

**Town of Wareham
BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS
Monday, January 13, 2020**

MINUTES

Location: The Wareham Board of Road Commissioners meeting was held on January 13, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 27 of Memorial Town Hall.

Members Present: Chair Kenneth Buckland, Member Joseph Cardoza, Recording Secretary John McGonnell, Vice Chair David Menard, Member Howard Smith, Police Chief John Walcek and Member Judith Whiteside. Also present were approximately 12 members of the public and one member of the press.

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

Minutes: The Minutes of the Board of Road Commissioners meeting held on December 9, 2019 were reviewed. Motion by Whiteside to accept the Minutes. Seconded by Smith. Vote: 7-0-0.

Old Business:

Request for Signage at Rose Point Avenue and Barlow Avenue: During discussion, Chief Walcek and Director Menard reported viewing the intersection. Menard felt that two Stop signs would be appropriate at the split of the intersection heading northbound. Chair Buckland reported that he will be issuing a press release regarding the matter to advise the public of the proposed changes, and the matter will be placed on the February 2020 Agenda.

New Business:

Repose Avenue East – Stop Sign: Chair Buckland provided an aerial photograph of the intersection in question. Police Lt. Flaherty gave an overview of the safety concerns at this location which have arisen since the road was opened up following a land dispute with an abutter. Director Menard reported that there are two main safety issues: Speeding vehicles and the fact the area is a thickly-settled district but without a posted speed limit. Additionally, the unprotected intersection of Repose Lane and Round Hill Boulevard is hazardous because through traffic is now going through an area that was previously blocked. Matter tabled. No Board action at this time.

Main Street Parking, South of Tobey Hospital: The matter of temporary "No Parking" restrictions was discussed with the possibility of permanently restricting parking in this area. Chair Buckland advised that public notice will be made regarding this matter, and the matter will be placed on a future agenda.

Rules and Regulations Regarding Street Numbering: Director of Assessment Jacqui Nichols provided Board members with a Memorandum recounting issues with the assignment of building numbers currently in the purview of the Road Commissioners. She explained the need for additional guidelines and policies. She advised of many instances of duplicate addresses, self-assigned numbering by property owners and locations with no numbering whatsoever. All these matters create public safety issues. Also provided were proposals to have the Assessor's office assume the responsibility of assigning addresses and lot numbers for all new properties and subdivisions in order to streamline the process. During discussion, Board members agreed that these proposals have merit and are necessary. Board members further agreed that this matter should be addressed via a Bylaw and not the Town Charter. Motion by Whiteside to accept these recommendations. Seconded by Menard. Vote: 7-0-0.

[Note: Chief Walcek had to leave the meeting at 4:52 p.m.]

Sidewalk Clearing Bylaw: Chair Buckland reported that this matter has been brought up in the past, but new concerns have arisen because of the Commonwealth's intent to install new sidewalks on portions of Cranberry Highway. The Commonwealth has indicated these sidewalks will not be maintained by its Department of Public Works. Chair Buckland provided bylaws from the Towns of Needham and Wakefield regarding this issue. Discussion followed, and Board members felt there are many issues facing residents and business owners relative to this matter. It was agreed that a Public Hearing should be held prior to any Board action.

Correspondence:

Job's Island Road Addresses: There was a request by the owner of 16 Job's Island Road for street signage due to confusion arising because access to the area is through the Woods at Wareham apartment complex. During discussion, it was revealed that this property is being offered for sale, and to properly post it, a number of signs would be required. The primary reason for this request appears to be assisting with the sale of the property, a private matter. There was a motion by Whiteside to deny the sign request. Seconded by Menard. Vote: 6-0-0.

Bay Pointe Drive and Cahoon Road – Proposal of Stonestreet Corp.: Chair Buckland gave an overview of the project along with prior concerns and complaints involving traffic issues. Michael Tobin, of 16 Cahoon Road voiced concerns of Cahoon Road residents and spoke in favor of Stonestreet's proposal to dead-end Cahoon and add a cul-de-sac to address safety issues on a narrow roadway. Deborah McGonnell of 36 Bay Pointe Drive Extension spoke in opposition to the proposal, citing concerns of the residents of Bay Pointe Village Condominium regarding the issue of public safety access by emergency response vehicles impacted by a longer response route and congestion from the addition of 84 new housing units as well as golf course and function facility traffic. Chair Buckland indicated these matters are primarily in the purview of the Planning Board and would be discussed later in the evening at the Planning Board meeting. No Board action.

Any Other Business/Discussion:

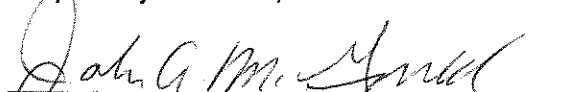
Member Whiteside reported that she has researched the drainage issues at Gauvin Street and Glen Charlie Road. She learned that Charlie Rowley had engineered the plan for the area, but the system was not properly constructed, resulting in the flooding issues.

Resident Winna Dean inquired about the condition of a pedestrian crosswalk on Onset Avenue at St. Mary's Church and also the lack of a crosswalk on Union Avenue to the Temple parking lot. Municipal Maintenance Director Menard indicated that his department will repaint the Onset Avenue crosswalk and will install a new crosswalk on Union Avenue to the Temple parking lot in the spring when weather conditions permit.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 10, 2020.

Adjournment: Smith moved to adjourn. Seconded by Menard. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m. by a vote of 6-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,


John McGonnell, Recording Secretary

These Minutes were reviewed and accepted by unanimous vote at the meeting of the Board of Road Commissioners held on February 10, 2020.