

Town of Barre
Traffic Safety Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2020

The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) held a public meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Committee members present were William Kirby, Jeff Blow and Dave Freeman. Also, present were Town Engineer Josh Martineau and Town Manager Carl Rogers.

Chairman William Kirby called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Dave Freeman made a motion, seconded by Jeff Blow, to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

Josh Martineau told the Committee about his work experience, especially with VT AOT. The Committee members welcomed Martineau.

On a motion by Freeman, seconded by Blow, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the January 15, 2020 meeting minutes as presented.

There were no guests.

31 Camire Hill Road – Hidden Drive Signs – Martineau reported the MUTCD guideline for sight distance on a flat, dry road in a 35-mph zone is 250'. He had measured 275' and 305' of sight distance from the driveway at 31 Camire Hill Road. Freeman stated there are a lot of similar instances in Town. He said he visited the site and since there is good sight distance approving this request could “open the door” for many more. Martineau said he talked to the owners of 31 Camire Hill Road and advised them a sign(s) might not help. Commuters driving the road regularly get in a habit of driving a certain speed (over 35 mph). Blow asked if CVRPC could add this road to the traffic count, speed detection work this spring. Martineau said he advised the owners to install two reflectors at the end of the driveway and to trim more brush along the road. By consensus the Committee tabled the request until the traffic and speed information is provided and in the meantime the owners should do as suggested by the Town Engineer.

Removing School Bus Stop Ahead Signs – Martineau informed TSAC the DPW made a list of existing School Bus Stop Ahead signs. He asked the school transportation coordinator what signs could be removed. The coordinator emailed a list of six signs. TSAC received the list with the agenda. Blow made a motion to recommend to the Selectboard that the six Bus Stop Ahead signs be removed. Freeman seconded the motion and TSAC approved it unanimously. TSAC said it

supported the Manager’s suggestion that the Selectboard vote to authorize DPW to remove unneeded Bus Stop Ahead signs after a vote by TSAC.

Speed Management Course – Martineau told TSAC about the 2-day course he attended this month. The course was sponsored by VTrans. He said there was a lot of content about enforcement and about social media. He said there is a book on some engineering practices. He noted roads should not be made to look like an interstate if lower speeds are wanted. The course was meant for use across the country so some of the suggestions would be difficult to use in northern climates. He said there was no discussion of narrowing lanes.

Other Business – Blow asked about truck routes and reporting these to the state DMV. Martineau said he checked the School Bus Stop Ahead sign on East Cobble Hill Road that he was supposed to relocate closer to #410. He said the existing sign is there for a bus stop at #392. Moving the existing sign closer to #410 would place it too close to #392. He suggested moving it back to a point where it can be seen more easily and adding an additional sign for the bus stop at #410. That sign would be near #392. On a motion by Blow, seconded by Freeman, TSAC voted all in favor of recommending the Engineer’s plan for moving the existing sign and adding a sign near #392.

Next Meeting – The April 15, 2020 meeting will be canceled if no matters or requests come in.

On a motion by Freeman, seconded by Kirby, TSAC voted to adjourn at 8:07 pm.

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee
