

**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
STANDISH, MAINE
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021
STANDISH MUNICIPAL CENTER
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Butler, Delcourt, Gaba, Leclerc, Libby, Macri and Paul.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (S)

Moved, seconded, and voted to accept the minutes from the June 1st and 12th meetings as presented.
(Unanimous)

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were no petitions or communications at this meeting.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

- **Traffic Study – Junction of Route 114 and Route 35**

About a year ago a study was conducted and paid for by GPCOG, it was a solid study that recommended a smart light at the intersection. The study didn't include the engineering costs, Gorrill Palmer has been contracted to provide the engineering for us, with budgeted funds earmarked for this project. Town staff will explore grant opportunities and possibly put bonding of the construction costs on the June 2022 municipal ballot.

- **Community Center Study Update**

Recently we received an update for the budget numbers for the proposed community center, the construction cost estimates have increased due to Covid, to up over \$13 million. To present the project to the voters in November 2021 the Town Council would have to approve the referendum this August. He will have the town attorney prepare the referendum question based on presenting the matter to the voters in November. He said that they could schedule a workshop later in the month to discuss this matter.

- **Remote Meeting Policy Update**

During the Covid pandemic, the Governor instituted an Executive Order that allowed municipalities to hold remote meeting. The State of Emergency has ended which allowed remote meetings, recently a new law was enacted that allows municipalities to meet remotely if they adopt a written policy. A policy was drafted by our legal counsel and will be presented at a future meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There are no Public Hearings at this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Butler – Economic Development – no report.

Councilor Delcourt – Appointments Committee - the committee met tonight and interviewed two applicants, there is an order on the agenda for appointments this evening.

Councilor Gaba -PWD Steering Committee – no report.

Councilor LeClerc – Ordinance Committee – no report.

Councilor LeClerc – Recycling Committee – no report.

Councilor Libby – Finance Committee - the year-end financial report was very good. A finance related order will be on the agenda tonight.

Councilor Marci – no committee assignment yet.

Councilor Paul – Personnel Committee – no report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There are no Consent Calendar items at this meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There are no items of unfinished business at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

52-21 Town Council Appointments to Various Boards and Committees and Announcement of Town Council Chair Committee Appointments and Subcommittee Appointments [Delcourt]

Councilor Delcourt announced the following applicants that had applied for various openings:

Isabel Higgins – Public Safety Committee

Steven Nesbitt – Budget Committee

Andrew Walton – Planning Board Area 2

Maryann Tapiro – Recycling Committee

Moved by Gaba seconded by Macri and voted to accept the slate of candidates/expiration as presented.
(Unanimous)

Planning Board Area 2 Seat* - Andrew Walton – through to the June 2021 municipal election

Public Safety Committee – Isabel Higgins – through to June 30, 2022

Recycling Committee- Maryanne Tapiro – June 30, 2024

Budget Committee* – Steven Nesbitt - through to the June 2021 municipal election

Chair LeClerc called for public comments, hearing none, he called for Council comments.

Councilor Macri questioned Ms. Tapiro's, he recalled that she was being considered for the Assessment Review Board.

Councilor Delcourt explained the Recycling Committee is in more need for members at this time.

Chair LeClerc called for the roll call vote.

ORDERED that the following Town Council Appointments are made through the date shown:

Board/Committee	Candidate	Term Expires
CDBG Municipal Oversight Committee	Zachary Mosher	June 30, 2022
Old Red Church Liaison		June 30, 2022
Watchic Lake Liaison		June 30, 2022

FURTHER ORDERED that the Town Council Chair's appointments to the following Committees/Town Council Subcommittees is approved by the Town Council:

Board/Committee	Candidate	Term Expires
Cemetery Exploratory Committee		June 30, 2022
Cemetery Exploratory Committee		June 30, 2022
Public Safety Committee-Council Rep.	Councilor Macri	June 30, 2022

Appointments

Gaba-Chair
Macri
Paul

Capital Improvements

Paul-Chair
Libby
Butler

Economic Development

Butler-Chair
Gaba
LeClerc

Finance

Libby-Chair
Gaba
Delcourt

Ordinance

Leclerc-Chair
Butler
Paul

Personnel

Delcourt-Chair
Libby
Macri

PWD Steering

Macri-Chair
LeClerc
Delcourt

Public Safety Committee – Isabel Higgins – June 30, 2022

Recycling Committee- Maryanne Tapiro – June 30, 2024

Budget Committee* – Steven Nesbitt - through to the June 2022 municipal election

*Per the *Town Charter* the Town Council can appoint members to the Planning Board and the Budget Committee until the next municipal election.

VOTE ON ORDER AS AMENDED: 7 Yeas

53-21 Amendments to Standish Town Code, Chapter 181, Land Use, Regarding Sidewalks in the Form Based Code Village Zoning Districts & Amendment to Standish Town Code, Chapter 252 Streets and Sidewalks (Introduction) [LeClerc]

Moved seconded and voted to dispense with the Clerk's reading of the ordinance. (Unanimous)

Chair LeClerc said that he refers to this as the *Sidewalk to No Where Ordinance*, which if approved, will eliminate in some circumstances the construction of sidewalks in the Form Based Code Village Districts.

Planning Director, Zachery Mosher presented a map showing the current ordinance's location of location where sidewalks are required. The same map provided the designation of where sidewalks would be required if the proposed ordinance is adopted.

Councilor Delcourt questioned if a large development was approved would they have to put in sidewalks?

Zachary Moser said that it would depend on where the development is located in the Village Center.

Councilor Macri questioned the proposed ordinance in relation to the Steep Falls area?

Mr. Mosher explained that there are no sidewalk requirements in the Steep Falls area.

Chair LeClerc stated that sidewalks have been voted down multiple times, this ordinance a step in starting to listen to the people in town.

Maurie Hill of Wildridge Road questioned if adopted, could this be changed? Also, the town may benefit in the case of a development further out of a village to have a sidewalk.

Chair LeClerc said that there may be exceptions where the developer would want sidewalks, but the town would not require sidewalks in designated locations if this were adopted.

Town Manager, Bill Giroux said that typically sidewalks are not put in unless they are required due to the expense.

Councilor Macri questioned if this is adopted, in special circumstances could the town require that sidewalks be constructed?

Bill Giroux said that it could not be required in the new proposed locations.

Chair LeClerc closed public comments and called for Council comments.

Councilor Butler called for clarification of what they were voting on.

Zachary Mosher explained that they would be voting for reducing the requirement for sidewalks in the Standish Corner and Sebago Lake Village areas. He called their attention to the map, which is the simplest way to assess the proposed change.

Chair LeClerc called for additional Council additional Council comments, hearing none he called for the roll call vote.

The Clerk explained that the vote moves the ordinance to First Reading at the August Town Council meeting.

VOTE TO MOVE THIS TO FIRST READING: 7 Yeas

54-21 Road Acceptance Request Submitted by JKH, Inc. for a Portion of Quail Ridge in the Hartwell Subdivision [LeClerc]

Moved by Leclerc seconded by Libby and voted to dispense with the Clerk's reading of the ordinance.
(Unanimous)

Town Manager, Bill Giroux explained that under the provisions of the Town's ordinances, developers build the road, bond money or a letter of credit is held until completion of the project. The Town accepts roads at one time during the year, upon review the Town's attorney has asked that this be postponed pending further information.

Moved by Libby seconded by Leclerc and voted to postpone this order until the August 10, 2021, Town Council Meeting.

VOTE TO POSTPONE THIS ORDER UNTIL THE AUGUST 10, 2021, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: 7 Yeas

55-21 Application for License for Incorporated Civic Organization to Hold a Special Event Submitted by Stop Trafficking US for a Fundraising Event [LeClerc]

Chair LeClerc explained that that the event coordinator will speak to the application, noting that this is a very good thing for the community, to bring awareness to this topic.

Tracy Ferrara, 925 Chadbourne Road – explained that she works for Katheine Wilson, the woman who founded the Stop Trafficking US non-profit organization. Ferrara explained that Ms. Wilson herself was a victim of trafficking and now works to educate the police, social workers, medical professionals, and others regarding this matter. In addition, Katherine Wilson works with children at the Youth Center and inmates regarding this issue. Ferrara said that currently fundraising is earmarked to help a woman who had her teeth knocked out by her pimp.

Chair LeClerc said that he had reviewed their website and thought that it was full of information on the topic. He thanked them for their efforts.

Chair LeClerc called for additional public comments, hearing none he called for Council comments.

Councilor Macri questioned if there would be parking in the area for the 100 plus attendees?

Ferrara said that there is plenty of off-street parking available.

Councilor Delcourt said that July 24 was a poor selection of a date, why wasn't a date later in the summer selected after the tourists are gone.

Ferrara said that the date was selected because more people would be available to attend the fundraiser.

The Clerk explained that she had spoken to the Bureau of Alcohol regarding this event, since this type of event has never been held in town. The Clerk noted that the applicant has spoken to neighbors so they'll be aware of the event taking place and the applicant has said that there will be no on street parking for the event.

Chair LeClerc said that this sounds like an awesome event, he called for additional Council comments, hearing none he called for the roll call vote.

ORDERED that the Standish Town Council grants approval of the Application for License for Incorporated Civic Organization submitted by Stop Trafficking US to hold a fundraising event on July 24, 2021. The event will be held at 925 Chadbourne Road, Standish, Maine from 4:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

VOTE: 7 Yeas

56-21 Application to License Games of Chance Submitted by Standish Fish and Game Club to Operate Cribbage Games [Leclerc]

Moved by Libby seconded by LeClerc and voted to correct the date of August 17, 2021 to August 18, 2021. (Unanimous)

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

Councilor Libby said that a portion of the proceeds goes to scholarships for Bonny Eagle Students.

Councilor Macri asked why the dates only go until the end of the year.

Councilor Libby explained that the licensing period is through the end of the calendar year.

Chair LeClerc said that this a wonderful cause, he called for additional council comments hearing none he called for the roll call vote on the order as amended.

ORDERED that the Standish Town Council grants approval of the Application to License Games of Chance submitted by Standish Fish and Game Club to license for Cards (Cribbage) at the Outpost Public House on Route 113, Standish, Maine, on the following dates:

July 21, 2021

~~August 17, 2021~~ August 18, 2021

September 15, 2021

October 20, 2021

November 17, 2021

December 15, 2021

ORDER AS AMENDED: 7 Yeas

57-21 Waive No Parking Restriction on the Saco Road for the Bonny Eagle Car Show [LeClerc]

Terri Whyte representing the Bonny Eagle Car Show explained that the car show is normally held the third Sunday in May, however due to Covid the pandemic was postponed until August. Whyte explained that proceeds from the car show help not only the football boosters but many other sporting clubs at Bonny Eagle as well. She said as a new administrator of the car show she wasn't aware that the parking waiver had to come before the Council. She explained that the boosters contact all the neighbors of the school letting them know of the date of the show and provide them with free passes to the show in appreciation of the inconvenience that the car show may cause them.

Chair LeClerc called for Council comments.

Councilor Macri asked if there had been problems with parkin in the past?

Terri Whyte said that the boosters provide parking control staff and have contact the Sheriff's Department for assistance.

Chair LeClerc said that it's good to hear the good work that's being done in the community. Chair LeClerc called for additional public comments, hearing none, he called for additional Council comments, hearing none he called for the roll call vote.

ORDERED that the 'no parking' restriction on the north and south sides of Saco Road between the Standish town line and Cape Road (Route 35 A), shall be waived for a period two hours before the opening of the Bonny Eagle Car Show held by the Athletic Boosters until two hours after the close of the show to be held on August 8, 2021, at the Bonny Eagle High School, and

FURTHER ORDERED that the coordinators of the event shall provide traffic control beginning one hour before and during the hours of the show.

VOTE: 7 Yeas

58-21 Authorize Finance Director to Issue Municipal Quit Claim Deed to R.W. Herrick, Inc. (Map 033 Lot 028 Sub 000-000) [Libby]

Moved by Libby seconded by Leclerc and voted to dispense with the Clerk's reading of the ordinance. (Unanimous)

Councilor Libby said that this was the quit claim deed that he mentioned earlier, the former owner has paid all the back taxes and we can now issue them this quit claim deed.

Chair LeClerc called for public comments, hearing none, he called for additional Council comments, hearing none, he called for the roll call vote.

WHEREAS, the sole purpose of the deed is to release to the Grantee(s) herein any interest which the Town of Standish may have acquired in the foregoing property by virtue of unpaid taxes, as evidenced by tax lien certificates recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, now be it

ORDERED that the Finance Director is authorized to issue a municipal quit claim deed to R.W. Herrick, Inc. of Steep Falls, Maine:

MUNICIPAL QUITCLAIM DEED without COVENANTS

The inhabitants of the Town of Standish, a municipal corporation existing under the laws of the State of Maine and located in the County of Cumberland, State of Maine, for consideration paid, release to **R.W. HERRICK, INC. of STEEP FALLS, ME** a certain parcel of land with buildings thereon, if any, located in the Town of Standish, County of Cumberland, State of Maine, identified as follows:

Map 033, Lot 028, Sub 000-000, of the Assessor's Tax Maps of the Town of Standish, Maine, made by James H. Thomas, gisSolutions of Maine, of Cumberland, Maine dated April 1, 2002, and updated to April 1, 2019, which are on file at the Assessor's Office at the Town of Standish.

The sole purpose of this deed is to release to the Grantee(s) herein any interest which the Town of Standish may have acquired in the foregoing property by virtue of unpaid taxes, as evidenced by tax lien certificates recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds as follows:

Lien dated October 8, 2019 recorded in Book 36052, Page 7

Lien dated October 5, 2020 recorded in Book 37262, Page 68

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Town of Standish has caused this deed to be signed by its Treasurer as authorized.

DATED: July 13, 2021

SCOTT GESUALDI, TREASURER
TOWN OF STANDISH, MAINE

VOTE: 7 Yeas

59-21 Amendment to Town of Standish Fee Schedule [Libby]

Councilor Libby explained that the current fees have been in place for years and the law recently changed to allow this increase. He said by updating the fee schedule we are staying consistent with what neighboring town charge.

Chair LeClerc called for public comments, hearing none, he called for additional Council comments.

Councilor Butler asked if this increase is charged for online auto registrations.

The Clerk explained that online auto registration transactions are charged an agent fee that is retained by the online service.

Chair LeClerc called for the roll call vote.

ORDERED that the Town of Standish Fee Schedule is amended as follows, effective

immediately:

MOTOR VEHICLE AGENT FEES

New Registration	\$4.00 <u>\$6.00</u>
Re-registration	\$3.00 <u>\$5.00</u>

VOTE: 6 Yeas – 1 Nay, LeClerc

60-21 Resolution Regarding MMA Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program [LeClerc]

Moved by LeClerc seconded by Libby and voted to dispense with the Clerk's reading of the ordinance.
(Unanimous)

Bill Giroux, Town Manager explained that we purchase our works comp insurance through Maine Municipal Association. The Town for years had had this policy and complies with the required training that that provides reduced rates. It's required that the Town Council adopts the program.

Chair LeClerc called for public comments.

Maurie Hill - Wildridge Road – What safety issues specifically do the department heads do?

Bill Giroux explained that there is a set of guidelines that are followed in the event of an injury. Also, the knowledge of why an accident happened can prevent future injuries.

Councilor Butler asked is it required that we purchase insurance through them or follow their safety recommendations?

Bill Giroux said that my using MMA workers comp insurance we save from pooling with other towns of a reduced rate. This order is not agreeing to buy the insurance through them, the order is to be part of the safety program.

Councilor Macri said that at his work they have mandatory training that is kind of a pain, what do our employees think of the training requirements.

Bill Giroux said that he has never received a complaint about the training. He said that he believes that the employees appreciate the training.

Chair LeClerc called for additional Council comments, hearing none, he called for the roll call vote.

WHEREAS the Town of Standish is a member of the Maine Municipal Association Workers' Compensation Fund (hereinafter "WC Fund"); and

WHEREAS the Maine Municipal Association (hereinafter "MMA") provides risk management services and workers' compensation coverage, and

WHEREAS MMA developed the Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program (hereinafter "the Program") to help reduce the incidents and impact of workplace injuries by implementing WC claim best practices; and

WHEREAS MMA will provide necessary written program information, and offer assistance to participants; and

WHEREAS WC Fund members that participate in the program and complete the required activities, will have the opportunity to earn a credit to their annual contribution, and

WHEREAS the Town of Standish is committed to providing a safe environment for its employees, citizens, and visiting public; and

WHEREAS the Program will help enhance such an environment and promote a self-sustaining culture of safety with participating members,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Standish Town Council to elect to participate in the MMA Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program.

VOTE: 7 Yeas

61-21 Award Bid and Authorize Snow Plowing Contract – Route 1 [Leclerc]

Bill Giroux said that both these businesses have held the snowplowing contract in the past. He said that there were not many bids submitted due to the limited businesses' providing this type of service. These businesses have the equipment needed to do the job. He noted that these businesses have provided good service in the past and address issues in a timely manner.

Chair LeClerc called for public comments, hearing none, he called for Council comments.

Councilor Delcourt asked if a \$126,000 would purchase a truck a pay a driver?

Bill Giroux said that the trucks generally run about \$250,000, for the driver with benefits the cost would be about \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year. He said that sometime in the past the Council made a good decision to bid these two routes and cover the rest of the town with town staff.

Councilor Macri questioned the statement that this was a competitive bid, however there are only two bids, what makes is a competitive bid?

Bill Giroux said the fact that it was put out to bid, he continued to explain that there are limited companies that have the equipment or personnel to submit a bid.

Councilor Macri questioned the difference in the annual cost for the routes, why is there a difference in the amounts? Is it the mileage?

Bill Giroux said that it's not just the mileage, it's also the complexity of the route.

Councilor Macri questioned if the cost for the last contact was the same amount?

Bill Giroux said that contract's amount is more, which was expected, especially since contractors are paying higher salaries to their employees to hang on to them due to the Covid pandemic.

Chair LeClerc asked if they are a local company?

Bill Giroux said that he believed that they both are located in town.

Chair LeClerc called additional Council comments, hearing none, he called for the roll call vote.

WHEREAS the Town has solicited and received competitive proposals for the plowing and sanding of various roads in conformance with section 302 (f) of the Town Charter, and

WHEREAS the bids have now been reviewed by the Capital Improvements Committee, now be it

ORDERED that the bid submitted by Solid Ground for plowing and sanding Route 1, in the amount of \$ 126,000 for the first year, \$129,000 for the second year and \$ 132,000 for the third year is accepted by Council commencing in fiscal year 2022, and

FURTHER ORDERED that the Town Manager is authorized to execute the contract and confirm that all conditions of the bid are met.

VOTE: 7 Yeas

62-21 Award Bid and Authorize Snow Plowing Contract – Route 2 [Leclerc]

Moved by Leclerc seconded by Gaba and voted to dispense with the Clerk's reading of the ordinance.
(Unanimous)

Chair LeClerc called for public comments, hearing none, he called for Council comments.

Councilor Paul questioned the fourth paragraph: ORDERED that the bid submitted by C.W. Foster and Son Inc. for Route 2 is hereby withdrawn per their request, and

The Clerk thanked him for picking up the error.

Moved by Paul second by Leclerc and voted to amend the order by striking the following paragraph:

~~ORDERED that the bid submitted by C.W. Foster and Son Inc. for Route 2 is hereby withdrawn per their request, and~~ (Unanimous)

Chair LeClerc called for the roll call vote on the order as amended.

WHEREAS the Town has solicited and received competitive proposals for the plowing and sanding of various roads in conformance with section 302 (f) of the Town Charter, and

WHEREAS the bids have now been reviewed by the Capital Improvements Committee, now be it

ORDERED that the bid submitted by C.W. Foster and Son Inc. for plowing and sanding Route 2, in the amount of \$128,750 for the first year, \$133,900 for the second year, and \$139,250 for the third year is accepted by Council commencing in fiscal year 2022 and

~~ORDERED that the bid submitted by C.W. Foster and Son Inc. for Route 2 is hereby withdrawn per their request, and~~

FURTHER ORDERED that the Town Manager is authorized to execute the contract and confirm that all conditions of the bid are met.

VOTE ON ORDER AS AMENDED: 7 Yeas

Acceptance of Street Name – Dandy Tank Trail [LeClerc]

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

ORDERED that following street name as submitted by the property owner is accepted by the Town Council, as required by the provisions of Chapter 252-23 of the Standish Town Code:

VOTE: 7 Yeas

PUBLIC ITEMS

Chair LeClerc asked that the Clerk read the following

Hi Mary, I really wanted to go tonight but I just am not feeling well enough today. I am hoping you can please read this out loud and enter into the record when the public comment time comes? Or, if you are not allowed to read it maybe please just give the members a copy ? Thank you,
Deb

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and council members. And welcome to the new members. My name is Deb Boxer 416 Cole Hill Rd, Standish.

I would like to present several ideas for your consideration. I apologize for not being here in person tonight to speak with you directly. I have just made a list for you to have. I hope to be able to attend future council meetings. These are my ideas:

#1. In order to be fair, we should not be re-evaluating property values using the current market prices this year during another housing bubble unless we use the past ten years of market values and average them out to find a fair and reasonable new evaluation. Revisit in another 10 years using the same method.

#2 Consider changing the town charter to allow planning board members to be on various committees such as the ordinance committee. More people would be able to participate in committees and could help contribute more time and help. Maybe even open committees to the general public if they are willing or want to help.

#3. If solar companies clear cut forests in order to have a solar farm, an ordinance should require replanting that forest as part of decommissioning. There is a lot of deforestation going on in our town currently which is harmful for habitats and the environment. The solar power is great, but the forests should be replaced once the project has ended.

#4. Please look into having sandpit owners follow state reclamation laws.

#5. Please consider an ordinance requiring new outdoor lighting to be shielded, down pointing, fixtures and encourage replacement of old lights. Random bright outdoor lighting causes light pollution which affects nature negatively. Outdoor lighting should not extend past one's own property lines nor be directed into the night skies. Neighbors living in close quarters are also directly affected by lights from other properties shining on them as is the shoreline view around Sebago Lake.

#6. Consider hiring an additional CEO because one is not enough for the amount of growth going on. Also please consider CEOs be required to consider reliable outside legal advice when it is given.

#7. Public meetings really should be available to all residents either on the town website via SCRTV or an audio recording on the town website if there is a technical failure in the video booth during meetings and SCRTV videos are not available. If people are unable to attend in person, having to pay \$20 for a CD recording of a particular meeting seems unreasonable.

#8. Create an ordinance to ensure all abutters and general public of a newly requested subdivision are notified as part of the initial application process instead of being notified 7 days before the night of the final vote by the planning board.

#9. Preserving the Standish Sanctuary game preserve is important. People should be able to build one house on the outer edges of the preserve if they own property within the preserve. Subdivisions really do not belong in the Standish Sanctuary game preserve. Large green spaces are an important part of all ecosystems and successful towns, and we have one in Standish.

11 Possibly consider a short 6-month moratorium on subdivisions until a meeting with MSAD 6 staff can be held to determine if the schools are able to handle the increase in children, if the major intersections need upgrading and also to take an inventory of how many new units total are currently proposed to be built in Standish.

#13. Please fix the Boundary Rd/114 intersection.

#14. Obtain a list of private roads with legally court deeded public easements to ensure the town of Standish is not using tax dollar funds to plow and sand private roads. It is against the Maine constitution to expend public funds to plow private roads without court ordered public easements. Research what amounts if any, of taxpayer dollars have gone towards winter maintenance via private contractors to maintain non-public easement roads since 1989 and return those funds to all non-beneficiary taxpayer of those expended public funds

#15. All public service contracts should probably go to public bid without bid waivers.

Thank you for listening. Deb Boxer

Chair LeClerc called for additional public items.

Jim Cassidy explained that he and his wife Megan are the owners of Family and Friends Campground on Route 114. He said that he was before them tonight to tell them about the serious motor vehicle accidents that have recently happened in the vicinity of the campground. What I'd like to ask the council members is for some help in preventing future accidents on Route 114, he explained that the speed increases from 35 miles per hour to 55 miles per hour just before the entrance where many large campers are entering and exiting from the campground. He said that he believed the area where the speed increase happens needs to be studied. He also said that increased signage would be beneficial indicating something like large vehicles are entering and exiting the road ahead. We thought this might be a quicker short-term solution while traffic patterns are studied. We'd be happy to pay for that signage. None of these solutions will prevent distracted driving.

Kathy Thompson has stayed at the campground for the past three years. She explained that several of the accidents have been witnessed by the kids in the playground and at the pool. She said that she witnessed the accidents and encouraged that signage be installed in the area.

Chair LeClerc recalled that the Town owns a blinking sign to alert motorists, that perhaps could be used in that area.

Bill Giroux explained that the Town acquires a speed sign through a grant a few years ago. A requirement of the grant is that the sign is moved throughout the town. He said that he has told the owners that he would put their location in the sign rotation, however that's just a short-range solution. In addition, we will have deputies focus on enforcement in the area. He explained that they have the authority to write a letter to the Department of Transportation and ask the regional traffic engineer to review the speed limits in the area. We've done that before, and it has in some of the cases, resulted in a change in the speed limit. Permanent signage that also would be looked at by the traffic engineer, we can't just go put things up, we can use the blinking sign, which was bought by MDOT for us. But we can't permanently put-up various signs, we will have to have the traffic engineer review it first. He said the letter could be prepared for you to consider at the August meeting and then be sent. Last time, we thought we got a quick response, and it was six months, because they're reviewing similar requests all over the place.

Vincent Hawk – grandparent to children that were in one of the recent accidents, asked them to try to do something.

Councilor Delcourt commented that he was hit by a car near his house, just like accident those kids were in, the driver was texting. He said that the cars go by my house at 80 miles an hour and it's terribly dangerous. The police have to give tickets out and if drivers are going 15 mph over the speed limit, it's criminal speeding. We have to do something we can't just talk about this.

Andrew Walton – Steep Falls – thanked them for appointing him to the Planning Board. He echoed comments in Deb Boxer's email about the ability to serve multiple boards or committees. He'd like to see them change that restriction.

Bill Giroux said that we don't have the authority to change that provision because it's in the Charter. Changing that would be redoing the Charter and that would be a massive process. When the town considers a change to the charter, have to follow the state law. And by law, it's supposed to be a big deal, that the charter gets changed, regardless of the issue that you're talking about. The town would vote to create a charter commission. And they'd have to elect members of the charter commission. Once it's opened the entire charter can be changed. It's approximately a two-year process, when completed, it goes to a vote. He noted that generally a Charter changes are not endorsed by managers, however there are some sections of the Charter that he would like to see changed.

Mr. Walton the serving on multiple boards/committees be added to the list of possible changes to the Charter.

At the Managers request the Clerk provided timeline of the Charter's adoption in 1987, then a Charter Commission in 1992, there also have meet a few amendments during the years.

Bill Giroux said that it was his opinion that Standish is too large of a community to still hold the Annual Town Meeting to adopt the Budget.

Vincent Hawk questioned the number of blinking signs available for use and would they have to vote on the matter of using them out Route 114 sign?

Bill Giroux explained that he had the authority to have the sign moved and the process to place the sign there has been placed in motion.

Tracy Ferrar asked if the sign could be placed further down the road to alert motorist sooner?

Councilor Macri asked that we make this a priority due to the number of accidents in the area?

Chair LeClerc announced that he contacted Senator Bill Diamond, who serves on the Senate Transportation Committee he brought the Senator's attention the dangerous areas in Standish such as the 25/35 intersection, the 35/114 intersection, Route 114, and other locations. He wanted to start the conversation to collaborate to find a solution to the traffic issues in Standish.

Maryanne Tapiro – Cole Hill Road – Thanked them for appointing her to the Recycling Committee. She said that she travels Route 114 and said that she feels uncomfortable driving 35mph because other motorists get too close to your vehicle. She suggested more of a police presence would help to slow down the traffic.

Bill Giroux said that the Town Council could fund additional deputies, most of the time there is only one deputy on duty.

Maurie Hill – Wildridge Road – wanted to officially thank Robert Deakin for his year of service on the school board. She said that she will submit a letter at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming meetings were announced.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was not needed at this meeting.

ADJOURN

Moved by Libby seconded by Gaba and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Submitted by:
Clerk/Secretary

Mary Cuper