

Town of Otis
Planning Board Meeting Minutes June 9, 2025

Call to order 7:00 PM

- Roll Call:
Mark Anthony-Chair
Hal Kobrin
Ross Knowles
Gordon Middleton
John Fletcher

- Approval of April 14, 2025 minutes
Hal motion to accept, Mark second, all in favor.
- Welcome New Planning Board Members
 - John Fletcher, lives on Beaver Hill Road, 25 years, full time 4 years ago, background in car sales and photography
 - Gordon Middleton, born and raised in Otis, also on the Zoning Board.
- Continued Public Hearing: Obstruction of Road or Public Way
 - member of the public here from Great Woods Road,
 - Mark, summary of past public hearing discussions, by law came from the board of selectmen, had discussion with Sergeant Weidhaas, has been no complaints or accidents regarding this issue, OPD has no issue with cones and such to help discourage speeding, OPD doesn't have the manpower to do a lot of speed enforcement
 - Great Woods Road has 4 sets of speed bumps, 19-20 ft wide, bumpy gravel, tree branches hanging over into street, town has 40 ft ROW for road, but current road is narrow
 - Cones are typically put in the middle of the road, not between the speed bumps, feel the speed bumps do not slow traffic down,
 - Speed bumps are posted, signage,
 - Traffic is due to people visiting town beach, so the residents would like to have support from the town to help enforce the speed limit,
 - Member of the public requests, increase in speed bump height and more speed bumps, to help improve the speeding issue,
 - Current speed bumps are not effective, too small

Ross, speed bumps are not big enough, not effective, town should serve the people, town already approved speed bumps they just did not put in big enough speed bumps, would like to recommend larger speed bumps to fix the issue,
Stacey, recommends the property owners sign complaint letters,
Mark motion to close public hearing, Hal second, all in favor.
Based on OPD opinion and comments from the public the Planning Board does not think this bylaw will solve the current issues, Planning Board does not support the by law as written. Planning Board recommendation is to improve current speed bumps by possibly

increasing the size and number of speed bumps and improved visibility.

Stacey, question about bylaw in reference to the town in general and not only this one road, would you view it differently

Mark, yes this did originate from Great Woods Road, but it would apply town wide,

Hal, our responsibility as a Planning Board is to run the public hearing, we can support or not as written and can provide a comment or public hearing,

Hal, there is already a law regarding obstructions in roadways for the state, this bylaw is adding a fine,

Gordon, against it because the police department doesn't seem to support it

Ross makes a motion to accept bylaw as written, Hal does not support the bylaw as written, no second.

Hal, issue with the section that specifically calls out who is to remove the obstruction,

Hal, makes a motion to notify the select board public hearing has been closed and the planning board does not support as written, Mark second, all in favor.

Mark, after listening to the police department and members of the public he does not support the bylaw as written

- BRPC Planning Board Representative

Mark makes a motion to appoint John Fletcher as BRPC representative, Hal second, all in favor.

- Discussion on updating master plan: Grant Update

We have submitted an application for grant money

Thank you to everyone who helped with application

- Any other business old or new.

Mark made a motion to pay for John and Gordon to attend the BRPC workshop, Hal second, all in favor.

- Hal motion to adjourn 8:17 PM, Mark Second, All in favor.