

Traffic Committee
MINUTES
November 19, 2013

Committee Members

Present:

Chairman Susan Ruinen, Vice-Chair Clyde Smith, Secretary Karen Hanner, Randy Edwards, Mark Churchill, Robert Diatkar, Bob Ferrell, David McGehee, Lt. Matt Davis, Rosemary Wilson, Larry Yon, Parks Streets and Sanitation Director Dan Walker, Planning Commission Liaison Lisa Gibson

Attending:

Town Administrator Britt Poole, Chief Terrence Green, Major Jay Koon, Planning, Building and Technology Director John Hanson, Tiffany Smith, Officer Dee Cochran

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM in the Eli Mack Room by Chair Susan Ruinen.

October Minutes:

Chair Susan Ruinen asked if there were any corrections or comments regarding the October minutes. David McGehee made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Rosemary Wilson seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Relocation Corley Mill Rd:

Chair Ruinen stated she had not talked to Mr. Sawyer at SCDOT yet. There was no other additional information on the project. Mark Churchill commented that there is now a **No Right Turn on Red** sign on the Ginny Lane side of the intersection that is causing traffic to back up even more than before. Chief Green stated there have not been a large number of accidents at that location. Chair Ruinen said she would ask SCDOT about that too.

Phase 1:

Britt Poole reported the Phase I project is 65% complete with very few problems with traffic reported. The initial asphalt stage of the project is expected to begin at the end of December and may cause some traffic delays. Chair Ruinen commented that the right lane from George Street going towards West Main Street is marked with a Right Turn Only.

Crosswalk at Old Chapin Rd:

Chief Green introduced Ms. Tiffany Smith who had contacted him about an issue on Old Chapin Road. Ms. Smith stated she lives at Churchwood Apartments (144 Old Chapin Road). She is legally blind and has difficulty walking across Old Chapin Road to get to the sidewalk which connects to the stores and restaurants on West Main Street. That section of Old Chapin Road is at the crest of a hill with poor visibility of pedestrians. Chief Green shared photos of the area with the committee members (attached). Chair Ruinen commented

that Old Chapin Road is a state maintained road and SCDOT does not like to approve mid-block crosswalks due to safety issues. Chief Green shared the results of a speed study done between November 8 and November 15, 2013 showing an average speed of 30-33 in a 35 mph zone (attached). Chair Ruinen said she would talk to SCDOT about the problem.

Insync Signal: Britt Poole reported that changes and revisions are underway on the Insync application.

Interchange at I-20 & 378: Britt Poole stated there would be a pre-construction meeting today for the Beautification Project. The trees should be planted by the end of January.

Vision Plan: Clyde Smith asked about the status of the sale of the Shirey building. Mr. Poole said there is no contract yet but there will be a meeting with SCDHEC to talk about the property today. The property at 206 North Church Street was sold to the Wild Smiles Pediatric Dental Office. The process to begin creation of a TIF district for development was discussed at the Town Council Work Session on Monday. The demo to start the Icehouse Project is expected to begin in late January or early February.

Martel at Old Mill: Britt Poole told the committee about a meeting with the Old Mill owners for discussion of the proposed closing of Martel Drive and creating an access to the traffic signal with Harmon Street. They also talked about the planned walking trail. Chair Ruinen asked to see a project proposal before the committee made a recommendation.

Resurfacing: Dan Walker reported that the paving project was finishing up work in Mallard Lakes and moving next to Heather Glen in Golden Hills. He reported several complaints from subdivisions that had work done on the major thruways and not on the side streets or cul de sacs. The order for repairs was determined by the engineer's grading system starting with streets that were most in need of repairs.

Park Rd at Willowbrooke: Chief Green shared the results of the speed study done on Park Road between October 22 and November 5, 2013 (attached). The average speed was 31-32 mph. Lisa Gibson commented that residents of Willowbrooke have difficulty turning onto Park Road. Chair Ruinen said she would ask SCDOT to check the sight distance at the intersection.

US 378 at Hope Ferry: Rosemary Wilson commented on the increasing frequency of vehicles eastbound on US378 turning left after the signal changes to red which shortens the time for vehicles to move off of Hope Ferry Road. Britt Poole noted that the Aldi's under construction will have interconnected access to 378 and suggested a re-evaluation of the intersection when that project is completed.

Penny Tax Projects: Susan Ruinen stated that the deadline for submission of projects for consideration by the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission is rapidly approaching. She would like the Traffic Committee to come up with a list of projects to include on a recommendation to Town Council before their meeting during the first week of December. She asked committee members to attend a special meeting to discuss potential projects on Thursday, November 21, 2013 at 7:30 AM in the Eli Mack Room.

The next Traffic Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 8:00 AM in the Eli Mack Room at the Lexington Municipal Complex, 111 Maiden Lane, Lexington, SC.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Robert Diatkar seconded by Lisa Gibson with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Hanner,

Approved By:

Susan Ruinen, Chair