

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022

Present: Mark Kirchgasser, Bok Read, John McMullan

ROADS, HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC SAFETY

- A. Request from residents of South Old Middletown Road to decrease the speed limit in the south direction from 35 mph to 25 mph from Bortondale Road to S. New Middletown Road (Rt. 352).

Ms. O'Connell-Bell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. O'Connell-Bell stated there are three Council Committees: Roads, Highways and Public Safety, Finance, and Planning Committee with the idea to have an open discussion of issues which is the start of the process. The committee then reports to the other members of Council what had been discussed. Ms. Robyn Turner, 517 S. Old Middletown Road stated she and several neighbors noticed more truck travel and vehicles speeding. She stated the speed limit needs to be reduced to 25 mph along the whole length of S. Old Middletown Road. She suggested lowering the speed limit or additional stop signs to naturally slow down traffic. She stated with the plans for the new playground at the Roosevelt Community Center, a lot of parents will walk their children. She stated she witnessed 2 accidents within 3 days. Mr. Kirchgasser stated there is no opposition from Council.

Ms. Cathy King, 514 S. Old Middletown Road, asked if a sign could be installed stating no trucks unless for local deliveries. Ms. King stated she had spoken to Ms. Powell regarding the red Sabatelli trucks speeding. Mr. Kolicius, 212 S. Old Middletown Road stated 15 to 20 years ago the Township lowered the speed limit and it helped initially. He stated more enforcement of the speed limit should occur. Mr. Harkness, 219 S. Old Middletown Road stated there is a quarter mile stretch where the speeding occurs. Mr. Jack Campbell, 504 S. Old Middletown Road, stated he has lived at this address for 30 years. He stated there has been more traffic since the library opened. He stated people park at the library and cross the street to go to the Wayside Market. He suggested a stop sign at Fox Road may help curb the speeding. Mr. Shawn Krautzel, 563 S. Old Middletown Road, stated he is new to the area and there are 11 children between 5 households. He stated he witnessed vehicles going 60 mph. He stated he is concerned about the children walking to the community center. Ms. King stated she spoke to Mr. McMullan about placing a speed monitor at this location and asked if any data was collected. Mr. McMullan stated he has called the vendor to establish a baseline and stated the monitor was removed because of requests in other locations. Mr. Bob Szolack, 519 S. Old Middletown Road, asked that the speed limit monitor be placed north off of Rt. 352.

Mr. Kirchgasser stated they will consider all suggestions. Mr. Aodh O'Donnell, 330 S. Old Middletown Road, stated he and his wife have one child and one on the way. He stated he walks with his child, and it is very dangerous. He stated he has had to yell at motorists to slow down. He stated he is in support of additional stop signs. Mr. McLaurin, 415 S. Old Middletown Road, stated he has lived there for 60 years and there has never been a problem before. Ms. Kelly stated if you pull your car out of your driveway and are hit by an oncoming

vehicle, the accident is your fault. Ms. Kristen Dillinger, 566 S. Old Middletown Road, asked if a police car can be placed to encourage people to slow down. Mr. Kirchgasser stated Council envisions the Roosevelt Community Center to be a walkable asset to the Township. He stated he grew up on Pinetree Drive. He stated they will look into options for traffic control. He stated stop signs by state law cannot be used as traffic control. He stated stop signs make sense, speed limit lowering makes sense. Mr. Szolack stated the events at Linvilla Orchards create extra traffic. He suggested installing speed bumps for traffic control. Mr. Kirchgasser stated there is a menu of options including speed bumps, stop signs, and speed limits. He stated they will talk to the Township Traffic Engineer, Andy Parker. He added the State Police added 6 new troopers and the Township will ask for additional patrols. Ms. Jill Storey, 318 S. Old Middletown Road, stated she is in favor of installing stop signs. Mr. Matt Kelly, 314 S. Old Middletown Road stated many people drive their children to Indian Lane School which contributes to the increase in traffic. Mr. Kirchgasser stated Council will follow up on the suggestions. Mr. Gorman suggested they set up a follow up meeting after they talk with Mr. Parker. Mr. Kirchgasser asked for residents to call or e-mail with ideas. He stated Council is very much behind what the residents are asking for.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon Browne