

**PORTSMOUTH  
TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING  
8:00 a.m. – Thursday, August 10, 2006  
City Hall - Council Chambers**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Ken Smith, Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00.m.

**II. ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:**

Councilor Ken Smith, Chairman	Jonathan Bailey, Member
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director	Ted Gray, Member
Police Captain Janet Champlin	Herb Bunnell, Member
Fire Chief Chris LeClaire	Eric Spear, Member
Deborah Finnigan, P.E., Traffic Engineer	John Connor, Member

**III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

**IT WAS VOTED** on a Motion made by Ted Gray to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2006 meeting. Seconded by Jonathan Bailey. Motion passed.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

- (A) **Dunlin Way** – Request for Stop Sign (resident e-mail dated 8/1/06 attached) – Debbie Finnigan referred to an e-mail from a resident and the on-site. A stop sign may have been taken down. During the on-site it was determined to be appropriate to place a stop sign and a stop bar together. It was recommended that the sign be placed together with a stop bar on Osprey Drive at Dunlin Way..

**MOTION** made by Fire Chief LeClaire to place the stop sign together with a stop bar at Osprey Drive at Dunlin Way. Seconded by Ted Gray. Motion passed.

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

- (A) **Same or Similar Street Names** – Possibility of Name Changes - Memorandum dated August 2, 2006 to Dave Holden attached – Police Captain Champlin stated the position of the Police Department is that the bigger difference in names the better it is for safety reasons. It is a safety issue having names that are similar or same and requests for changes being made. Fire Chief LeClaire stated this has been a problem for a number of years and is a safety hazard and agrees with Police Department concerning changing the names. The Chair referred to when he was on the Planning Board there was a change to numerous street names due to working with 911- approx. 20 names. There was discussion regarding changes names such as Middle St., Middle Rd. and is important to look into this again. The correct way is to send this request to the Planning Board and have them look at renaming and redesignating them.

**MOTION** made by Fire Chief LeClaire to refer this to the Planning Board to look into renaming and redesignate the same and similar name streets. Seconded by Eric Spear. Motion passed.

John Connor stated that in reviewing the list he found a couple of names that probably should be listed, High Street and Chestnut Street.

Fire Chief LeClaire stated Cate St. and Gate St.

The Chair stated that the Planning Board will work closely with Police and Fire.

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS:**

- (A) **Woodbury Avenue** - Adverse Effects of Illegal Truck Traffic on Woodbury Avenue – Steve Parkinson referred to a letter Lenore Bronson of the Frank Jones Farm Neighborhood Association wrote to the City Manager regarding a project for traffic calming methods which is in the capital plan for Woodbury Avenue from I-95 to Market St. ext. Part of her comments originally dealt with the truck traffic on Woodbury Ave. Her latest request to the Traffic & Safety Committee is what this Committee would recommend for steps to be taken prior to the construction of any improvement there and is scheduled for 2011-2012, there is no funding for this project at this time. Currently there is a Truck Prohibition Ordinance that any truck over 12 ft in length is prohibited to use Woodbury Ave. from Dennett St. to intersection of Market St. Ext. Steve has not had a chance to see if all signs are in place. The prohibition applies to the complete length of Woodbury Ave. from Bartlett St. to Market St. ext. There is another Ordinance denoting a designated truck route from the ramp at I-95 (Exit 6) to Dennett St. Dennett St. from Woodbury to Bartlett is denoted as a truck route and Bartlett St. from Dennett to Islington is also denoted as a truck route. It is more of an enforcement issue at this point in time, once verification of signs is done and educating truck drivers they cannot use basically from the I-95 ramp to Market St. Ext. in one direction and from Dennett St. to Bartlett St. in the other direction. The Chair asked for a report back at the next meeting regarding signage and enforcement by the Police Department.

**MOTION** made by Police Captain Champlain for a report back from Public Works Department regarding the signage and enforcement by the Police Department. Seconded by Fire Chief LeClaire. Motion passed.

**South Street** – Speed Limit - Eric Spear referred to 20 MPH on South St. being inappropriately too slow in comparison to other streets that are 25-30 MPH. Would like to increase to 25-30 MPH. at stretch of road at South/Middle/Sagamore.

The Chair reported that Debbie Finnigan is currently working on a report of different speed limits and our Ordinances and requested Debbie make this part of her report.

Police Captain Champlin reported the Police Department receives a lot of speeding reports. The problem is this road has a lot by pedestrians with students going to Little Harbor School at one end and the high school at the other end during the school year. The other issue is the way the road curves down, people tend to speed, which factor into a 20 MPH speed limit, and would defer to whatever studies are being done.

Herb Bunnell stated that this has come before us twice. The report showed that the public had set their own speed limit and do not exceed more than 25-30 MPH.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** Adjourned at approx. 8:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

---

Elaine E. Boucas, Secretary