarding this proposed project. Selectman Slavin indicated that the State will make appropriate Town notifications prior to the commencement of the project which is tentatively scheduled for 2016.

County Road – Proposed Improvements/Jurisdiction: Director Menard and Selectman Slavin reported that a request has been made by the Towns of Marion, Rochester and Wareham for the State to take over the roadway and its rebuilding. Recent meetings were held among representatives from the State and the three towns, and it was determined that the proposed take-over and rebuilding would be a long-term project and that the estimated cost of rebuilding the roadway would be five to six million dollars. All of the towns would be required to complete full layouts of the project prior to any work commencing.

Board Vacancy: Sara Forrest did not request reappointment. The vacancy has been entered on the Town's list of board vacancies.

Roadway Markings on Main Street: Member Smith inquired as to line painting on Main Street near the railroad bridge. Director Menard reported that during the recent repainting of lines, it was determined the line-painting equipment was too tall to fit under the railroad bridge, and the lines were scheduled to be repainted with other equipment on July 16, 2015.

Old Business:

Stop Signs at Main Street and Tobey Road: Wilma Engerman of the ZBA reported that the Stop signs were required by the ZBA and erected as a result of a traffic engineering study commissioned by Wal-Mart. That study should be on file with the Town. She commented that her personal feeling is that all Stop signs should remain in place. The removal of the southbound facing Stop sign was initially requested by Police Chief Walsh. Member Smith also felt that this Stop sign should be removed. Recording Secretary McGonnell made a motion to table the matter until the August meeting so the Board members could review and discuss the traffic engineering study. Seconded by Member Cardoza. Vote: 4-0-0.

Delivery Parking on Onset Avenue from Prospect Avenue to South Boulevard: The Board is still awaiting options and a legal opinion from Town Counsel. Motion by Member Cardoza to table the matter until the August meeting. Seconded by Recording Secretary McGonnell. Vote: 4-0-0.

Onset Parking Program: Recording Secretary McGonnell reported on e-mailed comments from residents on the pros and cons of the parking program and safety concerns.


Other Business: There was a brief discussion relative to three items proposed via e-mail by Harbormaster Garry Buckminster regarding parking changes on Highland Avenue, Onset Avenue and South Boulevard. Vice Chairman Menard suggested no action be taken until these items could be reviewed with Harbormaster Buckminster and Chief Waish.

Parking on East Boulevard: John Cornish of Atlantic Boat and Stonebridge Marina spoke about parking issues on East Boulevard. He reported that this is an area with five businesses, but no commercial parking is allowed. The only parking option is for residents with stickers which he felt is being abused by some residents. He did not request any particular action currently, but wanted the situation called to the attention of the Board.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Member Cardoza moved to adjourn. Seconded by Recording Secretary McGonnell. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m. by unanimous vote.

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 August 11, 2015.)

