

CITY OF BARRE

PUBLIC BODY MEETING MINUTES

Committee/board/task force: Transportation & Public Works Committee

Date of meeting: Thursday, 2/26/2026 at 4:30pm **Location of meeting:** Hilgartner Residence, 27 Camp Street

Members in attendance: Art Bombardier, Steve MacKenzie, Jayme Bauer, Kenneth_Bauer;

Members absent: Brian Baker

Others in attendance: Joanne Reynolds, Sgt Frey, Colleen Christ, Adam Favalaro, Mary Fifield, Beth Hilgartner, Janelle Starr

1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 4:40 pm

2) Adjustments to the Agenda: None.

3) Public Comment: Joanne Reynolds, Adam Favoloro, Janelle Star and Sgt. Frey were present for continuing agenda items “Hill Street Speed Control Update”, “Hill Street Accident Report”, and “Discussion/Action of a 4 way stop at Hill and Camp”.

4) Approval of Minutes: No minutes prepared from October 16, 2025.

5) Continuing Agenda items:

a) Hill Street Speed Control Update (Brian Baker- not present)

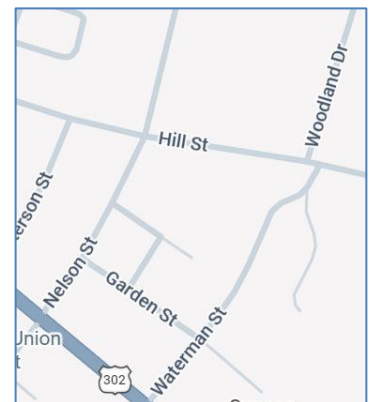
Discussion

Steve said that Brian was on vacation, and observed the following:

- The speed control sign at the top of Hill Street was placed higher than Steve was thinking and should be placed further down the hill to more effectively slow down traffic.

Janelle stated that the sun rises directly up the hill on Hill Street and makes visibility difficult and agrees the sign should be moved.

Steve MacKenzie will ask Public Works to move the speed control sign on Hill Street further down the hill by Nelson Street.



b) Hill Street Accident Report (Sgt. Frey)

There have been 12 accidents on Hill Street since 2020.

- 2021- 2 accidents at Hill/Camp and 3 cars sideswiped the speed cart the city installed to slow traffic and capture traffic data.
- 2022- 1 accident
- 2023- 4 accidents because cars didn't stop at Camp Street and 5 cars hit the City's speed cart.
- 2024- 0 accidents
- 2025- an accident was caused by a student driver.

c) Discussion/Action of a 4 way stop at Hill and Camp

Joanne said that the Hill/Camp intersection needs attention. Sgt. Frey agreed that Hill/Camp is a dangerous intersection and thought it would benefit from a 4-way stop.

Steve asked if there were highway safety grants that could be used for installing a 4-way stop. St. Frey replied that there are \$50,000 enforcement grants for activities to prevent DUIs, encourage seat belt usage, provide extra patrols, etc.

Beth said that there are serious sight line issues going up the hill on Hill Street from Camp Street which contribute to the accidents at and near the intersection. A 4-way stop would provide drivers with time to see oncoming traffic.

Janelle was concerned about the school bus stop that was close to the Camp/Hill intersection. The intersection is dangerous in general for pedestrians and the bus stop placement requires children to cross Hill Street. She added that she put up a fence in her front yard to protect her children while playing.

Janelle added that there were a lot of tractor trailers on the road and a 4-way stop would slow them down.

Mary asked if speed carts also took pictures and Steve responded no. Steve asked Sgt. Frey if data is downloaded before speed carts are moved. Sgt. Frey replied the data is stored in the cloud, but data is analyzed only on a case-by-case basis.

Mary stated that she was recently almost rear ended at the intersection and watched a pedestrian almost get injured. A 4-way stop was needed at Hill/Camp.

Ken said there are two types of speeders; inadvertent drivers and those that don't care. There was general agreement with this statement.

Steve wants to make sure Brian can attend the next meeting to discuss the accident and traffic data and to discuss installing a 4 way stop. He added that he will add this to next month's agenda.

Beth stated that stop signs are less expensive than many other traffic calming measures.

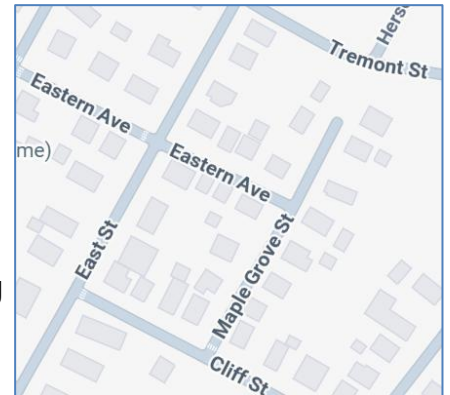
Adam said he was walking on Hill by Nelson and almost got hit by a car. He added that people drive faster than the speed limit because of the width of the streets and asked about curb bump outs. Steve replied that parking spots and painting lines was discussed to slow cars down.

Joanne added that this painting needs to be done in the spring.

6) New Agenda Items: Street Issues- Mary Fifield

Discussion

Mary Fifield said that Eastern Avenue by Maple Grove Street was in very poor condition; a 15-foot trench had developed and the road was very broken into big chunks of asphalt. The trench runs from her garage to the corner and creates walking and driving hazards and is especially dangerous because there are no sidewalks on the section of Eastern Avenue with the trench.



Mary added that she had made multiple calls to the City about the conditions and it's just gotten progressively worse. Even cleaning up the chunks of asphalt would make a big difference.

Steve said that cleaning up the broken asphalt and repaving that section of Eastern Avenue was not a big job and needs to be prioritized and completed soon. Mary said that it had been on the list for years.

Steve added that he will include making these repairs in the agenda for the next meeting. Beth asked if the committee could make a motion to move this project up on the list. Steve replied yes.

7) Public Works Director Report/Update: N/A- Brian was not at the meeting.

8) Round Table

Jayne asked how traffic could be reduced on residential streets in the city. Beth suggested engaging with Faith in Action, a nonprofit that assists with advocacy efforts.

Action items:

1) Motion: Ken made the motion to recommend that the City remove debris and repair the pavement on Eastern Avenue in the vicinity of Maple Grove Street in Spring 2026.

Mover/Second: Jayme seconded the motion.

Result of vote (how many yes, how many no, pass, didn't pass): The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned: 5:45 PM

Mover/Second: Moved by Kenneth Bauer and Seconded by Art Bombardier.
Unanimously approved.

Next meeting date/time/location (if known): City Council Chamber; 4:30 pm,
Thursday, March 26, 2026

Person filing Minutes:

Jayme Bauer
