

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
June 13, 2019, Thursday**

Present: Ken DiFazio, Chairman
Michael Smart, Vice Chairman
Arthur Mathews, Councilor
Christopher Heffernan, Councilor

Not Present: Rebecca Haugh, Councilor

Also Present: Owen MacDonald, Traffic Engineer
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chair DiFazio called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

19 081- Traffic Regulations-Speed Limit-Raymond Street

This measure was referred to the Ordinance Committee on June 3, 2019. A public hearing is scheduled for June 17, 2019. Owen MacDonald presented the measure, which seeks to approve a posted 25 mph speed limit on Raymond Street. He reported that the office received concerns from residents and from Councilor DiFazio because the street was being used as a cut-through. A study was conducted to determine from and to where traffic originated. A speed study was then conducted, and he reviewed a summary of the findings. Summary – the mean speed is 26.2 mph, the median speed is 26 mph, the mode, which is most common, was tied at 26 and 28 mph. The maximum recorded is 34. 85th percentile speed was 30 mph (the speed over which it could be considered unsafe and at which time police would enforce citations. Speedometers are not that precise so common practice is to post 5 mph less than-- which is 25 mph. Based on the data, 25 mph would be reasonable.

Chair DiFazio reported that he received a call from the resident, Ms. Kelly Cassier, 74 Raymond Street, who informed him that in the afternoon, the cars coming from South Weymouth turn from Pleasant onto Raymond Street, and then onto High Street in Hingham to avoid queuing at the Water and Commercial Street traffic lights. He observed it himself. A number of other neighborhood residents were also concerned. There are a lot of children in the neighborhood. Ms. Cassier and others are ecstatic that a study was conducted and that a measure is before Council. She will likely be at the public hearing.

Vice Chair Smart asked if the total entries were represented in the study. Mr. MacDonald responded that there were a few more than the study indicates, but if two cars went by at the same time, the speed of the second would be assumed to be the same as the first. Vehicles entering driveways were discounted, as were those that slowed down for pedestrians.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Smart to forward measure 19 081 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, pending a favorable public hearing and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:12 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Vice Chair Smart to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Attachment:

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary.

Approved by Ken DiFazio as Ordinance Committee Chairman
Voted unanimously on 3 September 2019