



1
2 **TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**
3 **NORTH HAMPTON SELECT BOARD MEETING**
4 **SAFETY MEETING**

5 **NOVEMBER 17, 2020 9:00 AM**

6 **NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

7 ***DRAFT MINUTES***
8

9 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jim Maggiore, Vice Chairman James Sununu

10 EXCUSED: Selectman Miller

11 VIA ZOOM: Senator Tom Sherman, Aaron Jones, DOT Assistant Commissioner William Cass, RPC Assistant
12 Director David Walker, DOT Highway Safety Engineer Mike Dugas, DOT Project Development Director
13 Peter Stamnus, DOT District Engineer Brian Schutt

14 ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully, Police Chief Kathryn Mone, Fire Chief Jason Lajoie
15

16 **AGENDA**
17

18 Chairman Jim Maggiore welcomed everyone to the November 17, 2020 Select Board Meeting and thanked
19 Senator Sherman and everyone participating in the meeting to discuss the Route 111/Route 151
20 Intersection and called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.
21

22 **NEW BUSINESS**
23

24 **2.1 Discussion of Route 111 and Route 151 Intersection**
25

26 Senator Tom Sherman asked for an update on the accident since their last meeting. Police Chief Kathryn
27 Mone said there were 2 accidents in November: one was not stopping at the stop sign on Route 111
28 eastbound and not yielding to oncoming traffic, and the other was intersection related without a clear
29 conclusion. Both resulted in towed vehicles and Fire Department treatment on-scene. Town Administrator
30 Tully said the Town went forward with the letter for Highway Safety Grant monies to DOT.
31

32 DOT Highway Safety Engineer Michael Dugas said they felt the first step in the Improvement Program was
33 to convert a Y intersection with 2-way traffic on all sides of the triangular traffic island to a more
34 conventional T intersection, with Route 111 westbound coming into Route 151 at a single approach lane
35 and stop condition. Eastbound approach section of intersection will provide a single lane with separate
36 right and left turn lanes; eliminate slip lane leading 151 to 111 westbound; extend resident driveway to
37 meet modified 111 lane for continued access to 2-lane road; try to reduce speeds of turning traffic but
38 when 151 southbound traffic slows to make a right-hand turn onto 111 without slip lane, potential exists

39 for vehicles to cross the double yellow line to bypass. The blue line shows the center-line alignment of
40 modified 111; does not quite meet 151 at right angle but angled to slightly favor eastbound left turns and
41 southbound right turns.

42
43 Vice-Chair Sununu said he was concerned about coming southbound on 151 into a downhill curve where
44 speed is an issue and slowing enough to take that turn, and suggested posting a lower speed limit there.
45 Senator Sherman asked if there was room to put in a dedicated right-turn lane coming down 151 to give
46 them a way to get out of traffic. DOT Assistant Commissioner William Cass said this is an interim
47 improvement and temporary solution to address the more immediate problems, not all the issues.

48
49 Senator Sherman asked if the process for a long-term fix was underway. Mr. Cass said this is an immediate
50 action that can be taken and said he asked Mike Dugas to program a Highway Safety Improvement Project,
51 do an alternatives analysis, and look a more comprehensive safety improvements as well as the
52 intersection to the north and work with the Town to come up with a preferred alternative; UNH Study
53 ideas can also be vetted.

54
55 Town Administrator Tully asked for a completion time and asked if DOT would be reaching out to the
56 homeowner at 2 Exeter Road. Mr. Cass said they would reach out to the homeowner, design the project
57 over the winter, and start construction in late spring/early summer.

58
59 Questions: Frank Ferraro of Post Road (just south of the intersection) said he felt the interim design would
60 probably evolve into a permanent solution, but cautioned against a right-turn lane on 151 southbound
61 which he felt would cause more problems with people running the stop sign there now. Chairman
62 Maggiore asked it the interim plan includes additional signage, especially on 151 southbound. Mr. Cass
63 said they may need to look at existing signage to make sure it reflects the change in configuration but is
64 generally adequate.

65
66 Vice-Chair Sununu asked what DOT needed from the Town to take next step to finalize the design and
67 provide feedback. Mr. Cass said next spring DOT will have a more finalized plan, schedule coming back to
68 the Select Board to discuss actual details, and implementation planning and construction in April or May.
69 Senator Sherman said they can all keep in touch and he would be happy to sponsor a plan to reconvene
70 unless more news before April. Chairman Maggiore asked how to funnel public feedback that comes in,
71 and Mr. Cass said to send to his attention, and he will forward to correct person.

72
73 Peter Goodrich asked if there was any consideration for the final design for the top of the hill around the
74 Bandstand area in front of the church and Centennial Hall. Mr. Cass that that is part of a more
75 comprehensive look they will be undertaking. He said they provide weekly updates on issues to the
76 Governor's Office and will make sure he is informed of decisions moving forward.

77
78 **Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board**

79
80 **Adjournment**

81
82 Vice-Chair Sununu made a motion to adjourn and Chairman Maggiore adjourned the meeting at 9:35 am.

83
84 Respectfully submitted,

85
86 Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary