

**VILLAGE OF SOUTH BLOOMING
GROVE
PUBLIC HEARING
Monday
July 10, 2023
8:00 P.M.**

➤ **Call to order**

- Mayor Kalaj called to order the Public Hearing regarding proposed local law amending Chapter 222 of the Village Code reducing the speed limit at 8:17pm on July 10, 2023, for the Village of South Blooming Grove located at 811 State Route 208, within the Village of South Blooming Grove, and having a mailing address of Monroe, New York.

➤ **Roll call**

The following persons were present:

- George Kalaj- Mayor
- Abraham Weiss – Deputy Mayor
- Asher Guttman – Trustee
- Yitzchok Feldman – Trustee
- Zalmon Rosner – Trustee
- Laura Gulfo, Esq. – Village Attorney
- Al Fusco – Village Engineer
- Issac Ekstein – Legislative Aide to Mayor
- Joel Stern - Confidential Assistant to the Mayor
- Kerry Dougherty – Village Clerk
- Lieutenant Kevin Wakeham – Town of Blooming Grove Police Department

➤ **Comments:**

- **Lieutenant Wakeham** – Discusses the traffic reports and studies regarding the speeding of the vehicles throughout the Village of South Blooming Grove. He said not only do they count them but they measure the vehicle going past and they monitor speeds that they are travelling. So because of the locations regarding the school buses and that being a new school we have placed in strategic locations. We placed one at Houston Avenue and the other one was on Dallas Drive. We only have 2 traffic data collectors and then a couple of weeks later we also set one up at Duell and Pecos. At Fort Worth we did the study between June 9-16, 2023 and it counted 2,086 cars that past by that whole entire period. The speed limit on that road is 30 mph it counted that there was an average speed was 24 mph. We would have caught 4 violators based on those speeds. The major concern was the school buses that location 266 school buses passed by that location and the average speed of the school buses was 25 mph which was below the speed limit. The last one we did was at Duell and Pecos 8,807 cars passed through that location June 18-25, 2023 average speed 27 mph. The fastest speed was 57. Low violation area. 74 buses passed through Duell and Pecos the average speed was 22 mph. My opinion is community is growing with the amount of children and it's important that they have playgrounds to go to instead of playing in the street or sidewalks would help alleviate the problem because of them not playing in the street. I think we do need to get it across to the community that should drive safe and be careful, take extra caution. I spoke to Mr. Ekstein and there

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are plans to build playgrounds in the future of the community which would help tremendously.

➤ **Public Comments**

- **Mr. Schwartz** thanked the Police Department and Lieutenant Wakeham. Suggests lower speed limit maybe only in certain areas. I know part of the discussion is to lower the speed limit in the village. He doesn't necessarily think that needs to be lowered everywhere maybe in certain areas like where you have a blindspot. I have a few suggestions more traffic studies to see which ones work and which ones don't. More permanent speed bumps that you put in certain areas not everywhere. I know on Merriewold Lane South and Duell they have the radar speed that reminds people that they are speeding so it probably helps slowing down. Maybe it would be effective to have in other areas of the village as well. I mentioned at the last meeting clear cutting certain areas where in the summer in the last few years the trees have grown out of control. It's a potential danger when people don't see. I don't know if we are planning on adding traffic lights but especially with the new grocery on Mangin. All the kids are crossing 208 which is dangerous. I don't know if it makes sense to add another traffic light near Merriewold but if that can be taken into consideration. In general Mangin Road has become a very busy road and it's not wide enough to handle the traffic. School buses speeding I know you mentioned it not speeding but sometimes they are parking in certain areas while waiting for one route to the next and they can block the view. Like on Mangin Road sometimes they like to park by the grocery even though they just run in. I was always very opposed to the idea but maybe sidewalks would be good.
- **Lieutenant Wakeham** – Speed limit is not an issue over in the village. You can put a yellow recommended speed on curves or areas. The speed bumps there is a lot of liability and potential lawsuits and for medical issues as well. We recommend that you don't do it. EMS vehicle damage. Cameras in areas to issue violations.
- **Bill Hewlitt** – So on the top of the street on Dallas going all the way to 208 - that's a long stretch and there is an electronic sign there but it's not functioning right now and especially on a Saturday families are walking in the street but there are blindspots the kid walking in the street. There's also one on Mangin Road I think is a great asset because I make the left turn onto Mangin Road right now it's pretty obscured with all the trees and bushes so you can't see. The broken one on Duell that needs to be and then there's trimming on Pine Hill and Mangin.
- **Rifky** - States Lake Shore 374-380 blindspot and hard to see. Put a sign there.
- **David Klein** – Light by Mangin and Merriewold Lane North and South.
- **Mr Mier** – Suggested sidewalks. Playground is a good idea.
- **Isaac Ekstein** – A lot of kids and take examples – most developments have buildings and parking lots to play. Sidewalks is the best.
- **Resident from Duell** – Blinding lights help slow down traffic.
- **Asher Guttman** – Asked Laura Gulfo – Village Attorney the liability of speed bumps. **Laura Gulfo, Esq.** – Stated when that comment of liability was brought up reminds me of my time at the city of Albany I served as corporation council we were hit for notice of claims not necessarily speed bumps but potholes. I think that from the villages prospective safety for residents. You will be hit by notice of claims by decisions that we make. **Lieutenant Wakeham** – Also consider the snow.

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➤ **Adjournment**

- Motion to close the public hearing at 8:53 P.M. by Trustee Feldman, seconded by Trustee Rosner. 5
Ayes, Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Feldman, Trustee Guttman, and Trustee Rosner.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Kerry Dougherty, Village Clerk