

BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, August 21, 2024, 5:30 PM

Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

The following members attended, Mike Stoddard, Dan Mason, Ed Neas, Stuart Edson and Lew Stowell. Members of the public included Colleen Casimira, Andrew Jonestein, Timothy Unger and Susan Unger.

- A. 5:30: Call to Order.
- B. Review, and revise or approve the, July 24 2024 meeting minutes. Stuart Edson made the motion to accept as written and Mike Stoddard seconded the motion. Approved 5-0-0
- C. Questions or issues brought by members of the public. (Meeting Protocol)
Colleen Casimira spoke about the speeding on Stone Road in and near Pond Village, particularly on weekends. She expressed appreciation for the prompt WCSD patrol on Saturday night August 17 that monitored traffic on the North end of Pond Village. She thought she detected one of the vehicles that had been speeding on previous nights traveling very slowly Northbound. Discussion followed with several methods suggested to assist the police. Lew Stowell will discuss cameras and other methods with Sheriff Palmer. Stuart Edson stated that the Select Board was asking Two Rivers Ottaquechee Commission TROC to conduct traffic studies on roads with traffic issues. Stone Road in two places, West Street at the North end, Ridge Road near the Elementary School, Route 14 South of East Brookfield, Route 65 near the Post Office and West Brookfield Road were all suggested.
Andrew Jonestein brought the committee up to date on progress at Green Trails and his interest in orderly traffic flow. He requested a stop sign at the beginning of Stone Road at its intersection with VT Route 65. The committee took that under advisement.
- D. Review and Discussion of OCSD activities including patrol hours, bills and reports. Stuart Edson explained that the Select Board had agreed with the final payment to OCSD.
- E. Review and Discussion of WCSD activities including patrol hours, bills and reports. The July invoice was for 40 hours and \$2600 which was in keeping with the committee's long desired concentration of patrol hours during the Summer and Fall months with fewer hours in the Winter.
- F. Speeding In Pond Village- See above
- G. Fire Works Status in Brookfield- Ed Neas supplied the committee and guests with a Fire Works Safety bulletin from the Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Department of Public Safety that made it clear that "all fireworks, except sparklers and other novelty smoke devices, are illegal in Vermont except for permitted supervised public fireworks displays". That information will be

included in future safety tips before the 4th of July and Christmas/New Years holidays. Fire Chief Kevin Wheatley had also sent an email explaining the situation.

- H. Future Storms Affecting Brookfield- It was agreed by those present that there may be some further storms this Summer and Fall that could affect Brookfield.
- I. Emergency Management Status- No action taken.
- J. VT Alert Registration Project Status- The registration information will be placed on the Town Website, Front Porch Forum and possibly the Randolph Herald.
- K. E-911 House Number Signs Project Status-. Single sided 4x12 inch reflective signs will cost \$9.95 and double-sided signs will cost \$11.95 as long as the total order is 25 or more. E-911 sign availability information will be placed on the Town Website, Front Porch Forum and possibly the Randolph Herald. Carol Monness, Town Clerk will take orders and collect the money.
- L. Traffic, Parking, No Parking and Road Name Sign Progress. Committee members submitted lists of missing or defaced signs in their areas. It was agreed that there continued to be a lot of unenforceable signs in town and had been so for several years. Lew Stowell will consolidate the list from the members and send it to Keith Sprague. Stuart Edson pointed out that the Town Road Crew was down one person again. A motion was made by Mike Stoddard and seconded by Ed Neas to have Stuart Edson recommend in the next Select Board Meeting that the town hire a contractor to replace signs. Funding could come from the money not spent on the vacant highway crew position. Approved 5-0-0.
- M. September 2024 Public Safety Message. It will focus on back-to-school traffic issues and be posted as soon as possible
- N. Acknowledging the time and date of the next meeting. September 18, 2024
- O. Inviting one or more guest(s) to the next meeting (September). Fish & Wildlife Warden Bella Kline will be invited.
- P. Final Public Comment. Timothy and Susan Unger said that there was speeding on West Street near their home as well.

Ed Neas presented, in response to questions at the July meeting about polling place rules, a hand out from the Secretary of State's office that clarified the rules about election polling places. A copy of that was placed on Carol Monness's desk as a courtesy.
- Q. Entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Mason made the motion to adjourn and Ed Neas seconded the motion. The motion passed at 6:54 PM 5-0-0.