

Temporary Traffic Safety Committee  
Meeting minutes- February 28, 2023

5:30PM- Laura Ziton's Introduction to Remote Meeting

Laura Ziton stated that this Open Meeting of the Temporary Traffic Safety Committee was being conducted remotely consistent with the July 16, 2022 Act Relative to Extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency and that all members of the Temporary Traffic Safety Committee are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

Laura Ziton noted that the Order allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. She added that ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law.

Laura Ziton confirmed that the following members and persons anticipated on the agenda were remotely present and could be heard.

Temporary Traffic Safety Committee

Janeen Callaghan  
Mark McMenemy  
William Pierce  
Laura Ziton  
Mitch Cohen

Others

Scott Charpentier, DPW Director

Absent

Christopher Deacetis

Any votes taken this evening will be by roll call.

Acceptance of January 30, 2023 meeting minutes.

Motion to approve by Bill Pierce, second by Mark McMenemy. Roll Call Vote approved by Janeen Callaghan, Mark McMenemy, William Pierce, Mitch Cohen, and Laura Ziton.

Review of select community questionnaire results.

The committee discussed creating a permanent traffic committee recommendation for consideration by the Board of Selectmen (BOS).

Bill Pierce said yes because many towns with a State highway have a committee.

Mitch Cohen said yes, it will help public for routing traffic safety concerns and recommendations.

Janeen Callahan said yes, this committee works well for other towns.

Mark McMenemy said yes because it will help DPW to get requests to the BOS.

Scott Charpentier supported the creation of the committee as a means to better inform the public in an open forum.

Bill Pierce made a motion to recommend the BOS create a permanent traffic safety committee and Janeen Callahan seconded and there was unanimous support in favor of recommending the creation of a permanent traffic safety committee.

Discussion of next steps

The committee discussed all factors related to a permanent traffic safety committee.

Janeen Callahan suggested how information is relayed to the committee and suggested a web form that goes to the selected committee members. She also recommended including status updates of requests

on the website.

Mitch Cohen asked about DPW request website. Scott Charpentier said report an issue is for urgent requests and not to be for traffic safety requests.

Members of the committee make up: there were a couple options discussed:

Bill Pierce suggested DPW director + 2 from selectmen 1 from planning board 1 from the school committee and 1 from the moderator.

Mitch Cohen said that dispersing appointments may be difficult to ensure diversity of members and feels the Board of Selectmen should appoint to ensure a diverse committee. He is open to other ideas here.

Mitch Cohen suggested for committee make up appointed members vote, and staff advises.

Bill Pierce suggested appointing by voting precinct.

Scott Charpentier reconfirmed the makeup of committee to include 5 citizen's appointed by BOS & DPW Director + Staff as needed.

The committee discussed the charge of the permanent traffic safety committee.

Bill Pierce said be broad with the charge, keep it open to pedestrian and bike safety.

Mark McMenemy asked if this will overlap with Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets and Scott Charpentier explained their differences and confirmed this committee is independent of those requests.

Mitch Cohen said this committee is only for the public ways.

Budget – nominal budget as the traffic safety committee is advisory to the BOS.

Scott Charpentier suggested a nominal budget for requests such as traffic studies or other nominal requests.

Mitch Cohen and Scott Charpentier agreed more expensive requests need to be in conjunction with the Selectmen.

Meeting Frequency – Monthly but will be decided by the permanent committee.

The traffic safety committee should encourage public participation.

#### Future meeting date

Monday March 28, 2023 5:30PM

#### Any other business that may legally come before the Committee.

Temporary Traffic Safety Member Jen Scalise needs to step down from the committee at this time.

#### Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bill Pierce, second by Mitch Cohen, Roll Call Vote approved by Janeen Callaghan, Mark McMenemy, William Pierce, Mitch Cohen, and Laura Ziton.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24PM