

**Minutes
Township of Falls
Neighborhood Traffic Advisory Committee**

June 12, 2023

Members in Attendance:

Amy Gallagher
Robert Leary
Ariane Presser

Members Absent:

Ian James
Leon Thompson

Also in Attendance:

Chief Nelson Whitney, Township of Falls Police Department
Josh Seeherman, Remington & Vernick Engineers, Inc. (RVE Traffic Engineer)

Chief Whitney opened the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

The minutes from the May 8, 2023 meeting were approved with no changes, except for 3 changes to the Chief's title.

The first item discussed was an email from Erik Person regarding speeding at Hamilton and Burgess Avenues. Chief Whitney said he doesn't have a speed study from there yet, but he will direct that the speed trailer be placed there so we can see the numbers. We will have the speed study by the next meeting. Mr. Seeherman said there are new ramps there so we can paint crosswalks and also put suction cup signs in the middle of the road. The signs would say: "PLEASE YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALKS". These signs come with suction cups or weights. This slows traffic down immediately. There was a hump in the road that was removed a long time ago. Mr. Person would like a 4-way stop sign, but Mr. Seeherman reiterated that there is an abundance of research that 4-way stop signs are not for speed control. Locals start rolling through them and then it's just as dangerous. Chief Whitney will respond to the email and give them some feedback. He will follow up with the township manager and public works director to see if they are amenable to painting the lines and about the signs.

The next item discussed was an email received from Linda Nielsen and a PennDOT response she received regarding a CHILDREN AT PLAY sign for Hood Boulevard due to speeding issues. Mr. Seeherman said that is not a legal PennDOT approved sign. It can be posted inside a private development, at your own risk. Ms. Nielsen had also submitted this email to PennDOT and received a response that they will conduct a study to determine if a speed limit reduction is warranted upon receipt of a letter from the Township requesting a study. There may be other signs which may be applicable. Mr. Seeherman will follow up on this.

The next item is about an email received from Lori Harrison regarding speeding at Chelsea Road and Devon Road. Due to excessive speeding, she would like a 4-way stop put there. Chief Whitney provided a speed study from Chelsea Road dated May 31, 2023. The posted speed limit is 25 mph and we allow 6 mph over that, so according to the study there is enough speeding there that can be cited.

We would need to have our ENRADD machine calibrated before doing any enforcement on Chelsea Road. Mr. Seeherman said this road is already fairly narrow. Chief Whitney will respond to her email with the speed study results.

The next item discussed was the new slow down signs. Chief Whitney went to Fastsigns and had a prototype of a sign, not the exact sign. The prototype sample said SLOW DOWN and KIDS AND PETS AT PLAY. Ours would have FALLS TOWNSHIP on it and be 18" x 24". That is the same size as the PUSH OUT THE PUSHER signs that the DA's office put out several years ago. For 300 signs, the one-sided ones would be \$1,100 and double-sided would be \$1,300. They are plasticized foam board and have metal stakes to go in the ground. The Chief would prefer the double-sided signs. We may have a rendering at the next meeting. We can make them any two colors we want. Mr. Seeherman said these unofficial signs are generally not very effective. He personally likes the signs with the strobe effect, although they may be more money. The Chief will get a few different graphics to look at for the next meeting. These signs will be free to residents for their lawns.

The next item discussed was an email received from Michael Hug regarding a request for a traffic signal at Queen Anne Drive and Trenton Road. Mr. Seeherman said a traffic signal is a big expensive endeavor. The Chief can put the speed trailer there but he has no doubts there is speeding on Trenton Road as he knows from previous studies. Mr. Seeherman said if there's a lot of traffic on Trenton Road pedestrians can't cross or cars can't get out or make a turn, this could be a valid 4-way stop sign situation. Ms. Gallagher and Ms. Presser said they believe it's more speeding than volume. A lot of volume is warranted for a traffic signal. Trenton Road is a state road. The Chief said we will have a speed study done there and he will check for crash data there too.

Regarding 'other business', Mr. Leary inquired as to whether Chief Whitney will be talking to the Pennsbury School District Transportation Department regarding moving some bus stops for safety reasons. Chief Whitney said he hopes to speak to the Transportation Director soon.

Ms. Gallagher inquired about the Hanford Road situation in the mornings that we discussed at the last meeting. We discussed NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER signs 30' back. The Chief asked the Public Works department to put up temporary signs that can stay for 90 days. The signs will be at Hanford Road, an intersection in Thornridge, and at Andover and North Oxford Valley Roads. If this works, the Board of Supervisors will probably adopt this permanently.

Ms. Presser inquired about the STOP MEANS STOP signs. Chief Whitney said he has to look into purchasing more signs. Ms. Levson will provide the Chief with the vendor's name.

There was no other business, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.