

CITY OF ONEIDA
MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

January 17, 2023
2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS:

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Bruce Burke	Y
Vice-Chairman Donald White	Y
Barbara Buehner	Y
Douglas Lippert	Y
Kathy Malinowski	N
James Sweet	N
Gary Hamer	Y
Erwin Smith	Y
Brahim Zogby	Y
Michael Geer	Y

ADVISORS:

Public Safety Commissioner Kevin Salerno	Y
Police Chief John Little	Y
Police Assistant Chief Steve Lowell	Y
Police Sergeant Ryan Warner	Y
Fire Department Assistant Chief Rob Cowles	Y
Fire Department Chief Dennis Fields	N
City Engineer Jeff Rowe	Y
Traffic Advisor Robert Anderson	Y

The regular meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Burke.

Approval of October 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes Distributed for Review Prior to the January 17, 2023 Meeting

Moved by Erwin Smith
Seconded by Barbara Buehner

RESOLVED that the minutes of the regular meeting of October 18, 2022 are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 (Geer)

Absent: 2 (Malinowski, Sweet)

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

❖ HP Hood Traffic/Road Signs- Status Update

Discussion:

Chairman Burke said that we are almost to the end of this project after the course of many meetings. Chairman Burke stated that he was finally able to find the right person in the DOT that has been very helpful to us. Burke has been able to finalize placement and arrange to have the signs made. Once the signs are completed, they will place the signs on Route 5 with sign stating "Dairy Plant". Signs will be placed with arrows indicating the direction of the plant on Broad Street. Copies of the pictures were distributed and are attached here to the minutes. More updates to follow. Burke will continue to work on this and will reach out to the current manager at Hood to have Hood do all they can to communicate to their delivery companies any information that may be helpful for delivery location. Burke asked the group if there were any questions or concerns at this point, to which no one commented other than commendations to Chairman Burke for his efforts.

❖ Traffic Barrier at Railroad Tracks on Sturm Rd (from Cobb St)

Discussion:

Chairman Burke stated that he was not sure the status of this so he took a drive over to the location to see what this was all about to which he commented that he did not see a traffic barrier at the location. Bob Anderson responded that is because he put it behind his shop after CSX removed it and threw it in the bushes. Bob Anderson further stated that CSX uses this area as the access point to the railroad. We need to determine who is liable if something happens without the barricade. We do have "Dead End" signs on the road, but is this sufficient to release us from liability? Although the track bed is about 3 feet above the road level, who is liable if something happens to someone that unknowingly goes down the road to the end. Don White asked where the city land ends, to which Bob Anderson stated that our road ends at the pavement, and CSX property begins where the gravel road is. Our barriers were where the pavement ends. These are what was removed by CSX. Bob Anderson reiterated that it would have been nice if they had reached out to us. Anderson is looking for clarification about who is liable. Do we need additional signage. We will reach out to the City Attorney for further guidance. Additionally, we will need to reach out to CSX to try to determine a solution.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome New Board Members- Brahim Zogby and Michael Geer

Discussion:

Brahim Zogby and Michael Geer were welcomed to the Board and thanked for their service to the Board and Community.

2. Guest Speaker- Ryan Warner from OPD to present on areas in Oneida needing additional speed signs.

Discussion:

Sergeant Ryan Warner spoke about the need for additional signs and sign post throughout certain areas of the City in order to combat speeding. Sergeant Warner handles the digital speed signs as well. Sergeant Warner distributed a map of proposed sign and sign post placements on North Willow Street, Peterboro Road, and Middle Road. He presented his request for additional signs and signposts. Sergeant Warner stated the need for placement of additional speed limit signs and signposts to place the Digital Speed Sign. During the discussion, it was revealed that there may not be enough in the budget as the Traffic Safety Board budget was cut for 2023 from \$3,000 to \$1,000. Depending on the cost to complete this project, we may have to request more funding or hold off on completing on the entire project this year. After discussion, all present agreed that this project will be completed in its entirety, pending approval of any additional funds needed. The Secretary will work with Bob Anderson to determine actual expenses, and then, if needed, additional funds will be requested. If additional funds are approved, the traffic order will be completed to complete the project. Chairman Burke stated that he thinks a motion is in order to carry out the recommendations subject to availability of funds. If enough funds are not available, then the PD will be tasked to prioritize which signs should be placed. All members present agreed with this recommendation.

Moved by Brahim Zogby
Seconded by Erwin Smith

RESOLVED that, after discussion, to complete the sign and signpost project per recommendation from Sergeant Ryan Warner contingent on approval of funds needed, **and be it further;**

RESOLVED that, if additional funds are not made available, the Police Department will determine which sign requests should be completed with the funds that are available.

Ayes: 8
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Malinowski, Sweet)

MOTION CARRIED

3. City Website- Traffic Safety Board addition

Discussion:

Secretary Hitchings stated that she would like to add an online Traffic Safety Communication Form on the City's website. She stated that this would streamline communication and allow residents and others to submit complaints/concerns directly to the Secretary's email address. All agreed that this would be a beneficial mode of communication.

Moved by Barbara Buehner
Seconded by Erwin Smith

RESOLVED that, after discussion, to add a Traffic Safety Board Form on the City's website to aide in communication to the Traffic Safety Board for complaints and concerns from the public. The Form will be submitted directly to the Traffic Safety Board Secretary's email address.

Ayes: 8
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Malinowski, Sweet)

MOTION CARRIED

4. 2023 Budget

Discussion:

It was stated that the Traffic Safety Board Budget was cut from \$3,000 to \$1,000. Chairman Burke stated it would have been nice if someone communicated with the Board on this decrease.

5. Vote for Chairman and Vice Chairman

Discussion:

Chairman Burke stated that we annual elections for Chairman Vice Chairman will be conducted at the next meeting in April 2023. He requested that members of the Board submit his/her nominations to the Secretary prior to the next meeting. The Board will vote using these nominations or from nominations made from the Floor.

Motion to adjourn by Don White
Seconded by Gary Hamer

The meeting is hereby adjourned at 2:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Hitchings
Deputy City Clerk
Traffic Safety Board Secretary