

SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 14, 2021
Ludlow Town Hall, Board of Selectmen's Conference Room

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2021 FEB 18 A 11: 50

5:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Members present: Brian Shameklis-Chairman; Penny Lebel; Derek Smolinski; Seth Falconer; Chris Coelho; Ryan Churchill; Barry Linton-Remote

Members Absent: Alex Simao; Jeff Lavoie; Justin Larivee

DISCUSSION:

Traffic Data received from Thomas Welch, Principal of East Street School
Due to school not being in session because of the Coronavirus Pandemic the Commission voted to file this information.

Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file

Second: Mr. Coelho

Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

Town-Wide Speed Limit Signs approved at Town Meeting

Sgt. Shameklis stated that an article passed at the Town Meeting held in June that authorized the placement of new speed limit signs in Town. The speed limit would be 25 mph in thickly settled areas that aren't otherwise posted. The signs need to be located at all town entrances. The Committee voted to send a request to the Department of Public Works to have these signs installed in accordance with the vote at the June Town Meeting.

Motion: Ms. Lebel, to send an email to the Department of Public Works

Second: Mr. Churchill

Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

Request from Selectmen Derek DeBarge to replace a mirror on West Street across from Old West Street
Selectmen DeBarge attended this portion of the meeting.

Mr. DeBarge stated that a mirror used to be in this location several years ago and that he had several requests from residents to replace that mirror for resident's safety. Mr. Churchill stated that he pulled out of this street the previous week and he understands the concern of the residents. He is all for the mirror being put back up.

Mr. Coelho asked if a mirror could also be put up on East Street where Hubbard Street connects to it. There is the same traffic safety issue there as well. He stated there was one located on a pole near the bakery there many years ago and feels that it will help with traffic coming out of Hubbard Street. Mr. Smolinski suggested getting a weatherproof, damage proof mirror for these locations. The Committee voted to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that a mirror be placed on West Street and Old Street and on East Street at Hubbard Street. The location of the mirrors will be at the discretion of the Department of Public Works.

Motion: Ms. Lebel, to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

2021 FEB 18 A 11: 50
CORRESPONDENCE.

21-001 Planning Board – Site Plan – 321 Moody Street (Assessors Map 3, Parcel 109), Meredith-Springfield Associates, Inc. – **COMMENTS NEEDED**

Motion: Ms. Lebel, no Safety Committee concerns

Second: Mr. Smolinski

Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-002 Planning Board – Site Plan – 0 State Street (Assessors Map 14B, Parcel 130), Winn Development – **COMMENTS NEEDED**

The Committee discussed parking concerns in this area.

21-002a Planning Board – Site Plan – rescheduled public hearing

Motion: Mr. Coelho, no comments at this time, we will send comments later if needed

Second: Mr. Smolinski

Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-003 Planning Board – Definitive Subdivision Plan – 0 Chapin Street (Assessors Map 11D, Parcel 115), Sodi, Inc., c/o Ralph Capua – **COMMENTS NEEDED**

Ms. Lebel gave everyone a copy of the traffic study that was completed. She stated that she believes the owner of this development is objecting to the crosswalk due to cost. She stated that because of the location of the elementary school there, that a crosswalk is extremely important. She also stated that the Committee gave comments to the Planning Board already and they were that we want LED lighting, sidewalks within the development and the crosswalk. Mr. Coelho stated that he thinks they want to remove the island in the middle of the cul-de-sac. There is a concern about fire trucks being able to maneuver within the development. The Committee voted to reiterate their comments that were previously submitted including LED lighting on the street, sidewalks within the subdivision, and the crosswalk at Chapin Street and Santana Drive. And add conclusion #4 in the traffic study which is the recommendation for a crosswalk.

Motion: Ms. Lebel, to reiterate previously submitted comments

Second: Mr. Churchill

Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-003a Planning Board – Definitive Subdivision Plan – rescheduled public hearing

Motion: Ms. Lebel, to reiterate comments – LED lighting;

Second: Mr. Churchill

Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-004 Planning Board – Legal Notice – 29 Brownell Street (Map 15C, Parcel 87), Scott Fortin – home office for sprinkler company

Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file

Second: Mr. Coelho

Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-005 Planning Board – Legal Notice – 58 Libby Street (Map 2C, Parcel 20A), Lori Gravelin – in-home dog sitting/care, foster care
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

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21-006 Planning Board – Legal Notice – 21 Nora Lane (Map 10, Parcel 183), Andrew & Evelyn Soucie – change of ownership for accessory apartment
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

TOWN OF LUDLOW

21-007 Planning Board – Legal Notice – 190 Sewall Street (Map 15A, Parcel 496), Susan M. Armentano – massage therapy
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-008 Planning Board – Legal Notice – 50 Andrew Street, Jonathan Belanger for a cleaning business
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-009 Planning Board – Legal Notice – 114 Coolidge Avenue, Paul Sadowski for a HVAC business
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-010 Planning Board – Notice of Decision, Special Permit/Home Occupation – Lisa A. Dowers, 119 Barre Drive
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-011 Planning Board – Notice of Decision, Special Permit/Home Occupation – Jamie Jacobs, 193 Center Street
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

21-012 Planning Board – Notice of Decision, Special Permit/Home Occupation – Lori Gravelin, 58 Libby Street
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

- 21-013 Planning Board - Notice of Decision, Special Permit/Accessory Apartment – Andrew & Evelyn Soucie, 21 Nora Lane
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor
- 21-014 Planning Board – Notice of Decision, Special Permit/Home Occupation – Susan M. Armentano, 190 Sewall Street
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor
- 21-015 Planning Board – Approval of Change of Occupancy/DBA Application – Thuy Vi Nguyen, 190 East Street
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor
- 21-016 Planning Board - Site Plan Approval - Jeff Randall PE, Hill-Engineers – 321 Moody Street
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor
- 21-017 Board of Selectmen – Articles for the May 10, 2021 Annual Town Meeting Warrant and the Annual Town Report
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor
- 21-018 Planning Board – Legal Notice, Special Permit/Home Occupation – Joseph M. Scurti, 299 Fuller Street
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to file
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Shameklis stated that he spoke with the Chairman of Board of Public Works and a packet will be sent to the State DOT regarding the tractor trailer issues on Swan Avenue. He stated that we have to meet 1 of 3 different warrants in order for the State to authorize no tractor trailers on state roads. One is that these trucks will cause damage to the road; one is that it is a primarily residential area which we meet but it would only exclude the trucks during the night time hours. The other is that the truck traffic would have to be between 5% & 8% of the total traffic and that it caused a safety hazard. The traffic study that was completed by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission found that there is 10% to 12% of the traffic on Swan Avenue is truck traffic. So it meets that standard.

Mr. Coelho stated that the lighting on East Street is terrible. Mr. Churchill stated that this has been a topic of discussion recently at the Police Department. Mr. Churchill stated that he had proposed LED to

the Board of Selectmen in the past. He feels it is definitely a safety issue. Mr. Coelho would like to have a representative from Eversource attend a meeting either with the Safety Committee or the Board of Selectmen. Sgt. Shameklis stated that the Chief of Police has tasked he and Officer Churchill with looking at the current light situation and do a survey of all the Town's lighting issues. He stated the Chief would like to bring this to the Board of Selectmen in the spring. Sgt. Shameklis stated that is has been well documented that lighting alone decreased criminal activity by 30%.

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Officer Smolinski asked if there was an update on when the crosswalk on East Street in front of Walgreens would be moved. The Committee voted to send a request for an update on moving this crosswalk to the Department of Public Works. Mr. Linton stated that he would bring it up at the next meeting of the Board of Public Works.

TOWN OF LUDLOW

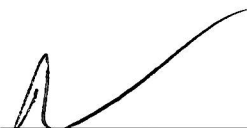
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to send a letter to the DPW
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 in favor

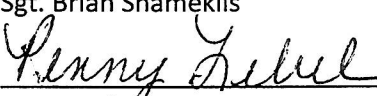
Officer Smolinski stated that maybe the Town should look into eliminating some parking spaces on East Street, specifically the first one to the left of Hubbard Street to help alleviate traffic issues. It was suggested that a municipal parking lot be added in that area.

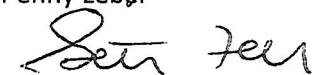
Committee to approve and sign the meeting minutes of November 12, 2020
Motion: Ms. Lebel, to approve and sign the meeting minutes.
Second: Mr. Coelho
Vote: Roll-call 7-0 in favor


Mr. Churchill asked if there was any update on a comprehensive plan for redoing all the signage in town which was presented to the Committee by Mike Suprenant, Director of the DPW about a year ago. Sgt. Shameklis stated he hasn't heard anything. Mr. Linton stated that he hasn't heard anything at any BPW meetings but he will ask at their next meeting.

Ms. Lebel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smolinski, to adjourn at 5:59 p.m. Vote: Roll-call 7-0 all in favor




Sgt. Brian Shameklis


Penny Lebel


Seth Falconer


Ryan Churchill



Derek Smolinski



Barry Linton

Alex Simao



Chris Coelho