



Town of Hudson

Internal Traffic Committee

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749
Tel: (978) 562-9963 Fax: (978) 568-9641

Minutes of 10-27-2022

A meeting of the Town of Hudson's Internal Traffic Committee (ITC) was held on October 27, 2022 fully in-person in the 2nd floor conference room Town Hall. Jeff Wood convened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

The following ITC voting members were in attendance:

Jeff Wood, Building Commissioner (Chair)
Chad Perry, Police Captain
Brian Sleeper, Deputy Fire Chief
Eric Ryder, Director of Public Works

The following non-voting ITC members /guests were in attendance:

Kristina Johnson, AICP, Director of Planning and Community Development

Discussion of Wheeler Road Directionality

Mr. Ryder started the discussion and noted that this item was put on the agenda at his request. He stated that with the recent paving of Wheeler Road, it was his recommendation that this roadway be made one-way from Forest Avenue to Broad Street. Mr. Ryder expressed concerns that with the narrow roadway and the recent paving, high speeds with two-way traffic poses a safety issue. He noted that Wheeler Road was a one-way roadway in the past.

Deputy Fire Chief Brian Sleeper discussed fire apparatus movements along the roadway, and showed video documentation of the movements. He noted the tight turning movements from Forest Avenue onto Wheeler Road. Mr. Ryder noted the reason for recommending the change in direction is for safety purpose. Captain Perry stated that the Police Chief was interesting in hearing any abutters concerns prior to advancing any recommendations.

John Daigneault of Westridge expressed concerns that the proposed directionality of Wheeler Road could result in an increase in truck traffic on Grove Street, Summer Street, and Winter Street. He also inquired about a "trucks prohibited sign" that was installed. Mr. Ryder stated that most the sign was installed without any approvals, or codification of the prohibition.

Cheryl Davenport of Westridge stated that she regularly walks down that road and there are lots of speeding vehicles, and she wondered if any safety signage could be installed indicating the presence of pedestrians, or a posted speed limit sign. Mr. Ryder stated that installing signs does not always resolve the speeding issue, and that the statutory speed limit when a speed limit is not posted is 30 MPH.

Dave Robinson, Westridge inquired if sidewalks could be installed on one side of the street if the roadway becomes one-way. Mr. Ryder noted that the Town has not investigated installing sidewalks on this roadway and that constructing sidewalks will come with a significant price tag; however, he stated that shoulders could be striped. Mr. Robinson inquired about whether the Town is looking at the traffic associated with the Portman project at the Intel campus and whether they would be using Wheeler Road and adjacent streets as a cut through. Mr. Ryder stated that the trucks would be entering and exiting the Intel site via the Route 85 Connector.

Mr. Ryder recommended that the ITC Board take the feedback received at this meeting back to the Chief and table the topic until a future ITC meeting.

Chairman Wood seconded by Mr. Ryder moved to table to discussion of making Wheeler Road a one-way roadway to a future ITC meeting. 4-0-0. Unanimous.

Discussion of a request to install a blind driveway sign- 9 Stratton Road

ITC discussed the request and decided to not take any action relative to this item.

Approval of Minutes from August 29, 2022

Chief Johannes seconded by Mr. Ryder moved to approve meeting minutes from August 29, 2022 and June 17, 2022. 3-0-1.

Adjournment

Mr. Ryder seconded by Chairman Wood moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 PM. 4-0-0. Unanimous