

**MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING  
TRAFFIC ORDINANCE  
Grafton Town Hall Upstairs In Person/Live  
With accommodation for persons unable to attend in person via interactive Zoom**

**Monday, March 20, 2022, 5:30 pm**

Present at the meeting in the Town Hall:

Selectboard: Chair, Joe Pollio, Vice Chair Cathy Siano-Goodwin, John Gregory, Rich Thompson, and Seth Pajcic.

Also: Michael Parker, Maureen Parker, Pamela Johnson-Spurlock, Mike Faulkner, David Rogers, Rodney Record, Kim Record, Wendy Martin, Patrick Cooperman, Bill Kearns, Russell Record, Colby Record, Sam Battaglino, Liisa Kissel, Maggie Stewart, Don Dougall, Kirk Goodwin, Dottie Cannon, Norm Robertson, Linda Robertson, Amber Stevens, and Morgan Wilbur

Present online: Sergeant Chris Norton, Eric Stevens, Cheryl Kauffman, and Nancy Merrill

1. Call to order: The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30 pm and Joe Pollio invited comments on the intersection in Cambridgeport.

Pamela Johnson-Spurlock, who is a resident in the area of the Cambridgeport Bridge intersection, opened the discussion by expressing her concerns in regard to the traffic and motorists who travel that intersection. She said that speed had increased, and it had been dangerous for her and her family to pull out of their driveway.

Maureen Parker, who is also a resident in the area of the intersection, discussed the need for an engineering study. She referenced the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* that states stop signs should not be used for speed control and that the decision to install multiway stop control should be based on an engineering study. Michael Parker said a few months ago the board had talked about painting stripes on the road and asked why that hadn't been done yet. John Gregory said they are working on scheduling someone to paint, and it should happen when the weather is nicer. Parker also noted that it would be important and helpful to put up signs alerting traffic of the new traffic pattern ahead.

David Rogers, who is an employee of the Town of Grafton highway department, said it had been increasingly more difficult to safely plow snow in the intersection because of the increased speed from Athens and Grafton traffic.

Sargent Chris Norton, the Highway Safety Coordinator for Windham County, said no matter what decision the Town decides to he recommended there be a great effort in notifying people of the traffic pattern change; for example, using social media, electronic signboards, flashing signs, etc.

Kirk Goodwin mentioned that if there were three stop signs at the intersection, drivers would at least need to slow down.

Discussion ensued regarding speed in the intersection and enforcement. Again, according to the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, stop signs should not be used for speed control. The board suggested requesting the Sheriff's department have officers patrol more in Cambridgeport, rather than in the center of the

village, particularly early in the morning (6:00 am to 10:00 am) and in the afternoon (2:00 pm to 6:00 pm). The consensus was those times were the busiest times of the day for traffic.

Sam Battaglino asked if the Town gets any money from fines that are written by the Sheriff's department. Sargent Norton responded and said that their department does not collect any of the fine money; a portion goes to the town and the other portion goes to the court. Kim Record mentioned the fine money will increase for the Town budget now that there is an ordinance in place.

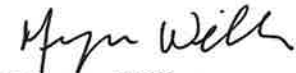
After discussion, it was determined that these changes/additions would be made to the traffic ordinance:

• Move the stop sign from the bridge back to Athens where Route 35 meets Route 121; leaving no stop sign at the Cambridgeport Bridge. Reinstall the yield sign on the Grafton side.

Essentially, the intersection would go back to how it was prior to the change that took place in November. The board agreed to talk to the Vermont Agency of Transportation department to determine what the best course of action would be.

2. Close the hearing. It was moved by Rich Thompson, seconded by Cathy Siano-Goodwin, to close the hearing at 6:16 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Morgan Wilbur