

John Sousoulas
Valerie Wiel-Wilkins
Patty Austin
Janice Heggie-
Margolis
Christine Ciociola
Robert Nash

BRANFORD BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
33 LAUREL STREET
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06405

Jamie Cosgrove
First Selectman

Jonathan R. Mulhern
Chief of Police

John Sousoulas
Chair



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSION – TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
33 Laurel Street
Branford, CT. 06405-3644
Minutes of Meeting 11-12-2024

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Commissioner John Sousoulas
Commissioner Patty Austin
Commissioner Janice Heggie – Margolis
Commissioner Christine Ciociola

Commissioner Valerie Wiel – Wilkins & Commissioner Robert Nash were absent.

Also present were Chief Jon Mulhern, Deputy Chief John Alves & Lieutenant Phillip Ramey.

Motion to approve the Minutes from the October 15th, 2024 meeting was made by Janice Heggie – Margolis and seconded by Christine Ciociola. Vote was Unanimous.

Handicap Parking Issues: Patty Austin met with the Engineering Dept to discuss if additional handicap parking spaces could be added in the Center of Town. The Engineering Dept. said that they could look into striping the parking lot behind Pasta Cosi, and possibly putting a handicap spot there as well as moving the two handicap spaces behind the old Board of Ed Building to the front of the parking lot for easier access. Another possibility for Handicap parking spaces is in the parking lot behind the new restaurant, Kamana (Formerly Darbar) on Hillside Ave. Deputy Chief Alves advised the committee that additional Handicap spaces are created by the Police during major events in the center of town. Those spaces are located near Harrison Avenue.

Motion to add traffic enforcement rotation to the area around Montoya Circle and Commercial Parkway. Motion made by John Sousoulas and seconded by Janice Heggie – Margolis. Vote was unanimous.

Chief Mulhern had an update on the speed issues on Kirkham Street. The Speed Monitor on Kirkham has been reset and is working well. The monitor on Maple Street has software issues which are still being resolved. This area will also be on the rotation for Traffic Enforcement.

(2)

Update on Line of Site issues on Eastwood and Leetes Island Road: The committee voted to recommend that this be forwarded to the Engineering Department for evaluation as to whether or not the blocking tree is on town or private property.

The request to move speed sign on Indian Neck Avenue: The Town worked with DOT to determine the best location to place the sign and the change the lights in the street for better illumination of this area. Motion to deny the request was made by John Sousoulas and seconded by Christine Ciociola. The vote was unanimous.

Update on the Line-of-Sight issues at the entrance of The Pond Condominiums. This issue was forwarded to the Engineering Department for evaluation, and it was determined that to improve the site line, they suggest that the brush growing over the fence into the towns right-of-way be trimmed back to the fence.

The Engineering Dept. also recommended at t minimum, trimming lower limbs from the Evergreen Trees. The Branches on the White Birch tree further north are also blocking the sight lines. However, they suggested reevaluating this impact once the other items have been trimmed. The shrub to the right appears to be placed in The Ponds property as part of their overall landscaping. It is also important, the department noted, that the brick pillars within the Ponds property are contributing to the black sight lines and they suggested that they be removed.

Motion to accept all the Engineering Departments recommendations was made my Janice Heggie – Margolis and seconded by John Sousoulas. Vote was unanimous.

Request for a Stop Sign at Damascus and Totoket Road – No Action Taken.

Motion to Include to the Agenda issues from Pine Orchard was made by John Sousoulas and seconded by Christine Ciociola. Vote was Unanimous.

A Speed Sign Location was marked out with the Department of Public Works just north of Birch on Pine Orchard Road – across from #193 or Northbound Traffic. This is a favorable location with a clear Line of Sign for the speed sign and also allows the solar panel to function properly. Motion to approve and order a new sign was made by Christine Ciociola and seconded by John Sousoulas. Vote was unanimous.

Request for a *Slow* sign from Pine Orchard Road on Spring Rock Road – No Action.

Motion to add Traffic Enforcement to this area was made by John Sousoulas and seconded by Janice Heggie – Margolis. Vote was unanimous.

Overgrown shrubs entering Pine Orchard from Spring Rock Rd. is creating a Line- of- Site Issue. Motion to recommend that the shrubs be cut back was made by John Sousoulas and seconded by Christine Ciociola. Vote was unanimous. Lieutenant Ramey to follow up with Dept of Public Works to get the shrubs pruned.

(3)

Citizens Comments:

Residents from Stony Creek attended the meeting to discuss the Speeding Issue. We will be adding this area to the rotation for Speed Enforcement.

Adjournment.

Patty Austin
Commissioner
Chair, Traffic Committee