

**MINUTES
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
STANDISH, MAINE
TUESDAY, JULY 27, 2021
STANDISH MUNICIPAL CENTER
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeClerc called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Councilor present: Butler, Delcourt, LeClerc, Libby, Marci and Paul.
Councilor Gaba was excused.

NEW BUSINESS

64-21 Authorize Letter to MaineDOT for Change to Speed Limit on Route 114 in the Vicinity of Family and Friends Campground [Leclerc]

After reading the order the letter to the MaineDOT was read into the record.

July 27, 2021
Mr. Randy Illian, P.E.
Southern Region Traffic Engineer
Maine Department of Transportation
51 Pleasant Hill Road
Scarborough, ME 0474

RE: Speed Limit Review Route 114

Dear Mr. Illian,

At the July 13, 2021 meeting of the Standish Town Council, a number of citizens voiced concerns of the speed limit in the vicinity of the Family and Friends Campground. The campground is on Route 114 approximately 0.75 mile north of the intersection of Route 114 and Route 35. There have been two accidents recently in the area of the entrance to the campground and the feedback from the citizens is that the speed limit should be lowered. The process for a speed limit review was explained and was highly endorsed.

The Town of Standish would like the Maine Department of Transportation to evaluate the 55 MPH speed zone starting approximately 0.5 mile North of the Route 114 and Route 35 intersection which is at the end of the 35 MPH speed zone. The Town would like the review to extend at least 0.70 mile to the area of Stickey River.

The Town would also appreciate some feedback on any additional signage that could be installed by the campground owner, the Town or the State that would enhance safety in the area.

Sincerely,
Gregory LeClerc, Chair, Standish Town Council

Chair LeClerc called for Council comments.

Councilor Delcourt questioned why the letter was only requesting the review of seven-tenths of a mile of Route 114?

Bill Giroux, Town Manager, explained that he had driven the route, noting that the recent accidents had been in the vicinity of the campground to the Stickey River. He said that they can amend the letter if they choose.

Councilor Delcourt asked if the MaineDOT could review the entire length of the road?

Chair LeClerc said that he could offer an amendment to the letter.

Councilor Butler said wouldn't the MaineDOT as part of their review, advise us how far the reduced speed limit area should be.

Bill Giroux explained that the way the law is written towns must request the area to be reviewed. He continued to explain that there are issues in the Wards Cove area where the posted speed limit is as low as it can be, noting that drivers speed in that area. He said that there was no harm in requesting a review of the entire road.

Moved by Delcourt seconded by Libby to amend the letter to the Maine DOT to have the MaineDOT evaluate the speed limit starting at the Route 114 and Route 35 intersection to the Sebago town line.

Councilor Marci commented that in the amendment we are not suggesting what the speed limit should be, just the area to review, is that correct?

Bill Giroux explained that the review will be based on national standards that take many things into consideration for the MaineDOT to come to their determination.

Moved by Delcourt seconded by Libby to and voted amend the letter to the Maine DOT to have the MaineDOT evaluate the speed limit starting at the Route 114 and Route 35 intersection to the Sebago town line. (6 Years)

~~The Town of Standish would like the Maine Department of Transportation to evaluate the 55-MPH speed zone limit starting approximately 0.5 mile North of at the Route 114 and Route 35 intersection which is at the end of the 35-MPH speed zone. The Town would like the review to extend at least 0.70 mile to the area of Stickey River. to the Sebago town line.~~

Chair LeClerc called for public comments on the order as amended, hearing none, he called for the roll call vote on the order as amended.

VOTE ON ORDER AS AMENDED: 6 Years

PUBLIC ITEMS

Chair LeClerc asked if there were any public items. Chair LeClerc highlighted actions that have been taken so far regarding the Route 114 issue: stepped-up enforcement in the area, the discussion of the installation of solar powered speed notification sign, currently, due to the diligence of the Town Manager a temporary radar speed sign has been installed in the area, the letter to MaineDOT requested a review of the area and a meeting was held today – he, Bill Giroux and Bill Diamond discussed a comprehensive plan to address traffic in Standish to encompass safety, economic growth and other issues.

Councilor Delcourt noted that in the past the Sheriff's Department set up traffic details in the vicinity of the Edna Libby School and it didn't take long for the speeding in that area to stop. Council Delcourt thanked the Chair for his effort on this matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was not held at this meeting.

ADJOURN

Moved Libby by seconded Butler and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Submitted by: _____
Clerk/Secretary