

Town of Suffield
PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 18, 2021
7:00 p.m.
In-person Meeting Only
Suffield Police Department
Zak Meeting Room
911 Mountain Road, Suffield, CT

Meeting called: Pedestrian and Traffic Safety and Infrastructure Committee

By: First Selectman, Melissa M. Mack

Type of meeting: Special Meeting

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Discussion and Approval of minutes from the June 24, 2021 Special Meeting of the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety and Infrastructure Committee
4. Presentation by Tighe & Bond
5. Town Engineer Updates
6. Local Traffic Authority Updates
7. Other Business
8. Public Comment

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
JUNE 24, 2021
7:00 P.M.
83 MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUFFIELD, CT
AND
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

Present via Zoom teleconference:

Ex-Officio Members Present: First Selectman Melissa M. Mack

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Traffic Commission Members Jack Quinn, Jason Trombly and Joseph Blake

Committee Members In-person: Ted Ruddock, Amy Hill, Carol Underwood, Matt Auchy, Tony Dultz

Committee Members Present via Zoom: Matthew Pafford, Tracy Hespelt, William Steinka, Joann Yates, Melien Lavoie and Andrew Krar

Committee Members Absent: Susan Herbert

Also Present via Zoom teleconference: Police Chief Richard Brown and Town Engineer Karen Isherwood, Craig Yannes, Project Manager at Tighe & Bond and Chris Granatini, Project Director at Tighe & Bond

First Selectman Mack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked all to join her in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Members Steve White and Andrew Gray have stepped down from the committee due to personal commitments and a relocation out of Suffield. Welcome to new member Tony Dultz.

Discussion and Approval of Minutes from March 31, 2021 Special Meeting of the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety and Infrastructure Committee

Amy Hill motioned and Matt Auchy seconded the motion to approve the Minutes from March 31, 2021 Special Meeting of the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety and Infrastructure Committee. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Presentation by Tighe & Bond on Survey Kickoff

Tighe & Bond Project Manager Craig Yannes and Project Director Chris Granatini provided a Power Point presentation to the committee members to kick off the Suffield Traffic Safety Study which included the following topics:

- **Draft Study Goals & Objectives** – Improve Traffic Safety, Increase Access, Safety and Mobility for Bikes & Pedestrians
- **Study Process (Tasks)** – Data Collection & Analysis, Traffic Monitoring and Field Observations, Traffic Calming/Improvements, Final Report and Meetings and Outreach
- **Study Schedule** – Proposed timeline for the study process which should take us through to April 2022
- **Public Outreach Surveys**
 - **Committee Survey** with the objective to guide the creation of a study Goals & Mission Statement and provide initial input from the committee on issues and potential solutions. This survey should be completed by July 22, 2021
 - **Interactive Map Survey** will be open to the public starting in July through early September. The survey will allow location specific public input on project issues and potential solutions

Mr. Yannes and Mr. Granatini demonstrated how the Interactive Map Survey will work and fielded questions from the committee members on the presentation topics as well as other topics such as possible funding sources available for this work. **First Selectman Mack** also commented on the funding topic.

Town Engineer Updates

Town Engineer Karen Isherwood gave updates on the following items:

Mountain Road Multi-Use Trail

- Project with DOT for final review (submitted 4/29/21), informed that we should have final comments by the end of this week. Upon approval we'll be issued a Project Authorization Letter. Hoping to begin advertising for bidding in July.

Mapleton-Thompsonville Rd Sidewalk

- Preliminary plans are nearing completion. Consultant will review a couple of issues with DOT. Upon completion of preliminary plans, we will be scheduling a public information meeting (July).

Harvey Lane

- Final plans are being reviewed by DOT. Expecting to receive Authorization to Advertise in July.

Mather Street Railroad Crossing

- The pavement repair at the Railroad crossing on Mather St. has been completed.

Quarry Road Bridge

- New project that we just received a conditional commitment to fund (Local Bridge Program). Our design consultants will proceed with final design and Supplemental Application. Expect to complete and go out to bid in Spring 2022. Preliminary plans were 24' of pavement (allowing for 2-12' lanes). Requested a modification to widen the bridge to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic, and reduce vehicle travel lanes to 11' wide.

2021 Pavement Management Project

- Mill and Pave – 2 roads completed, 0.29 miles (Willow Creek and Fox Mead); 6 roads underway, 1.35 miles (Wisteria, Andrew Lane, Hunters Crossing, Tyler Lane, Deer Run.) Reviewing budget prior to initiating additional road work. Crack seal – 40% of 13.6 miles have been crack sealed. Additional work has been scheduled.
- 3/16/21 – We submitted a list of roads to the CT Department of Transportation for inclusion in their Local Roads – Horizontal Alignment Signing Project (Copper Hill Rd., Halladay Ave. East, Halladay Ave. West, Hickory St., Hill St., Phelps Rd., Ratley Rd., Russell Ave., Spruce St. and Warnertown Rd.)

Applications for CROG Corridor Study

- Applied for Route 75 Corridor Study, but unfortunately we did not receive. We will submit it again to other potential funding sources.

CT T2 Center - Speed Management Training – CT Local Traffic Authority Program Elective Workshop

First Selectman Mack asked Chief Brown and any members who had attended the training if they would like to provide feedback. Chief Brown gave an overview of the four hour sessions and the subjects that were discussed. Committee Member Andrew Krar thought it was very informative. William Steinka thought the four hours were densely packed with great information and he was happy to participate. Melien Lavoie enjoyed learning about the different safety announcement methods and feels this information should be included in education materials to the public.

Local Traffic Authority Updates

Chief Brown provided the committee with an overview of the most recent concerns surrounding Six Flags traffic since reopening after being closed last summer due to COVID-19 and the plans to remedy these concerns.

Public Comment

Ted Ruddock, Committee Member – Mr. Ruddock asked what the committee would be doing in the immediate future with regard to certain issues that have already been raised such as the poorly identified crosswalk near Barry Place on South Main Street and its location in the middle of a passing zone. Other issues include the new stoplights installed in the center of town and near Bridge Street. Chief Brown will check with DOT to determine when the new traffic lights in the center of town will be uncovered and working as well as the crosswalk indicators being installed in that area. Discussion ensued with regard to DOT and their mission and vision and how it may not be in line with the current state of our Historic District area.

Carol Underwood, Committee Member – Ms. Underwood gave her thoughts on the training class, what she learned and what she focused on most. She is very interested in determining what types of actions can be take immediately and how we get the word out that the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety and Infrastructure Committee exists in order to get more people involved.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m. Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting will be scheduled in September with the date still to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen O. Lambert
Recording Secretary