



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

Police Chief Timothy Labrie -Chairman
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March 23, 2022

Northbridge Board of Selectmen
Northbridge Memorial Town Hall
7 Main Street,
Whitinsville MA 01588

Dear Board of Selectmen:

The Northbridge Safety Committee met **WEDNESDAY MARCH 23, 2022** at the Police Department In attendance: Timothy Labrie, David White, George Murray, Jamie Luchini, George Simmons, Peter Bedigian.

The following members of the public were in attendance:
Joel Brown, Rebecca Sasseville, Kelly Blain & Lauren Chuk

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Timothy Labrie called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM

11. NOMINATION/APPOINTMENT –(NEW) SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR

In January James Shuris stepped down as Chairman of the Board due to retirement. Peter Bedigian called to nominate Timothy Labrie as Chairman of the committee and George Murray second the motion, and all were in favor. Jamie Luchini called to nominate David White to Co-Chairman of the board and Peter Bedigian second the motion, and all were in favor.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Upon motion duly made (Labrie) Safety Committee voted to uphold the meeting minutes of December 15, 2021.

IV. GRANITE STREET (OVERNIGHT PARKING COMMERCIAL VEHICLES) – JOEL BROWN, RESIDENT

Mr. Joel Brown a resident of Granite St. for 38 years concerned about overnight parking. For the past year or so, people are leaving their commercial vehicles parked on the street and not sure if they are from around here. He feels this is creating a safety hazard as vehicles are parking too close to the stop sign, resident's driveways, sometimes parking in wrong direction and also blocking trash removal. He proposed that we post 15 min. parking signs, or post for resident parking only or No overnight parking to alleviate this problem. He stated that some vehicles have Florida plates and also large dump trucks left there over night without the proper chalking under the truck tires. Chairman Labrie stated people with Florida plates are Joel's neighbors that work for a local company. Chairman Labrie will talk to the officers to patrol the area, agrees that no large dump trucks should be parked on a public way. He then requested that Mr. Brown call the P.D. if/when this occurs.

George Murray suggest that Mr. Brown call the telephone # listed on the vehicles to try to get the company to remove vehicles. Chairman Labrie states that we do not need to post signage that the police will patrol it. Peter Bedigian stated see how the policing goes and then if problem persists that signs could be posted as lost resort. Mr. Brown was satisfied with this outcome.

George Murray motioned for police to take care of this matter. Jamie Luchini second. All in favor.

V. WHITINSVILLE SOCIAL LIBRARY (CUT THROUGH TRAFFIC) – REBECCA SASSEVILLE, DIRECTOR

Rebecca Sasseville director for the Library for the past 5 years came in with concerns that the public is using the right side driveway as a cut through from Church St. to Cottage St. Library parking lot is located in the rear of the building. it is very small with only 8 spaces and 2 Handicap spaces that access to elevator for strollers and wheelchairs. This driveway is very narrow and cars are speeding down it. Peter Bedigian asked if the town owns the Library, Jamie Luchini answered that we are in charge of it. Chairman Labrie asked if there are One Way signs up. Rebecca said there were no one way signs or traffic signs for the driveway. Chairman Labrie then asked about the frequency and time of the day this is occurring. Rebecca said when it stated at least once a day, more during construction time then it was at least 3 or 4 times a day. Now that people have learned that this could be a short cut, she feels it will continue if nothing done. Chairman Labrie asked Jamie Luchini If we could put up a sign for Library Traffic Only. Jamie said he could. Dave White suggested speed bumps. Jamie said it would be difficult to plow. Peter Bedigian stated the drive way is not enforceable property. George Murray suggested that we add to the sign "Library parking/ no through traffic" George motioned the signage and Peter Bedigian second it. Chairman Labrie suggested that Rebecca try to grab plate #s and call it into the P.D. for follow ups.

VI. 233 GOLDTHWAITE RD (SIDEWALKS) – KELLY BLAIN & LAUREN CHUK, RESIDENTS

Recently built a house here and have small children. They notice that the street is very busy with speeding cars. They fear that their children will go too close to road. They are proposing that sidewalks be put in between Mason and Swift roads. This stretch of the road is very dangerous for pedestrians. There is no shoulder with foliage and no visibility to see if cars are coming. The kids cannot get to the neighbors houses by the road and have to ask permission to run through yards to get to their friends houses. The neighbors are all in favor of putting in sidewalks. The mailman has changed his route around due to he cannot cross the road safely there. George Murray stated we looked at this street 2 years ago. We never followed up with this. Neighbors were requesting speed posted signs. In order to put in sidewalks we would have to purchase land. Jamie Luchini there were a lot of issues along with that like poles being moved. George Murray said we were trying to control the problem with the signage. George Murray stated if this was to go forward we are looking over a year for this to even get started, surveyors would have to get involved, and people would have to give up property. It's not a small task. Jamie Luchini stated that if we were to support this it would bring up more issues as everyone in that area would be looking for a sidewalk in front of their house. DPW only gets \$25,000 a year to repair sidewalks in town. Peter Bedigian suggested that the foliage be cleaned out. Chairman Labrie said that the police have spoken to residents about cutting the brush away at other locations and can also do that for this area.. George Murray suggested that Jamie Luchini be in charge of cutting the brush in this area. Jamie Luchini agreed that he could make it a part of the effort to cut the brush. Peter Bedigian suggested enforcing Radar in the area. Chairman Labrie stated that sidewalks are easy when it's a new development however older roads to add new sidewalks are almost impossible. The cost is too great. George Murray suggested putting this in the minutes for the Selectmen to see this is an ongoing problem. Selectmen should be aware to put an article together. Jamie Luchini stated that we could look at grants. Kelly and Lauren stated that the police were welcome to use their driveway for radar purposes. They requested even putting up the

speed radar signs. Peter Bedigian stated that brush being cut back will be a great start. Kelly and Lauren stated that they have cleared their property however cannot make the neighbors clean theirs. Jamie Luchini stated that they could email him if there are any clearing issues. George Murray motioned to recommend speed radar on Goldthwaite Rd. growth of brush be cut back and Selectman be advised about the safety issues and the need for sidewalks. Second by Jamie Luchini. All in favor.

VII. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Linwood Ave Complete Street Program is ongoing and in the engineering phase and will be in the construction phase shortly.

Construction around Christian School is going well. George Murray wanted to know if construction will be done during school hours. Jamie Luchini stated that the consideration is being taken to work around school schedule.

Jamie Luchini stated that the TIP project (Sutton St./Providence Rd.) is on the list for 2026 waiting for funding. The state required round about variations that were turned down, so it is being revisited.

Shining Rock Drive-Trailhead parking area Jamie Luchini stated that signage is up barricades have been removed and have not heard of any big problems. Berkowitz Trucking will be putting in trash receptacles. Peter Bedigian stated that he noticed that the sign is starting to tip and needed addressing. He asked if all the no parking signs are up. Jamie Luchini indicated the "No Parking signs along Shining Rock Drive in the area of this open lot have been installed.

Jamie Luchini stated that the Chevron Signs on Carpenter Rd are up, Plumbers Ave no parking signs between 8pm and 8am are up, and there is nothing to add.

VIII. ESTABLISH 2022 MEETING CALENDAR

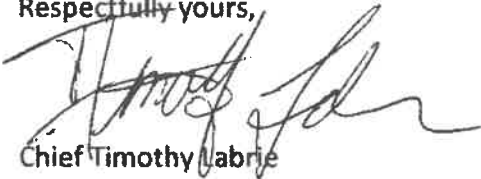
Chairman Labrie stated he would like to start using a meeting calendar for 2022. The meetings will commence on every third Wednesday of the month at 10:00am at the Police Department. George Murray motioned meetings third Wednesday of the month at 10am at the Police Dept. Second by Peter Bedigian. All in favor.

George Murray asked David White and the New Fire Station will be presented to the Safety Committee. Mr. Murray expressed concerns of the traffic on Providence rd. and lighting in the lot near the residences. Dave White stated he will get all info for next meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Peter Bedigian motioned the adjournment of the meeting at 11:10 am and Chairman Labrie second it. All in favor.

Respectfully yours,



Chief Timothy Labrie
Northbridge Police Department
CHAIRMAN, NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

-KMC

Cc: Northbridge Town Clerk
/File

Northbridge Town Manager

Lt. John Ouillette