

File

Complete Streets Committee Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: April 30, 2018
TIME SCHEDULED: 7:30 P.M.
LOCATION: Town Offices, Meeting Room 2
MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Cafferty (Pathway)
Alison Demong (Selectmen)
Peter Bloomfield (At-Large)
Ellen Moshier, Chair (At-Large)
Glenn Ferguson (Highway Surveyor / Tree Warden)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Gary Schaffer, Clerk (Recreation)
Patrick Campbell (Planning)

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Kenneth Kirkland (Town Planner)

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Agenda

Chair Moshier moved to start meeting at 7:31. The motion was approved 6-0.

April 13, 2018 Minutes

Member Demong moved to approve the minutes of April 13, 2018 at the next meeting. The motion was approved 5-0.

Bills

1. Abutters' Hearing: Attendance: Around 20 Residents

At 7:31, Chair Moshier motioned and Member Demong seconded to open the Abutter's Hearing for the Main Street Sidewalk Project. After reading the Notice of Public Hearing and indicating that the Plans were available for review on the adjacent table, Chair Moshier opened for commentary.

A resident asked about the general nature of the proposed sidewalk. Chair Moshier illustrated that the Main Street Sidewalk Project was a continuation of the existing sidewalk from Hanover Town Line to South Street.

Responding to a funding inquiry, Chair Moshier indicated that the funding was a mixture from MassDOT (\$200,000.00), Town Meeting Free Cash Appropriation (\$200,000.00), and the Planning Board's Pedestrian Travel Improvement Fund, (\$100,000.00) for a total \$500,000.00. Member Demong clarified that "Free Cash" was

a misnomer and the account was funded through Departmental annual budgetary surplus.

A resident inquired about the addition of a crosswalk across the roads. Chair Moshier indicated that the existing terminus of the sidewalk would be cut, an ADA Mat would be installed, and a painted crosswalk added to cross the street. This would be installed at South Street and Cushing Hill Road. While there were no proposed Main Street crosswalks planned for this segment, crosswalks are possible in future extensions.

A resident inquired about mailbox replacement. Highway Surveyor Ferguson indicated that mailboxes would be replaced in the same spot and the look would replicate those on the existing sidewalk stretch. Regarding mailbox movement, Fire Chief Reardon in the audience indicated that anyone who wished to move mailboxes across the street would need to petition the Postal Service.

Addressing the audience in response to a question about safety, Fire Chief Reardon indicated that the existing sidewalk has not posed any significant or measurable effect on emergency medical service (EMS) response time along Main Street. He also indicated that Police Chief Ross had indicated to him that pedestrian enhancements along other roads in Norwell have resulted in measureable decreases in speed. In general, Fire Chief Reardon stated that the mere presence of pedestrian enhancements slows speed and increases driver awareness of their surroundings.

Highway Surveyor Ferguson indicated that vertical granite curbing would be installed along the proposed sidewalk along with the necessary curb cuts at houses as it was along the existing stretch. He also stated that the existing sidewalk stretch is the template for how sidewalks in general would look in Norwell. Town Planner Kirkland added that rural communities like Norwell had greater flexibility to account for natural features such as significant trees and contours in sidewalk design and installation.

There being no other comments, Member Demong moved and Chair Moshier seconded to close the Abutters' Hearing at 7:51pm. The motion was approved 5-0.

2. **2018 Town Meeting:** The Committee discussed the Town Meeting presentation and Member Bloomfield wished to keep the presentation around 5 minutes. He asked for general talking and clarification points. Chair Moshier and Highway Surveyor Ferguson could provide technical knowledge and information as needed.

Adjournment

Chair Moshier moved and Member Cafferty seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:15. The motion was approved 5-0.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: April 30, 2018

These minutes have been approved with reading of the minutes by the Norwell Complete Streets Committee at a public meeting duly noticed and held on May 18, 2018, in accordance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

Signed: Ellen Mashin Date: 5/18/18
Chair/Clerk/Alternate Clerk

Copy filed with: Office of Town Clerk
Planning File

Post to Committee's Webpage