

WESTBROOK POLICE ADVISORY/TRAFFIC AUTHORITY BOARD
Regular Meeting Corrected Minutes – January 13, 2014

Members present: Chairman Bonnie Palermo, George Rehberg, Robert Brancato, Preston Pope, Mike Oryl and Michael Polo.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Bonnie Palermo.

2. Approval of Minutes – December 9, 2013:

Upon a motion by George Rehberg, seconded by Michael Polo, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the minutes of December 9, 2013 as distributed.

3. Old Business:

a. Parking Issues – Menunketesuck Avenue South

Some members went to look at the area and did not see any commercial vans parked in the area. All members were asked to go look at again, including where there are, if any, parking signs placed. They were asked to look to see if any fire hydrants were blocked. This matter will be placed on the February Agenda.

b. Route 153/Brittney Lane – Passing Zone, Speeding Issues:

Last month, the State sent an e-mail stating that Brittney Lane was a private road and they consider that a driveway and would not consider making the area on Route 153 a non-passing zone. Secretary Kelemen looked into it and found out that Brittney Lane is a Town Road and not private. This matter will be forwarded back to the state to have them re-look at the matter.

c. Use of Speed Bumps on Town Roads:

Chairman Palermo stated that she has requested the Fire Department and the Ambulance Association to submit their opinions on the use of Speed Bumps in Town, but has not had a reply from either yet. She will contact them again. Also, Secretary Kelemen found out the 9 Towns in the area that do not use speed bumps in their town; they are: Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, Essex, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Clinton.

d. Parking/Traffic – Old Mail Trail:

Chairman Palermo stated that she had not contacted Attorney Mike Wells regarding the matter. She stated she would call him before the next meeting. Further discussion: This is a public road and should remain public parking. Maybe a “No public access to beach” signs can be placed in

the area or “No outlet” sign. All members were asked to go look at the area to see where there is parking allowed and where it is not. Please look at the signage there.

Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by George Rehberg, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to ask Public Works to put up a sign that says “No Public Access to Beach” at the end of Menunketesuck at the beginning of Old Mail Trail.

e. “No Turn On Red” – Seaside Avenue/Route 1:

Secretary Kelemen researched the same request that was made in the past and that the State did not feel it was necessary to change the intersection. There have not been any reported accidents in this area but the members feel it is only a matter of time with the way cars pull out of Seaside Avenue when they have a red light. There was discussion of possibly asking Dunkin Donuts to make their parking lot one way in and one way out. Michael Polo stated that he would go to talk to the owner of Dunkin Donuts to see if this is something that they might be interested in doing.

f. Train Station Traffic:

Nobody can tell if the project is complete and if the train station is open. Chairman Palermo will stop tomorrow and talk to some of the workers to find out the status.

g. “Stop” Sign – Perigee or Apogee Lane/Seaside Avenue:

After discussion, it was decided to hold off on a “Stop” sign and to try some of the new methods of slowing down traffic by making the road look more narrow and painting the speed limit on the road itself.

Upon a motion by George Rehberg, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to request Public Works to paint new side lines on Seaside Avenue to make the road look more narrow and to repaint the middle yellow line. To also request that “@0 MPH” be painted on the surface of Seaside Avenue 2 times in both directions from the Elks Club to Boston Post Road. Said requested work is to be completed by April 1, 2014.

h. Right Turn on Red – Flat Rock Place:

Upon a motion by Preston Pope, seconded by Michael Polo, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to request the State to install a “Right Turn From Far Right Lane Only” at the intersection of Flat Rock Place and Route 153 (The same sign that is on the north bound exit ramp from I95 to Route 153).

i. Any Other Old Business:

1. New School Signs:

Chairman Palermo stated that when she was filling out the requested paperwork for the new signage for the schools from the State, she also requested a sign for Willard Avenue.

2. Speed Monitoring Machine:

Mike Oryl stated that he spoke with RST Rob Hart and he does not want a second Speed Monitoring Machine. He feels that is difficult to change the one unit we already have around. Chairman Palermo will leave the request in the budget for now. Chairman Palermo also stated that she is having difficulty retrieving the information off the computer, it keeps saying our subscription is expired. She is trying to get this straightened out. Rob Hart has also requested the information when we have it.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Zoning Referral – 433 Boston Post Road:

The Zoning Commission has received an application for 433 Boston Post Road from Sarah, Inc. who is proposing a Non-Profit Educational Facility. There will be a Public Hearing held on January 28, 2014.

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to sent a letter to the Zoning Commission stating that this Board has no concerns regarding the application at this time.

b. Any Other New Business:

1. 2014/2015 Budget:

Chairman Palermo stated that she will be attending a Board of Selectmen Budget Hearing on January 20th and will attend a Board of Finance Budget Hearing sometime in February to present the Boards proposed Budget.

5. Approval of Bills:

Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by Preston Pope, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of the following:

\$29.22 and \$146.10 to Kathleen Kelemen for Secretarial duties.

6. Correspondence:

None.

7. Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Bob Brancato, seconded by Preston Pope, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen, Secretary

NOTE: Changes indicated in bold, underlined and italicized print.