

**TOWN OF HINGHAM
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

Police Chief David P. Jones, Chairman
Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy, Representative for Chief David Jones
Deputy David Levenson, Representative for Chief Steven Murphy
Randy Sylvester, Engineering/DPW
JR Frey, Engineering
Rita DaSilva, Representative for Planning Board
Daniel Miller Dempsey
Matthew Person

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Chief David P. Jones
RE: Minutes of January 19, 2022 Traffic Committee Meeting
DATE: January 20, 2022

PRESENT: Chief David P. Jones, Hingham Police Dept.
Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy, Hingham Police Dept.
Dep. David Levenson, Hingham Fire Dept.
Randy Sylvester, DPW
JR Frey, Hingham Engineering Dept.
Matthew Cahill, Representative for DPW
Matthew Person
Rita DaSilva

JR Frey called the meeting to order via Zoom at 6:02 PM.

Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on 12/8/21 which was seconded by Rita DaSilva and unanimously approved.
approved.

1. Discussion of Town Acceptance of MGL. Chap. 90, S17C and/or S18B

JR Frey stated that the Downtown Safety Zone isn't necessarily applicable based on guidelines from MassDOT. Therefore Section 17C is a better option than 18B. 17C would give the Town the ability to establish a speed limit of 25 MPH on select streets or a blanket 25 MPH speed limit for the entire town. If 17C is accepted, the Downtown Safety Zone could possibly be extended to other streets in town. JR Frey stated that he recommends that the Town vote to accept 17C which authorizes the Select Board or designee to establish a 25 MPH speed limit. This would be effective for designated areas in town. This is our best option as proven by our extensive study for the best safety plan. Clark Frazier of Bonnie Brier Circle suggested adopting 18B as well since tomorrow is the deadline to submit warrant articles to the Select Board. If approved, it could be used for the entire town in the future. The Traffic Committee concurred unanimously with JR Frey's recommendation for 17C only. A memo will be sent to the Select Board. JR Frey said that it would be problematic to adopt 18B since it's very prescriptive. MassDOT would have to do an

engineering study, etc. The bottom line is that 18B is not necessary. The following warrant article language was voted by the Traffic Committee on 1/19/22 for consideration at the 2022 Town Meeting: “Will the Town vote to accept Section 17C of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, which would authorize the Select Board, upon receiving a recommendation from the Traffic Committee, to establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on any roadway in thickly settled or business districts within the Town that is not a state highway in the interest of public safety, or act on anything related, thereto.”

2. Public Comment

Lisa Shetty of East Street reported that cars are still speeding on East Street and expressed concern at the impending implementation of the Route 3A road diet zone at the rotary causing traffic to detour to Route 228/East Street resulting in increased traffic. Perhaps more signage and enforcement would help. Also the flashing lights by East School haven't been flashing. Sgt. Kilroy said that he will contact the School Facilities manager regarding the flashing lights and will alert the School Resource Officers to assist at school dismissal times. He will also add East Street to the hot sheet for increased enforcement. Lisa Shetty also asked if there would be a 4 way stop at Kilby Street. Sgt. Kilroy replied not at this time since the new configuration has improved traffic flow at Kilby Street and Route 3A. Clark Frazier suggested getting rid of the new configuration at the intersection of Route 3A and Summer Street to reduce cars making turns. That would not be feasible since that configuration provides a place for cars to access Route 228 since the option of going straight across from Kilby Street is no longer allowed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Jacobson, Administrative Assistant