

July 17, 2023

Traffic Safety Committee

Members present: Chair Morency, Councilors Morgan, Roland Theberge and Remillard.

Others present: Assistant City Manager Pamela Laflamme, Deputy Chief Nathan Roy, Mike Perreault and Jessica Pemberton.

Chair Morency called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

Minutes of November 21, 2022

Councilor Theberge moved to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2022 Traffic Safety Committee meeting; Councilor Morgan seconded and the motion carried with all in favor.

Letter from Steven McCosh re: Crosswalks (referred 5/15/23)

Chair Morency advised that Mr. McCosh did lots of research on this and provided suggestions. He commented that all signage along the Riverwalk was approved by the Department of Transportation. Ms. Laflamme commented that DOT would have been good with flashing lights, but there would have been nine of them which would have been very costly as they average \$5000 each. She feels it would have been a bit much and DOT agreed. Councilor Theberge suggested placing a reboundable crosswalk sign in the middle of each crosswalk as they seem to work in other communities. Deputy Chief Roy reminded the committee that traffic signs are proven to not have much effect as they get ignored after a while. Chair Morency discussed the need to enforce awareness and asked Deputy Roy there are any reports of accidents at those crosswalks. Deputy Roy advised there are none. Ms. Laflamme commented line painting of the crosswalks has started and they will be more visible when complete. She suggested doing a write up raising awareness to stop at crosswalks and posting to the City website and in the local newspaper. Councilor Morgan moved to make sure crosswalks line painting is completed as soon as possible and awareness and state law are advertised on the website and in the local newspaper. The PD will also increase monitoring. Councilor Theberge seconded and the motion carried with all in favor.

Work Order from Elaine Gamache re: Stop/Yield Signs Request (referred 5/15/23)

Chair Morency commented the traffic in that area has decreased significantly since the new construction on Route 110. He stated you can clearly see oncoming traffic when you get to the bottom of Jolbert street providing a great line of sight. If you're going up through you have to yield to your right which is off Second Avenue. He questioned Deputy Chief Roy in regards to accidents in that area. Deputy Chief Roy stated there hasn't been any issues in that area. Chair Morency stated per the Motor vehicle crash data and the great line of sight, he does not support placing a stop sign at the bottom of Jolbert street.

Councilor Remillard joined the meeting at 5:25pm.

Councilor Morgan moved to keep signage the same at this time base on tonight's discussions unless there is data defining otherwise. Councilor Roland Theberge seconded and the motion carried with all in favor.

Letter from C. Thomas re: ATV Sign (referred 7/3/23)

Chair Morency stated the dead-end sign on Rockingham is visible and not sure why they would be turning on that street. He commented that down by the railroad tracks there is some foliage growing in on some of the signs and trimming it back would make the signs more visible. He also commented there is already a stop sign on the ATV trail at that location. Councilor Morgan moved to deny the request for signage. Councilor Roland Theberge seconded and the motion carried with all in favor.

Letter from J. Pemberton re: Removing a No Parking Area (referred 6/19/23)

Mrs. Pemberton discussed her request to remove the “no parking” sign from Moreau street. She stated there were no signs there for over 30 years without issues. The sign was recently re-installed resulting in her not being able to park on the side of her own property which is where the main entrance and garage is. The City ordinance currently indicates a “no parking area” and she doesn’t feel it should be. Ms. Laflamme commented there has been discussions about the City abandoning the street which would result in a private way. Councilor Remillard suggested sending a letter to the four abutters to get their opinions and schedule a public hearing thereafter. She doesn’t feel this should be a street as it doesn’t meet the City requirements for streets. Ms. Laflamme commented it doesn’t make sense to keep it as a street for the level of servitude it requires. Councilor Remillard moved to send letters to the four abutters stating the City is considering abandoning the street and would like to schedule a hearing to discuss the situation. Councilor Morgan seconded and the motion carried with all in favor.

Councilor Roland Theberge moved with a second from Councilor Remillard to adjourn the meeting and the motion carried with all in favor. The meeting ended at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danielle Rioux
Executive Assistant

*Minutes are unofficial until they have been accepted by the Traffic Safety Committee by motion.