

**TOWN OF BEDFORD
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 27, 2018**

A meeting of the Bedford Highway Safety Committee (HSC) was held on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 in the Bedford Meeting Room, 10 Meetinghouse Road (BCTV). Present were John J. Bryfonski (Chief of Police/Chair), Scott Wiggin (Fire Chief/Vice-Chair), Kelleigh Murphy (Town Council), Bill Duschatko (Town Council Alternate), Bill Jean (Resident), Madonna Lovett Repeta (Resident), Jerry Gagne (Alternate Resident), Ken Peterson (Alternate Resident) and Anne Wiggin (School Bus Coordinator).

- I. Call to Order 7:15 a.m.**
- II. Quorum Count**
- III. Approval of Minutes from November 28, 2017**

MOTION by Bill Jean to accept the minutes of the November 28, 2017 meeting, second by Kelleigh Murphy. Vote taken – Motion Passed. Abstentions: Madonna Lovett Repeta.

- IV. Organizational Meeting**

MOTION by Fire Chief Scott Wiggin to nominate Chief John Bryfonski to stay on as Chairman of the HSC seconded by Kelleigh Murphy. Motion by Chief John Bryfonski to nominate Chief Scott Wiggin to stay on as Vice Chairman to the HSC, seconded by Kelleigh Murphy. Vote taken – Motion Passed. Abstentions Chief Bryfonski and Chief Wiggin.

- V. Correspondence/Communications**
- VI. New Business**

- 1. Request for reduction in speed to 25 MPH – Stowell Rd. Subdivision.**

Jason Lopez with Keach and Nordstrom Associates: Plans passed out and on file. Hampshire Ventures has proposed to the Planning Board a 9 lot subdivision Huntington Ridge Rd. off of Stowell Rd. They have received conditional approval on October 24, 2016 with 23 conditions. One condition was requested in July 2017 from Alex Voight from DPW to have the road posted at 25 MPH. The issue is the center line of the road, getting halfway down the road there is a bend/curve in the road. 200 feet is the minimum center line radius of the road, however based on AASHTO the DPW feels the 200 center line radius should be reduced to 25 MPH.

Chief Bryfonski: In addition to the engineering design aspects, the 200 foot center line requirement and the bend in the road I am in support of the 25 MPH particularly that it ends in a cul-de-sac.

Mr. Gagne: It is on a horizontal/vertical curve all in one location which causes sight distance to be difficult.

Chief Wiggin: Any other design changes from going to 30 MPH to 25 MPH?

Mr. Lopez: No, we have worked through the design process with the board and we received a waiver to add granite curbing, it is 24 foot width of pavement and standard depth of gravel pavement.

Chief Wiggin: Any sidewalks?

Mr. Lopez: No sidewalks.

Chief Bryfonski: Any provisions for the developer by the DPW to post the speed limit signage at the beginning of the road.

Mr. Lopez: It was incorporated in the plans to post the speed limit sign at the beginning of the road.

Mr. Peterson: Question to Chief Wiggin regarding dead end roads.

Chief Wiggin: It has to have secondary means of a water supply or a means of connecting or exiting to another road.

Chief Bryfonski: Any further questions.

MOTION by Chief Bryfonski to recommend to Town Council to approve Huntington Ridge Rd. for posting of the speed limit at 25 MPH for its' full length – seconded by Councilor Murphy. Vote taken - motion passed all in favor.

2. Traffic and speed concerns on Regency Dr.

Chief Bryfonski: Reviewed an email message (on file) that was received from the residents of 17 Regency Dr. with their concerns and suggestions. Between March 15 and today the PD has directed patrols, the speed monitoring equipment has been placed at the intersection of 24 Regency. There were no violations per the directed patrols. There are no speed limit signs posted on Regency/South Hills; a review of the data obtained by the directed patrols was conducted. The PD recommends posting 30 MPH signage at each end of the 0.85 mile stretch; continue with directed patrols; follow up with data collection; radar trailer to be deployed until the posted speed signage is up and to place a stop sign at the intersection of South Hills and South Hills Terrace.

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Hashir Abdi, 17 Regency Dr: Has lived on Regency for 10 years and the traffic has increased substantially. The recent police presence since his email concerns has really helped and thanked the Chief for his recommendations. A lot of concern is in the morning when cars are passing the stopped school busses. This is a unique intersection between Hardy and Regency where children are waiting for the school bus.

Chief Bryfonski: It is important for the community to come forward with their concerns as the town has changed dramatically.

Mr. Peterson: Agreed with Mr. Abdi with his concerns and issues because Brick Mill has also increased with traffic.

Chief Wiggin: Where will the stop signs and stop bars going to be?

Chief Bryfonski: The recommendation from the PD (SGT Kimball) was to post a stop sign at South Hill Terrace which is a dead end cul-de-sac at South Hills. The stop sign would be stopping traffic at South Hills Terrace as opposed to coming straight out through the T intersection.

Councilor Murphy: Not a 3 way?

Chief Bryfonski: We could make it a 3 way.

Councilor Murphy: If it's just one way at South Hills/South Hill Terrace and not at South Hills Dr. you are catching people that are speeding into the neighborhood from Hardy and not catching the people that are speeding out of the neighborhood to get to Hardy. Is there an objection from the committee if I propose a 3 way stop.

Mr. Gagne: I am reluctant as some people will just glide through and if the dominant traffic is staying on South Hills Dr. it would be an enforcement issue. We are trying to regulate South Hills Terrace to keep the conflicts to a minimum. From an engineering standpoint we have had a 3 way stop in Bedford and they have been effective, enforcement is difficult because the police cars cannot sit there 24/7 and the dominant traffic on South Hills will continue to move through South Hills. Stop signs are not used to control traffic or speed, it's to keep the intersection safe. In my opinion a single stop sign at South Hills would be the most effective.

Ken Peterson: Several years ago residents came to this board to request a 3 way at Ledgewood and Brick Mill. One problem at the intersection, there is a house there and their driveway comes right down into the intersection and it should never have been approved. All the various signs do absolutely nothing, people ignored them. Stop signs have become yield signs. Agrees with Mr. Gagne' comments. If this was not a T section I would agree to let the traffic flow through, however this being a T section and having people coming through heading north and making a 90 degree turn with no stop it just doesn't seem right.

Chief Wiggin: Is the general consensus that the traffic is flowing from South Hills to Regency as a cut through to get Hardy and 101.

Chief Bryfonski: The data that we have shows it is coming from Hardy onto Regency to South Hills that connects to North Amherst.

Councilor Murphy: Concerned with the potential of accidents happening with only the one stop sign.

MOTION by Councilor Murphy that the HSC make a recommendation to DPW to post the existing speed limit as discussed on South Hills Dr. and Regency Dr. and I would further make a motion that the HSC recommend to the Town Council the placement of a 3 way stop sign at South Hills Terrace and South Hills Dr. and South Hills Dr. continuing – seconded by Ms. Repeta – all in favor – motion passed.

Community Announcements

1. Drug Take Back is April 28, 2018 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Bedford Public Safety Complex and there is a Drug Drop Box in the lobby that is available at the PD 24/7 – 365.
2. Human trafficking and social media summit “Hiding in Plain Sight” sponsored by the BPD incorporation with the Internet Crimes Against Children’s Task Force as well as Homeland Securities Investigation to be held Monday April 9, 2018, 6:00 PM at the Manchester Christian Church, 56 Old Bedford Rd.
3. BeBold in cooperation with the Bedford Parent Teacher Group is holding an event March 28, 2018 from 7:00 -8:15 PM at the BHS auditorium “Understanding how to Parent so the Children Can Succeed”.

Meeting adjourned 7:52 am

Respectfully submitted

Charlene T. Robinson

Highway Safety Committee Secretary