

**TOWN OF HINGHAM
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

Police Chief Glenn A. Olsson, Chairman
Sgt. David Horte, Representative for Chief Olsson
Lt. John Haley, Representative for Chief Robert Olsson
Harry Sylvester, DPW
William Ramsey, Planning Board
Francis Donlan
Clark Frazier

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Chief Glenn A. Olsson
RE: Minutes of September 28, 2016 Traffic Committee Meeting
DATE: September 29, 2016

PRESENT: Sgt. David Horte, Hingham Police Department
Harry Sylvester, Hingham DPW
William Ramsey – Planning Board
Francis Donlan
Clark Frazier

Sgt. Horte called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

A motion was made by Bill Ramsey, seconded by Francis Donlan, to accept the minutes as written of the previous meeting on 8/24/16 with a unanimous vote in favor.

I. Request for alternate routes for heavy comm. vehicles in Lincoln Historic District

Lincoln Street resident Anne Marie Keane presented pictures of large trucks along with dates and times that they travelled by her house. Many of these were during the early morning hours from 4:00-5:30 am. and the noise is disruptive. These trucks use Lincoln Street for access to Downtown as a cut through to 228 to Derby St. and this has increased since 2009. Her proposal is to limit them from coming down Lincoln Street if they are heavy commercial vehicles. She would like to have signs posted saying “No Thru trucks – Semi Trucks” since it is a safety issue and their weight causes degradation to the road. Sgt. Horte said that in order to have any exclusions, a study needs to be conducted. It might be possible to have a night only exclusion. Neighbors in attendance stated that there are 18 wheelers on the street at all hours and many of them are speeding. This is a thickly settled area for which speed limit is 30 MPH. Need to do a study in order to get anything else approved by Mass DOT. Harry Sylvester suggested that a speed study be done to collect speed data along with truck data to include in report to Mass DOT. Lincoln Street is a connector road which is heavily travelled. Clark Frazier said that the Town needs to designate truck routes. Sgt. Horte said that the State Police could check weight limits. Harry Sylvester said that the roads are built to withstand all weights. An alternate route would be Beal Street to South Street. The turn on to South Street would be too tricky for large trucks. Harry Sylvester said that 228

already gets a lot of truck traffic as does Thaxter Street. Both roads are similar in that they have historical homes on them. Anne Marie Keane said that her walls are cracking. Harry Sylvester said that North Street is similar as well. They are connector roads which are heavily travelled by all types of vehicles. A motion was made by Harry Sylvester for a study to be done of truck speed, volume and axles. It was seconded by Bill Ramsey with a unanimous vote by all. The matter will be revisited and the results will be presented. In order to designate truck routes, lots of channels need to be involved such as traffic consultant, Mass DOT, etc. The Board of Selectmen would need to appropriate funds for this. In the meantime, speed enforcement on Lincoln Street will be increased and the Radar Trailer will be installed on Lincoln Street as well to increase drivers' awareness of the speed limit on the street.

II. Request for signs at Prospect Street and Hoover Road

This issue is being tabled for next month as the resident who made the request is not in attendance.

III. Request for signs on Smith Road

Smith Road resident Charles Caudill requested that signs be posted on this street which is heavily used as a cut through to the Transfer Station Thursdays through Sundays. The neighborhood has many children and cars often tend to speed on the Street. There are also blind spots on both Smith Road and Butler Road. Bill Ramsey made a motion to have a suggested speed sign of 20 MPH posted at each end of Smith Road which was seconded by Clark Frazier with a unanimous vote in favor.

IV. Request for Blind Drive sign on Harvard Drive

This issue was revisited from last month. Resident Renee Rudolph requested a Blind Drive sign since there is poor visibility from her driveway. Sgt. Horte suggested that bushes be trimmed as well but committee members visited the area and agreed that there was indeed poor visibility. Bill Ramsey made a motion to put a Blind Drive sign at 15 Harvard Drive which was seconded by Harry Sylvester with a unanimous vote in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Jacobson, Administrative Assistant