

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013**

In Attendance: Ernie Orgera
Mani Poola
Paul Montanaro
Thomas Turk
Doug Hoyt
Dan Colleluori
Captain Sue Bretthauer

Guests: Nancy Roberts – 90 Wire Mill Road

David Roberts – 90 Wire Mill Road

William Carmichael – 1 Cedar Tree Lane

Aniceto Vitti – 60 Vineyard Lane

Bob Hall – 23 Vineyard Lane

Corinna Taubner – 50 Hunting Lane

Gabe DeLuca – Board of Representatives

Philip Bergman – 57 Wire Mill Road

Annette Ott – 94 Wire Mill Road

Opal NaiBuy – 13 Wire Mill Road

Herbert NaiBuy – 13 Wire Mill Road

Rick Redniss – 22 First Street

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ernie Orgera, Chair.

Vineyard Lane – Requesting Street Closure.

- Mr. Ernie Orgera stated that this is an informational meeting only, this is not a Public Hearing, it is a Special Meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee. No decision will be made at this meeting.

- After the meeting Mr. Orgera will meet with the Mayor to discuss what the next step will be, if the Mayor feels that this should be done, a Public Hearing will be scheduled and we will start the process. If the Mayor does not feel that this should be done, Mr. Orgera will e-mail the residents with the decision.
- The Traffic Advisory Committee advises the Mayor on the issues that are brought to the Committee's attention.
- Representative Gabe DeLuca presented the Traffic Advisory Committee with a petition from residents against the closure of Vineyard Lane. Representative DeLuca asked that the petition be added to the record (see attached).
- Mr. Mani Poola, Traffic Engineer presented the Traffic Report for Vineyard Lane:
 - Signal timings were performed at Wire Mill Road and Long Ridge Road to create easier movement south bound on Long Ridge Road left onto Wire Mill Road.
 - The signal timings were done between September 7, 2013 and September 14, 2013, it is 8 days worth of data.
 - Westbound traffic is a little higher than eastbound traffic on all days. There are approximately 30 residential units on Vineyard Lane and Hunting Lane. The national average for trips per residential units is 9.5 or 9.6 trips per household unit and it ranges between 4.5 trips to 24 trips. Looking at the number of household units in the area it is not significantly higher than what it will be for a residential neighborhood.
 - The 85th percentile of speeds is a little higher for eastbound traffic than the westbound. It is a little less than 30 MPH on the highest speeds. The westbound 85th percentile traffic is approximately 27 MPH. It is not significantly higher than the posted speed; Police enforcement will address this issue. Mr. Orgera asked Captain Bretthauer to provide traffic enforcement.
- Mr. Orgera stated one more time that the purpose of the meeting was for information only; the Committee is not looking for reasons to close or keep the road open. If after meeting with the Mayor it's decided to close the street, then the request will have to go through the entire process with the legislative body of the City. Before anything happens on Vineyard Lane there will be a Public Hearing.
- Residents from Vineyard Lane and Hunting Lane expressed their concerns and would like Vineyard Lane to be closed to prevent vehicles from using the street as a cut through. Residents are also concerned with the speed and would like at least some kind of traffic calming.
- Residents from Wire Mill Road expressed their concerns with the closure of Vineyard Lane; they are concerned about what the traffic impact will be on their

street.

- Mr. Rick Redniss suggested that speed bumps be taken under consideration to help the neighborhood. Mr. Orgera stated that the money for Traffic Calming was cut from the budget, so currently there is no money available for Traffic Calming. Mr. Redniss also suggested that the neighbors pay for the speed bumps.
- Nancy Roberts stated that a traffic test was done by the Police Department on Wire Mill Road and Vineyard Lane. A five day test was done on Wire Mill Road and it was determined that 14, 669 vehicles traveled in an east bound direction. Ms. Roberts feels that if Vineyard Lane is closed it will set a precedent that any road in Stamford can be closed and she does not feel this is right. Mr. Orgera requested that Captain Bretthauer share those counts with him and Mani Poola.
- Residents from Wire Mill Road complained that with the increased traffic there is also an increase of trash on the road and on their properties. Mr. Orgera stated that the Highways Department will start the process of sweeping and mowing the overgrowth on the side of the road on Wire Mill Road, Vineyard Lane and Hunting Lane, it will be done by next week.
- Mr. Orgera will be working with the Traffic Engineer to see what measures can be taken to slow some of the traffic down.
- Mr. Orgera stated that a decision will be made prior to the election.

As there were no further business, motion was made by Mani Poola, seconded by Paul Montanaro to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Margarita Arenas
September 20, 2013