The April 2013 meeting of the Amherst Traffic Safety Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 3, 2013. Chairman Larry Hunter opened the meeting with a review of the March 2013 minutes. A motion was made by Gary Palumbo, seconded by Duncan Black, to approve the March 6, 2013 minutes. Approved 7-0.

Larry Hunter chaired the meeting. Present were Duncan Black, Gary Palumbo, Andrew Lanphear, Lisa Fontana Tierney, Daniel Ulatowski, and Mark Berke. Also present were Joseph Frese of the Building Department, Scott Marshall of the Planning Department, Al Spoth of the Highway Department, Captain Patrick McKenna of the Police Department, Deputy Supervisor Guy Marlette of the Town Board, and Christopher Schregel, Traffic Safety Coordinator/Engineering Liaison. Guest list is on record in the Engineering Department.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Wehrle Drive Park Industrial Area – Review of a request to change access highway designations on Lawrence Bell, Wehrle Drive, and Youngs Road. C. Schregel provided an overview of what constitutes as a Qualifying and Access Highway. Jeff Schwartz, J & J Truck Wash and Repair, 2251 Wehrle Drive addressed the Amherst Traffic Safety Board during the public comment period. Mr. Schwartz discussed the pending NYSDOT request to change the status of Wehrle Drive west of Curtwright Drive, Lawrence Bell Drive, and a portion of Youngs Road to an access highway. He continues explaining how providing 53’ tractor trailers the ability to use these roadways to access the industrial area would provide a safer atmosphere. There have been occasions where truckers have turned around in the Erie Community College loop, attempted to back up, or received tickets when traveling outside the current access highway bounds. Amherst Traffic Safety Board reviewed a map prepared by the Erie County Department of Public Works of proposed roadway designations. After review, the Amherst Traffic Safety Board agrees with the proposal with the exception of Youngs Road between Main Street and Wehrle Drive. A motion made by G. Palumbo, seconded by D, Black, to recommend the NYSDOT consider changing the following roadway segments to an access highway designation:
   - Wehrle Drive between Curtwright Drive and Youngs Road
   - Lawrence Bell Drive in its entirety
   - Youngs Road between Wehrle Drive and Lawrence Bell Drive

Approved 7-0.
2. Miller Road Parking – Review of overflow apartment parking on west side of Miller Road, north of Millersport Highway. Joe Frese, Building Department, provided a summary of his findings as it relates to parking capacity at the apartment complex. The 4-unit complex has a parking lot with 20 spaces which is well above the required 2 spaces per unit. Various Amherst Traffic Safety Board members visited the location and did not encounter a parking problem. Ultimately, the Amherst Traffic Safety Board is not recommending that a parking restriction be implemented on Miller Road. It is suggested that the resident continue to discuss his concerns with the Town's Building Department and Police Department. Item received and filed.

3. Tennyson Terrace / Road, Sheridan Drive, Transit Road, and Main Street – Review of various concerns. Rita Schlabach, 221 Tennyson Terrace, addressed the Amherst Traffic Safety Board during the public comment period. Ms. Schlabach provided a 4-page presentation outlining the following concerns on the proposed development at 6275, 6301 Sheridan Drive, 7610 Transit Road, and 325 & 331 Tennyson Terrace; referred to as "The Glen". Resident comments, followed by discussion (bullets):

   a) Elimination of the proposed curb cut on Sheridan Drive near the Transit on-ramp.
      • C. Schregel displayed a NYS DOT review letter dated 3/21/13 and explained that NYS DOT is not allowing the proposed curb cut on Sheridan Drive. Kevin Kirk, Uniland Development, project petitioner, addressed the Amherst Traffic Safety Board during the public comment period. Mr. Kirk stated that he does not interpret the NYS DOT letter as a curb cut denial and will be working with NYS DOT for a solution. After discussion, the Amherst Traffic Safety Board is in agreement with the NYS DOT letter and recommends the proposed and existing curb cut along 6301 Sheridan Drive be removed from the site plan.

   b) Fencing at the end of Tennyson Terrace.
      • The barrier between the Tennyson dead-end and the apartment complex was briefly discussed. The Amherst Traffic Safety Board is asking that whatever sidewalk connection is proposed should also connect to an internal sidewalk throughout the complex.

   c) Conflicts at the Transit Road curb cut.
      • The Amherst Traffic Safety Board considered options to make it more clear that the driveway is a right-in / right-out. Physical modification and possible signage was reviewed. Ultimately, the Amherst Traffic Safety Board is recommending that a “no left turn” sign be placed at the Transit Road curb-cut.

   d) Cut-through vehicles in the Tennyson Terrace neighborhood.
      • L. Hunter explained that the Town cannot prevent the public from traveling on a local, public roadway. A roadway sign is not available for this type of exclusion.
      • The Amherst Traffic Safety Board does not recommend posting a “Watch for Children” sign as children are expected to live in residential neighborhoods.
      • Deer warning sign requires DEC approval.
D. Ulatowski emphasizes that the proposed development is lacking internal pedestrian sidewalks throughout. The Amherst Traffic Safety Board is continuing to recommend sidewalks internally and connecting to both Transit Road and Sheridan Drive. Mr. Kirk explains that insufficient parcel width makes a sidewalk construction difficult to / from Transit Road. D. Ulatowski suggests the design engineer look at other options to accommodate a sidewalk installation.

4. Patrice Terrace & Fifth Avenue Intersection – Request for 4-way stop. Engineering Department provided a map of area stop sign locations. Amherst Traffic Safety Board members recognized an overall inconsistency in stop sign postings in the Dana Heights subdivision. L. Hunter questioned if the stop signs should be switched at this specific intersection. After discussion, Amherst Traffic Safety Board is unwilling to make a recommendation until data is collected. Held pending accident and traffic volume information so a warrant analysis can be conducted and a determination of which streets are considered major and minor.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Williamsville East High School Subcommittee. Item Held

B. Crossing Guard Subcommittee. C. Schregel reported that a draft policy has been created by the subcommittee. Counts to occur in May 2013 at various crossing guard locations to field-test the policy before review by the Amherst Traffic Safety Board.

C. South Ellicott Creek Road – Request for additional guide rails. C. Schregel provided his assessment on if recommendations in the URS 2009 study were completed. The study identified that a private wood fence could be considered a danger at 327 South Ellicott Creek. It is the study's recommendation that the Town pursue removal. The Amherst Traffic Safety Board referred the matter to the Building Department to provide notice to the owner and have the fence removed. In addition, C. Schregel reviewed the warrant criteria to determine if they have changed since the 2009 study. C. Schregel found changes in the newest revisions, but none significant enough to warrant additional barriers.

D. Millersport Highway & Hopkins Road – Request for Traffic Signal. Scott Marshall provided his findings on his review of Planning Board requirements of various developments in the vicinity of the intersection. It was identified that no additional follow-up traffic studies are outstanding. Item removed as ATSB is awaiting a response from NYSDOT on the matter.
SITE PLANS / REZONING

SUBJECT: Request to rezone 0.992± Acres from GB & R-3 to GB-TNB-1
ADDRESS: 5949 - 5951 Main Street and 21 Richfield Road
PETITIONER: 5949 Main Street, LLC

X REZONING IS
X APPROVED AS SUBMITTED

SUBJECT: Request to rezone 1.9± Acres from NCD-R-3 to NCD-GC
ADDRESS: 1991 & 2001 Sweet Home Road
PETITIONER: Frank Southerland

X REZONING IS
X APPROVED AS SUBMITTED

SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-2002-28B
Proposed Hyatt Place Hotel and
Unified Development
TOA Job #2013.006
ADDRESS: 5000-5010 Main Street
PETITIONER: Iskalo Development Corp.

X MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X APPROVED AS SUBMITTED

SUBJECT: Sketch Plan Review, SUB-2013-01-SK
Proposed 44-Lot Subdivision, “Village Park North”
Job #2013.018
ADDRESS: 6380 & 6420 Main Street and 5999 Sheridan Drive
PETITIONER: CMB Windsor, LLC

X SKETCH PLAN REVIEW IS
X APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

1. Provide a Traffic Impact Study.
2. Provide a pedestrian access plan.
3. Provide widths of proposed roadways. Width must accommodate fire truck
   minimum standards with on-street parking otherwise parking restrictions must be
   put in place and clearly identified.
4. Show adjacent curb cuts on both the north and south sides of Sheridan Drive.
SUBJECT: Minor Site Plan Review, SP-2013-05
Proposed Office Building – Building Addition, Vehicular
Connection, and Parking Revision
TOA Job #2001.066
ADDRESS: 899 Niagara Falls Boulevard
PETITIONER: Lombardo Funeral Homes

X MINOR SITE PLAN IS
X DENIED

1. Internal circulation is configured in a manner that prevents access to the south and
west parking areas without first entering the adjacent parcel of 885 Niagara Falls
Boulevard. Reconfigure directions of all angled parking.
2. The immediate left turn requirement when entering the site at the Niagara Falls
Boulevard driveway creates a conflict with vehicles queued to exit at the same
curb cut. This may cause back-up into Niagara Falls Boulevard.

SUBJECT: Minor Site Plan Review, ED-1969-11C
Proposed Convenience Store & Fueling Facility
TOA Job #96.087
ADDRESS: 690 North French Road
PETITIONER: 7-Eleven, Inc.

X MINOR SITE PLAN IS
X APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

1. Remove the east curb cut on North French Road as it is located inside the
functional area of the North French Road / Sweet Home Road intersection.
Submitted truck routing plan indicates that trucks pulling out of the east curb cut
will potentially block the westbound travel lane on North French Road.
Furthermore, it appears from the routing plan that there is sufficient space for
trucks to access the west curb cut and exit further back from the signalized
intersection.
2. Coordinate with Erie County Department of Public Works by modifying the west
curb cut in a manner to best accommodate truck turning as part of the East
Robinson / North French Road reconstruction project.
3. Connect the sidewalk abutting the south side of the 7-Eleven building to the future
sidewalk along North French Road. Terminate it at the property line and the Town
will work with Erie County to assure that it is connected as part of the
reconstruction project.
SUBJECT: Minor Site Plan Review, SP-2001-14C
Proposed Funeral Home – Portico & Vehicular Connections
TOA Job #2001.066
ADDRESS: 885 Niagara Falls Boulevard
PETITIONER: Lombardo Funeral Homes

X MINOR SITE PLAN IS
X NOT REVIEWABLE

1. Show planimetric information on the adjacent parcel of 869 Niagara Falls Boulevard. Unable to approve a parking lot connection without reviewing what the access is connecting to.

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SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-1983-23S
Proposed Musicalfare Building Addition
TOA Job #2000.090A
ADDRESS: 4380 Main Street
PETITIONER: Musicalfare Theatre Company

X MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X NOT REVIEWABLE

1. Provide a parking study / analysis to determine if there is sufficient parking presently available for this expansion.

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SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-2013-03
Proposed “The Grove at Buffalo” Student Housing
TOA Job #2012.040
ADDRESS: 2091 Sweet Home Road
PETITIONER: Campus Crest Development, LLC

X MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

1. Install a crosswalk, type LS, across Herron Drive at the intersection of Sweet Home Road.
2. Install periodic street lighting along the south side of Herron Drive along the proposed sidewalk from Sweet Home Road to the west driveway of the proposed development. Illuminate the intersection of Herron Drive and Sweet Home Road as part of this condition.
SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-2013-04
Proposed “The Glen” Luxury Apartments
TOA Job #2013.016
ADDRESS: 6275, 6301 Sheridan Drive, 7610 Transit Road,
325 & 331 Tennyson Terrace
PETITIONER: Uniland Development Company

MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

1. Amherst Traffic Safety Board is in agreement with the second bullet point in the NYSDOT letter dated March 21, 2013. Remove the existing and proposed curb cut along the Sheridan Drive frontage at 6301 Sheridan Drive.
2. Install internal pedestrian sidewalks throughout the development and connect them to the existing sidewalk network on Sheridan Drive and Transit Road.
3. Provide a “no left turn” sign at the east end of the Transit Road driveway.
4. Execute cross access agreements with the Sheridan Meadows Office Park parcel(s) for use of their driveway on Sheridan Drive.

SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-2013-06
Proposed Senior Housing
TOA Job #2013.019
ADDRESS: 1765, 1785, And 1805 Maple Road
PETITIONER: MEL Investors, LLC

MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

1. Change the proposed Maple Road curb cut to a right-in / right-out configuration. Physically construct it in a manner that prevents lefts-in / lefts-out.
2. Install a public sidewalk along the Ayer Road frontage.
3. Install a sidewalk that connects the proposed building to the public sidewalk along Maple Road.
4. Consider adding additional internal sidewalk connections around the building. It was noted that the most southerly portion of the parking lot does not have access to a walkway. The northwest and northeast corners of the building could benefit from a sidewalk as well.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Board Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher P. Schregel
Traffic Safety Coordinator

CPS/jm