

**MINUTES**  
**Town Council**  
**Town of East Greenwich**  
**Special Session**  
**August 17, 2016 @ 6:00pm**  
**Swift Community Center, 121 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818**

Town Council Present: M. Isaacs, S. Cienki, M. Schwager, W. Stone, S. Todd

Town Staff Present: T. Coyle, S. Brown, S. Cirella, J. Duarte

1. Discussion of issues with the Carr's Pond neighbors pertaining to Carr's Pond Road.

John McLaughlin stated that neighbors have considerable concerns about the safety of their children related to the amount of traffic and speeding in the area.

Mr. Duarte identified issues that stand out such as the geometry of road and rock outcroppings. Bus stops were discussed which are determined by the bus company. Chief Brown will contact the bus company and suggest a new stop at 1121 Carr's Pond. Mr. Duarte continued with reports on vehicles per day (volume/speeds) and accidents (2/year). Widening and realigning the road can be complex and involve redesigning drainage areas at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000. Adding a bike bath lane and sidewalks will drastically elevate the cost. Sidewalks will need engineering due to the lack of space needed to install them. Areas that can be addressed immediately are vegetation control, additional signage and street markings. Flashing light signs were discussed as another option. Residents voiced their concerns with the risks associated with enjoying recreational activities on the road. Mr. Duarte advised that widening the road could cause motorists to drive even faster but narrowing or bottle-necking in some areas could reduce speeds. Vegetation control was discussed further. A resident asked about installing a pressure treated walkway between Waterford Drive and Summit Farm Drive. Chris Whitney asked to have the speed limit reduced in the area of his home at 1131 Carr's Pond Road which is currently posted at 25 mph. Speed bumps are not a favorable solution per traffic engineers. Mr. Duarte spoke about the time line for short and long term solutions; specifically hiring consultants and phasing in improvements. It was reiterated that bus stop changes will take time but additional signage can be done immediately. A gentleman asked on behalf of his wife if a stop sign could be placed at the intersection of Carr's Pond Road and Waterford Drive. It was noted again that wider roads could promote increased speeds. Stop signs can offer some relief in decreasing speeds. A resident asked for consideration to place signage on Carr's Pond Road to deter through traffic from Bates Trail. Making the intersection of Frenchtown, Carr's Pond and Bates Trail a three-way stop was briefly discussed. Police presence has been increased with available resources but can be hit or miss. A resident stressed that her most serious concern is recreational walkers using the road. President Isaacs suggested mentioning to the Superintendent and School Committee Chair to offer safety education to school children. Short term solutions will be addressed and long term solutions will take more time. It was noted that Mr. Coyle will be the point of contact. Chief Brown took house numbers for those who are looking for bus stops at their houses and residents were encouraged to work with the school department.

Leigh A. Carney, CMC  
Town Clerk

**APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL OCTOBER 24, 2016**