

Town of Wareham
BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS
Monday, September 19, 2022

MINUTES

Location: The Wareham Board of Road Commissioners meeting was held in Room 27 of the Wareham Town Hall and via Zoom teleconferencing.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chair Buckland.

Members Present: Roll Call: Chair Kenneth Buckland, Marie Greig, Howard Smith, Joseph Cardoza

Members Absent: Municipal Maintenance Director David Menard, and Police Chief Walter Correia

Also present were Winna Dean, Scott Denson and two members of the public.

Chair Buckland asked if anyone would be willing to act as Clerk Pro Tem for the meeting. No member volunteered.

Minutes: Approval of the Minutes of August 15 was postponed as no minutes were created.

Preliminary Business:

A. Citizen Comments: Winna Dean spoke of her concern of many cottages putting on second floors and renting them out without putting in driveways. She states people are parking in the Temple Street lot which is filling up. She stated that residents are parking in the first half of the tennis courts and employees have no place to park. She also is concerned that although she thinks pickleball is great, so many people are taking parking spaces. She would like to see the Hammond Field lot open for parking. Another concern is the speeding along Onset Avenue. She would like to see more enforcement for speeding because summer brings many people crossing the street. She also noted that the crosswalks were painted in the village but the crosswalk in front of St. Mary's needs to be painted because cars speed down the hill and many people cross when church is in session. She complimented the people who manage the kiosks but would like to see the town hire more people to do so.

B. Vacancy for At-Large Commissioner: Chair Buckland asked members to recruit for this position. Member Smith said he has tried as did Member Grieg but that the Commissioners get no support for their work, and no one wants to volunteer for the board. Chair Buckland asked if the Commission was necessary then. Member Cardoza stated that the Road Commissioners were not allowed to do their work. Member Smith stated that some of their recommendations get done and some do not. Chair Buckland again asked the members to try to recruit someone for this position.

Old Business:

A. Discussion and Possible Vote: Plymouth Rd. Speed on Road: Chair Buckland stated that Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) used its speed computer and vehicle type system on Plymouth Road but that he had not received the report of the results yet. A discussion took place on the condition of the road, and everyone agreed that the requested signs needed to be placed and enforcement was also needed. Member Smith suggested four signs on each side of the road. The residents had requested 20 mile per hour signs.

Motion: Member Smith moved to place the signs as requested and to notify Municipal Maintenance and the Chief of Police. Second by Member Greig. Voice vote was unanimous. 4-0-0.

B. East Boulevard Parking and Signs: Member Greig left the meeting. Member Smith stated there was no longer a quorum. The parking lines were painted over, and the no parking signs were placed by Municipal Maintenance. The next day the owner removed the signs and repainted the lines. Chair Buckland suggested that the issue be turned over to the Board of Selectmen to follow through. Member Smith stated that the issue was sent to the Board of Selectmen last year, and the Selectmen sent it back to the Road Commissioners which is why he stated that the Road Commissioners get no support from the Selectmen. Member Smith asked why if anyone else removed Town signs, the act would be enforced, but in this case it was not. A citizen off camera and not identified stated that a guardrail should be installed. A discussion took place, and Chair Buckland suggested that he thought the Board of Selectmen could ask for an appropriation of funds for a guardrail. No vote could be taken on this guardrail suggestion because of a lack of a quorum, but it was decided that it could be recommended. A second unidentified citizen also said a guardrail might help, then complained about the Town's marinas and Tempest Knob and other management issues. Member Greig returned at 4:26 pm.

New Business:

A. Discussion and Possible Vote: Public Way signs on Murphy Street area, Swifts Beach – Michael Marzullo. Member Smith gave a history of the area and of Murphy Street. Mr. Marzullo was not present, but a resident of 13 Murphy Street, Scott Denson, explained that he owned the only house there currently. He explained that cars come down his driveway with drivers who appear confused, then turn around and leave. People driving golf carts also come down his driveway and ask if it is the road. Mr. Denson came to the meeting because he wanted to know what Mr. Marzullo was requesting. Chair Buckland put a map up on the Zoom screen and Mr. Denson proceeded to explain the area. Chair Buckland stated that the request was to identify Murphy Street as a public way to Columbia Street. Columbia is an accepted street, but Murphy is not. Member Smith stated that the Commission should not make any decision until Mr. Marzullo came to the meeting to explain exactly what he was requesting. The issue will be tabled until Mr. Marzullo can attend a meeting.

Correspondence:

A. Discussion and Possible Vote: Safe Streets for All referral – SRPEDD: Chair Buckland explained that the US Department of Transportation will be accepting grant applications for the federal government program for intersection improvements. SRPEDD has asked for a letter of recommendation from the Road Commission that could eventually put the Town on the list for improvements of our intersections and other traffic issues if SRPEDD gets a grant.

Motion: Member Cardoza moved to send a letter of recommendation. Second by Member Greig. Voice vote of 3-0-1. Member Smith abstained.

Any Other Business/Discussion: None

Next Meeting: November 28, 2022

Adjournment: Member Smith moved to adjourn at 4:59 pm. Second by Member Greig. The meeting was adjourned by a vote of 4-0-0.

Transcribed by N. Bicki, 12/30/2022

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Buckland, Chair

Documents Used: Map of Murphy Street and area; Letter from SRPEDD