

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM held via Zoom, by Alexander McDonald, Business Administrator.

Advisory Board Members Present: Sanjeev Vinayak, Deputy Mayor, Township Committee; Alexander McDonald, Business Administrator; Brian Gilfedder, Police Chief, Millburn Police; Mara Epstein, PTOC Safety Committee Co-Chair; Micahel Palardy, (On behalf of Millburn School Superintendent); Christine Bugel, Assistant Township Engineer; James Feins, Resident; Brian Sobelman, Resident; Jeremy Sokop, Resident.

Also Present: Peter Smeraldo, Sgt., Millburn Police Traffic Bureau; Farah Kassim, Administrative Assistant

Board business:

1. Approve April 11, 2023, PSAB Minutes

Ms. Epstein made a motion to approve the April 11, 2023 meeting minutes, and Mr. Fines seconded the motion.

Vote: All Ayes

Mr. McDonald abstained as he was not in attendance.

Old Business:

Reports:

**Committee Member - Deputy Mayor Sanjeev Vinayak** recapped the discussion from the last meeting and suggested consulting on having one portal on the website where residents can share their concerns.

**Business Administrator Report - Alexander McDonald** reported that Mr. Sobelman, a resident and member of the PSAB also wanted to discuss reviewing the log and status of concerns submitted. Mr. McDonald also addressed another inquiry from Mr. Sobelman about the status of 2022 Crash Data, the website currently has data up to 2021 Crash Data. Mr. McDonald stated the 2022 Crash data will be updated once we receive them.

Mr. McDonald reported that Ms. Bugel will be working on a study for the intersection of Ridgewood and Main and Willow and Main to potentially add pedestrian lead signals at those intersections. Mr. McDonald informed the board that a request for \$100,000.00 from the Capital Budget was put in for Pedestrian Safety improvements, particularly pedestrian-activated signals in and around schools and heavy traffic locations.

**Police Chief - Brian Gilfedder** deferred his report to Sgt. Smeraldo will give an update on the Wyoming traffic light. Sgt. Smeraldo contacted the County Engineers in response to the resident's complaints about the buttons and longer lead-time at the Wyoming traffic light. Sgt. Smeraldo will update the board once he receives feedback from the County.

**Michael Palardy, (On behalf of Millburn School Superintendent - Dr. Burton)** reported that the June 6 Elections will take place at the Education Center instead of Glenwood. Mr. Palardy said staff will be parking at the Washington School so there will be ample parking for voters. Mr. Palardy informed the Board that the pedestrian stripes are completed in the parking lot between the Education Center and the High School.

### **Christine Bugel - Engineer's Report**

1. Ridgewood and Locust – moving forward to use Morris County Coop services to install proposal intersection striping improvements with long life and high visibility thermoplastic.
2. Brookside Drive crosswalk at the Papermill - We have received the price quote for materials and will be moving towards obtaining the Purchase order and then scheduling the work.
3. Lot 14 Improvements – We are in the process of preparing plans for improvements at Lot 14 to include traffic calming, pedestrian improvements, lighting, milling, and paving. We are pushing our consultant to have the plans ready for bidding in June.
4. Road improvement projects – this year we plan to complete three road improvement projects. The 2022 project includes improvements on 8 roadways, mostly milling, paving, and drainage improvements but the project includes curb ramp improvements on Myrtle Avenue between Millburn Avenue and Mountainview Road. The 2023 project includes improvements on 4 roadways, again, mostly milling paving, and drainage but we are investigating installing sidewalks on at least one side of Maple Terrace between Wyoming Avenue and Myrtle Avenue, as well as installing curbing and removing the deep cutters. The third project is our annual NJDOT road improvement project, which includes improvements to Myrtle Avenue from Glen Avenue to the Maplewood line. This project includes milling, resurfacing, and drainage improvement as well as ADA curb ramps, new street signs, and upgrades to traffic striping.
5. Lastly, we submitted the paperwork to meet federal eligibility standards for the Safe Routes to School grant. Now we wait for approval and then move into the design phase.

Mr. McDonald inquired about the timing for the lead pedestrian signals, to which Ms. Bugel confirmed 5 seconds. Mr. McDonald added that the Township is looking into potentially buying a Thermoplastic machine for line striping. The possibility of sharing costs with the Township of Springfield is also being considered.

### **PTOC Report - Ms. Epstein** followed up on the following items:

Ms. Epstein thanked everyone for voting on the poster contest and announced that the winners will be in attendance at the June 6, 2023, Township Committee meeting.

1. Update on the new traffic signal, any word from the County? Sgt. Smeraldo responded that the light is installed however due to the location being around the school they are awaiting the milling and paving of the road.
2. Hawthorne and White Oak Ridge Road - any suggestion to help alleviate the traffic backup at the new traffic lights? Sgt. Smeraldo said they are waiting to see how the light will affect the

surrounding intersections. Ms. Epstein will have Mr. Pitini reach out to Sgt. Smeraldo to discuss some concerns.

3. Crossing guard contract - Ms. Epstein inquired if there was any discussion about a realignment of the crossing guard positions, Mr. McDonald confirmed there were no discussions about realignment. Mr. McDonald added that once the Township Committee authorizes the BID, June 18th is when it is scheduled to go out.

4. Merging Documents - Ms. Epstein reported that Ms. Bugel and her will be meeting on May 23, 2023, to go over the various lists/documents which include crosswalks/curb ramps as well as the results of a survey that was completed last year.

Mr. McDonald began the discussion about the various platforms on which concerns regarding curb ramps; sidewalk improvement requests; pedestrian safety are submitted. Mr. Vinayak suggested having one platform in which residents can submit their suggestions or improvements for the Board to review and for the Board to look into responding to/updating the resident when a complaint/suggestion is submitted. Mr. McDonald suggested directing all suggestions through the SDL Portal which will address the issues regarding updates as well as the resident receiving a notification email when submitting their suggestion. Mr. McDonald added that we will work on the flow of SDL internally so everyone is aware of the process going forward.

#### Public Comments:

**Mr. Michael Gidaly** spoke about putting up a crosswalk sign on Linden Avenue where Open Door Nursery is located. Mr. Gidaly inquired if the signage can be bought and put up by Open Door Nursery to which Sgt. Smeraldo confirmed that it is not allowed for a private entity to put up signage. Mr. McDonald added that a further look at the intersection to determine if there are any safety issues, or issues with visibility before deciding. Sgt. Smeraldo added that it can be added to the list for installing a Pedestrian Safety Activated signal.

**Ms. Rachel Lerner** followed up on stripping at the intersection of Locust and Ridgewood Road, Ms. Bugel advised that this can be done through the Co-op vendor - Denville, or if they receive the Thermoplastic machine before which will last longer, but either way, the Township will take care of the stripping of this intersection. Ms. Lerner also asked to revisit adding a crosswalk on Ridgewood Road, Ms. Bugel will email Ms. Lerner a copy of the stripping plan and agrees that there is a need for another crosswalk in that area. Mr. McDonald added that once stripping is completed we can continue further conversations about the crosswalk.

**Ms. Alethea Randazza**, Director of Open Door Nursery echoed the need for a Pedestrian Activated signal as well as a forewarning sign as you are approaching the school. Mr. McDonald thanked Ms. Randazza for her input and added that if Sgt. Smeraldo needs additional information when examining the intersection, he will reach out to her.

**Mr. Rajesh Ramadoss** followed up on the traffic light at Wyoming and Millburn Avenue intersection and agrees with adding more Pedestrian Activated signals

Sanjeev Vinayak opened a discussion about a recommendation made some time ago to add stairs versus crossing the street over to the parking lot from the Millburn Train Station platform. Mr. McDonald suggested installing a Pedestrian Activated signal with flashing signals as a forewarning to drivers approaching. Mr. McDonald added that putting up additional signage to direct people to safe crossings might also be beneficial. Mr. Vinayak agreed and suggested that if more funds are needed this can be discussed further.

Mr. McDonald asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Vinayak made a motion.

Next meeting: June 13, 2023, at 9:00 am via ZOOM