

**Minutes
Township of Falls
Traffic Calming Committee Meeting
April 11, 2022**

Members in Attendance:

Amy Gallagher
Ian James
Robert Leary
Ariane Presser
Leon Thompson

Members Absent:

Also in Attendance:

Chief Nelson Whitney, Falls Township Police Department
Chris Fazio, Remington & Vernick Engineers, Inc. (RVE)

Chief Whitney opened the meeting at 6:34 pm. He thanked the committee for volunteering their time to help the township and police department with traffic issues.

The minutes from the March 14, 2022 meeting were approved with no changes.

Chief Whitney reported that on April 12 and April 14, there will be two PennDOT Aggressive Driving Wave traffic details. He then reported that when we get our GIS technology on board, it will be easier to pull data in and generate traffic reports. It should be about one more year until we have this technology. Mr. Fazio agreed that it is a good thing for data collection for water and sewer, paving programs, etc. Mr. James inquired as to what kind of data can be mined from GIS. Chief Whitney replied that we will be able to map and organize problem areas and crash data.

Chris Fazio then discussed the Northpoint project at the steel mill and possible traffic issues this will cause. Whenever a new land development project comes to the Township, we require them to provide a traffic impact study, as every project brings more traffic. Northpoint will be required to put in a left turn lane on Tyburn Road approaching New Ford Mill Road, as it approaches the development. PennDOT is also involved in the review. There will be a meeting in about two weeks with Northpoint and PennDOT, and RVE will be there representing the Township. These traffic improvements will be in the planning stages for a bit longer.

As far as item #5, Chief Whitney would like to put out information about the MOVE OVER law. He has some videos he can post and may even try to make his own video for the Police Department's Facebook page. Please feel free to email him with any other ideas. Ms. Gallagher suggested texting and driving as a topic. Chief Whitney said that's a great idea. Distracted driving is always dangerous in any form.

Mr. Leary inquired about any feedback from the new cameras on the school buses. Chief Whitney said the program hasn't gone live yet. The cameras are being used in testing, but they are not writing tickets yet because there is a holdup with the Pennsylvania courts. There is always a lag time with programs like this. Mr. Leary said there are nine cameras on each bus, so it not only holds drivers accountable, but students as well.

Mr. Leary also mentioned that at South Olds and Hood Boulevard, the students who drive don't want to wait to get out of that corner parking lot, so they speed out of the faculty parking lot. Chief Whitney will mention this at his next meeting with the Pennsbury School District.

Mr. Leary asked if there have been any recent complaints about Austin Drive. Chief Whitney replied not since the last meeting. Mr. Leary asked if the Township considered painting a double yellow line down Austin to slow down vehicles and stop vehicles from driving in the middle of the road. Mr. Fazio informed the group that we are allowed to do this, as Austin Drive is not a state road. Chief Whitney will mention this to the Township Manager, and the Township Manager can poll the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Gallagher asked about the Village Park stop signs (STOP MEANS STOP). Chief Whitney said he found out that we don't have any left and they are going to be reordered.

Ms. Gallagher said she took another look at the height of the bushes at a home at the four-way stop sign at Village Park School going into Stanwood and Vermillion is to the right. Nobody stops at these stop signs, and the bushes impede the line of sight. Chris Fazio reiterated that the line of sight in a sitting position is 32". The Code Department should ask the homeowner to trim these bushes back and down.

Chief Whitney thanked everyone for coming and said if anyone has any concerns or ideas, don't wait for the next meeting, just email him.

There was no other business, so the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.