**Town of Bell Board Meeting – Aug 10, 2021 - Attachment**

**Correspondence**

**1. Jayne Norton – Sidewalk Ordinance**

Roger and board members,

The town of Bell passed an ordinance that adversely affected my business. Now that same ordinance is being ignored by the town board.

If you are not going to enforce the parking ordinance the only option is to repeal it.

I don't really care about the tables in front of the fish plant but I do have a problem with selective enforcement of town policy. Which is what is happening here.

I don't appreciate being disrespected at a town meeting. The sidewalk ordinance was ignored for a discussion about parking What does parking have to do with enforcement of policy? Attempting to intimidate me with name calling and yelling rather that answering my question is out of line.

You have two options enforce or repeal the ordinance.

Jayne Norton

**2. Jayne Norton – Email to Jackie – Sidewalk Ordinance**

Jayne Norton to Jackie cc Board 2021-08-04

Jackie

I am unable to attend the meeting. I’m pretty swamped trying to run my business.

I have four questions I would like answered. I attempted to have them answered at the board meetings but was met with name calling and bullying.

If you could put the answers in writing in the minutes that would be great.

What was the purpose of the sidewalk ordinance other than to harm my business?

It’s pretty clear now that no one had any intention of enforcing it when it no longer suited them, so will it be repealed?

What does parking have to do with the side walk ordinance?

Does this committee understand what selective enforcement is?

Jayne Norton

**3. Rumble Strips – Public Comments – Received**

Citizen Comment Rumble Strips

Dear Town Board Members--we live at 21765 Old Highway 13, right at the intersection with Highway 13.  Highway noise is a problem for us, especially early in the morning.  Adding rumble strips to Highway 13 would make things worse.  I encourage the Town Board to vote to oppose the Highway Department proposal to add rumble strips to Highway 13.

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Shaun McElhatton
e-mail: shaun.mcelhatton@gmail.com
phone: 651-424-6774

Dear Cornucopia Town Board Members,

I'm writing to voice my opposition to rumble strips being added to Highway 13 in the WisDOT's planned resurfacing. I live right at the intersection of Highway 13 and Old 13, and I am opposed to adding more noise pollution. Rumble strips are very loud and WisDOT has not provided data to show they're necessary. I urge the Town Board to vote against adding rumble strips and help Corny preserve its peacefulness.

Thank you,

Catherine Spaeth

21765 Old 13

Cornucopia

Town of Bell Board Chair, Roger Lindgren,

I understand the Wis. DOT is planning to resurface part of Highway 13 between Cornucopia and Herbster.

I was also made aware that thatin an unprecedented move for that section of highway, centerline rumble strips will be installed as part of the resurfacing. There are no rumble strips in that section of highway now.

I do welcome the resurfacing but I am very much opposed to the unprecedented addition of rumble strips to this section of highway.

Rumble strips can be heard from more than a mile away. They disturb the peace and are unnecessarily loud.

I own property on Highway 13 and I built my retirement home 0.2 miles north of Hwy 13 near Cornucopia because of the peace and quite and tranquil surroundings.

Rumble strips will surely disturb the peace and detract from the serene atmosphere of the area for many years to come.

**I'm asking if The Town of Bell Board would kindly consider my expressed concern about the unprecedented addition of rumble strips to this stretch of highway and vote against the installation of rumble strips as part of the resurfacing project.**

I understand the need to strike a balance between the safety of keeping distracted drivers on the roadway and public nuisance. But. I feel rumble strips are not a solution to distracted driving. New advances in automotive safety technology are addressing many safety issues associated with distracted drivers.

Wisconsin DOT should not be adding more rumble strips to state highways--where they never existed before. Rather, the opposite should be true. The Department should be examining ways to reduce the use of these unnecessarily loud and increasingly obsolete highway safety features.

Thank you for considering my request and thank you for the important work that you do for the Town of Bell.

My full contact information is below. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Jeff Schultenover

jschultc@aol.com

612-812-9482 cell

PeterAnnintoChairRumbleStrips\_2021-08-05

Hi Roger:

Per several conversations with you, and also conversations with a number of Town of Bell Supervisors in recent weeks, I thought I would also put my concerns about the proposed rumble strips in writing before the upcoming board meeting. Like many of my neighbors, I welcome the WisDOT resurfacing project on Highway 13, and I am grateful for the time and attention that WisDOT representatives have given to Cornucopia residents' concerns so far. And I also understand that rumble strips have clear safety benefits in certain areas. But what is also very true is that rumble strips cause extensive noise pollution for those who live on our near affected roadways, which is why the WisDOT's own guidelines make clear that rumble strips are not meant to be everywhere. Communities and transportation officials need to work together to strike a balance between safety and noise pollution. As I have said, my wife and I, as well as our two adult children, are adamantly opposed to rumble strips near our home, which is 200 paces from the centerline of Highway 13. Our family also owns property that directly borders the highway, which we plan to develop in the future.

As you know, rumble strips have never existed on this stretch of Highway 13. And through the numerous conversations and email exchanges that I have had with WisDOT representatives about this issue in recent weeks, none of them can produce local crash data that would justify adding rumble strips to this specific pastoral stretch of highway. Like many of my neighbors, we moved here for the quiet tranquility of the community. During much of the year, it is possible to drive that stretch of highway and never see another vehicle, and this is especially true in the evening. So it seems that a well-meaning civil servant far from our community looked at a map and made a decision to add rumble strips without taking into account the negative impact that these rumble strips will have on those who live on or near this section of roadway, including--as you have kindly noted--declines in property value.

Given all of those considerations, as you and I have discussed, I think a compromise is in order and that rumble strip gaps should be included in a few key areas along the proposed Highway 13 resurfacing project in the Town of Bell. I think the proposed gaps that you received from WisDOT in the July 28 letter are a good start, but those gaps do not encompass the entire cluster of homes on the far west side of the Town of Bell. Hence, I would suggest that the rumble strip gap on the west side start at the Bell-Clover Line Road, and extend 500 feet east of North Stone Road. That would completely encompass all the homes on the far west side of the township, but still leave more than half of the overall Highway 13 project to include rumble strips, especially in the central section. I also agree with those who have written in from the East side of the proposed resurfacing project, that a gap is justified on that end of the project as well, given the cluster of homes that occurs there too.

I would like to thank you and the other supervisors for your support on this issue, and I look forward to attending the next town board meeting on Aug. 10. Please consider sharing this correspondence with the rest of the board.

Best,

-Peter Annin

87775 West Road

Cornucopia

August 8, 2021

Dear Mr. Lindgren,

My wife and I have enjoyed the relative tranquility of our home just outside of Cornucopia, on Highway 13. It has been brought to our attention that the DOT will be resurfacing the Highway in 2023, which is much appreciated. It has also been brought to our attention that rumble strips will be included in the resurfacing project. We have found that rumble strips are a safety component being used more and more by the DOT. With the advanced technology used in automobiles, the rumble strips will be obsolete. The disturbing sound they create will continue for years to come. We would ask that the DOT would consider the exclusion of rumble strips in the resurfacing of the highway between Cornucopia and Herbster. Due to the proximity of our home to the highway, the sound produced by the rumble strips will be alarming in our home. Thank you for your consideration to this issue.

Douglas Jardine

19670 State Highway 13

Herbster, WI 54844

218/340-6029

**4. Rumble Strips – Town Chair to Wis. Dept of Transportation**

TOBChairtoDanBieberitxDOT\_2021-08-04

Dan,  as noted in your email below you contacted me regarding this issue on June 14.  You may recall from my correspondence that I put this on the next Town Board Meeting Agenda for July 13, and in the absence of a specific deadline or any sense of urgency from you or anyone else at WisDOT, I intentionally set up a thoughtful two-stage process that requested public comment at the July 13th board meeting, with the intent to review and consider a resolution one month later at the August 10th board meeting.  During the July 13th meeting several citizen comments were made. Other written comments were submitted after that meeting. Taking those comments into account, we have drafted a resolution for the Town Board to consider in the regular August 10th meeting.  As you may recall I did send an appeal in answer to Dexter D. Kaetterhenry’s email to me on May 26, 2021.   In the appeal I made several points about noise and its influence on our residents. Mr. Kaetterhenry replied on May 27th that “As of right now we are in a short waiting period.  In the meantime, feel free to contact me with any additional comments or concerns with the STH 13 project.” No other communication from WisDOT suggested that we were required to submit a resolution before early August.

From the outset, our board has tried to approach this issue in a timely and thoughtful manner. So it is my sincere request that you will keep the local government feedback period open on this issue just a few more weeks, so that the voice of our community can be factored into your final plans.

In summary, in our August 10th meeting we will review all of the public input and vote on a resolution for your consideration.   We hope you will respect our process and consider our resolution which will be sent no later than August 12, 2021.

Thank you

Roger Lindgren

Chairman, Town of Bell Wisconsin

Cell Phone 715-209-7323

**Please note my new email address** **tobchair@cornywi.org**

**From:** Bieberitz, Daniel C - DOT <Daniel.Bieberitz@dot.wi.gov>
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM
**To:** tobchair <tobchair@cornywi.org>
**Cc:** Felix, Jessica L - DOT <Jessica.Felix@dot.wi.gov>; Hammer, Paul M - DOT <Paul.Hammer@dot.wi.gov>; tobsuper1 <tobsuper1@cornywi.org>; tobsuper2 <tobsuper2@cornywi.org>; tobsuper3 <tobsuper3@cornywi.org>; tobsuper4 <tobsuper4@cornywi.org>; tobtreas <tobtreas@cornywi.org>; Town Clerk <tobclerk@cornywi.org>; Wilfert, Mark J - DOT <Mark.Wilfert@dot.wi.gov>; Mason, Timothy - DOT <Timothy.Mason@dot.wi.gov>; Rusch, Stacey - DOT <Stacey.Rusch@dot.wi.gov>
**Subject:** RE: Rumble Strips - STH 13 rebuild

Roger,

The initial letter recommending an official Town letter or resolution, if the Town wanted to pursue requesting any gaps in the centerline rumbles, was sent to the Towns of Clover and Bell on June 14, 2021 (attached).  WisDOT received a Resolution from the Town of Clover on July 19th and thereafter WisDOT reviewed the entire project length for potential gaps in the centerline rumbles.  The same criteria that we applied with the Town of Clover was also applied to the Town of Bell, which is to install centerline rumble strips in the following cases:

·       Where there are no passing zones. These areas are generally around curves where centerline rumbles would be more beneficial. These areas should not create a lot of noise occurrences, as traffic should not be passing each other (crossing the centerline) in these areas.

* In all other areas in which there are no residences or residences are set farther back from the roadway and/or have a vegetation/tree growth of substantial length to absorb the sound of the rumbles.

Centerline rumble strips are a systematic safety approach and our recommendations balance noise concerns while addressing the safety mitigation strategy for the corridor.  Because WisDOT is under a deadline to make decisions in the design process, the decision for centerline rumbles had to be made in order for the project to stay on schedule.

Let me know if you have further questions.

Thank you,

Daniel Bieberitz, P.E., PTOE

Northwest Region Traffic Safety Engineer

Office: 715-836-2823  Cell: 715-579-2851

Email: daniel.bieberitz@dot.wi.gov

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

718 W. Clairemont Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** tobchair <tobchair@cornywi.org>
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 7:52 AM
**To:** Bieberitz, Daniel C - DOT <Daniel.Bieberitz@dot.wi.gov>
**Cc:** Felix, Jessica L - DOT <Jessica.Felix@dot.wi.gov>; Hammer, Paul M - DOT <Paul.Hammer@dot.wi.gov>; tobsuper1 <tobsuper1@cornywi.org>; tobsuper2 <tobsuper2@cornywi.org>; tobsuper3 <tobsuper3@cornywi.org>; tobsuper4 <tobsuper4@cornywi.org>; tobtreas <tobtreas@cornywi.org>; Town Clerk <tobclerk@cornywi.org>
**Subject:** Rumble Strips - STH 13 rebuild -

Dan, Thank you for your July 28 letter and the very helpful map that was attached.  I’m a little surprised that the window for a town resolution has closed. Perhaps I misunderstood or overlooked some correspondence.  In any case, I have been taking this issue very seriously and placed requests for public comment on the July 13, 2021Town Board Agenda and commented that the Town Board would consider a resolution in our next meeting August 10th.  I prefer to use a thoughtful two-step approach so that people have time to learn and  reach out if concerned about issues. As you may have noticed, there are several residences along STH 13, at and directly west of the Old 13 and STH13 intersection.

I understand that you may be under time pressure to close design review filles but respectfully request that you extend your deadline until August 12 in the event that we do pass a resolution requesting gaps.

Thank you

Roger Lindgren

Chairman, Town of Bell Wisconsin

Cell Phone 715-209-7323

**Please note my new email address** **tobchair@cornywi.org**