



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
140 MAIN STREET  
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

Traffic Commission Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Committee Room, City Hall. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief Mark Leonard, DPW Commissioner John Ghiloni and Fire Chief Kevin Breen. Also present: City Engineer Evan Pilachowksi and Asst. City Engineer Tim Collins. Minutes taken by: Carrie Lizotte, MPD Records Clerk.

**1- Minutes**

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Tuesday, June 23, 2015.

MOTION to TABLE was made by Police Chief Leonard, seconded Ms. Thomas, it was duly VOTED: TO TABLE MEETING MINUTES TO NEXT MEETING.

**2-New Business**

It was duly voted: to move up sections so the audience members could participate.

**2f) Request from Trish Pope, re: New St. @ Granger Blvd.**

Ms. Pope asked if there was any possibility that the Engineering Department could take a look at the oncoming flow of traffic from Main Street. Her members are trying to turn onto New Street to access the Senior Center. She stated her members coming from Main Street have to make a quick left turn from the left side of the street and it's becoming an issue for some.

Chief Leonard stated that there was some discussion and a study done several years ago regarding the traffic patterns on Granger Blvd. Tim Collins stated that there are arrows on the top of the lanes which follows the lanes through to New Street which may confuse anyone trying to get over to New Street from the left lane.

Ms. Pope stated it may be easier for her to educate her members to use nearby neighboring streets to gain access to the Senior Center.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to ACCEPT and PLACE ON FILE.

**2c) Communication from Carrie-Ann Rawson, re: crosswalk on Lincoln St. @ Cross Street.**

Ms. Rawson stated that walks frequently along Lincoln Street and stated there is a good amount of cars ignoring the crosswalks at Lincoln and at Cross Street. She also stated that the amount of people needing assistance with getting into Bouiver Pharmacy and the Advocate Apartments both on Lincoln Street; that the crosswalks are needing attention. She asked if it was possible to add signage to let the drivers know that there are cross walks.

Chief Leonard mentioned that the place signs that go on the street notifying drivers of the sidewalks are good only if they are in busier intersections (i.e. Main Street) and the signs tend to disappear after placement. Tim Collins stated that they could possibly do advance warning crosswalk signs with arrows pointing down to warn the drivers of the crosswalks.

Chief Leonard also stated he will inform the officers to monitor the crosswalk for any violations.

Motion was made to Refer to Engineering for sign placement and to Refer to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for monitoring.

**2a) Communication from Jan Keith, re: Hemenway St. /Wilson St. traffic concerns.**

Ms. Keith expressed her concern via email to Chief Leonard regarding the excessive speed and lack of failing to stop at the stop sign on Wilson Street by drivers. She stated in her email that cars tend to speed at the corner of Hemenway onto Wilson Street causing several cars in the past years to take out the fire hydrant located at 274 Wilson Street. She is asking for more increased patrols to monitor the speeding and a possible stop sign.

Chief Leonard stated that he can ask the officers to monitor the speed of drivers. Tim Collins stated they can do a study of the sign placement of “curve” to alert drivers of the impeding curve.

Motion was made, seconded, duly voted to refer to the Engineering for a warranted sign and to refer to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for speed monitoring.

**2b) Request from Councilor Tunnera re: Jake Brake restriction on West Main St.**

Councilor Tunnera’s constituent spoke to him regarding the use of Jake Brakes along West Main Street at all hours of the night by semi-trucks traveling throughout the city and using their “Jake brakes” to do a quick stop.

Tim Collins gave a brief discussion when truck drivers use their “Jake brakes” which assists the slowdown of a vehicle. This brakes makes a staccio sound, which can be quite loud going against the City’s Noise ordinance. To enforce the limiting of the brakes would increase educating the drivers of the noise ordinance. However, with the amount of traffic that flows through the City at night, it may not be possible to educate all drivers who use these brakes. Chief Leonard stated that this issue has been brought up before with the Code Enforcement Officer, Pamela Wilderman. He suggested that the Code Enforcement Officer may be able to give some insight on how to enforce the noise ordinance. The Chief also mentioned that he will alert the officers to monitor the area for any signs of the excessive noise.

Motion was made, seconded, duly voted to Refer to Code Enforcement and the POLICE DEPARTMENT for further review.

### **2d) Speeding concerns on Laviolette Street**

There was some concern regarding cars speeding and using the street as a cut through to the condos located on West Main Street. Officer Wicks stated he has traffic flow throughout different times of the day and did not witness any aggressive behavior by the drivers. Chief Leonard stated he has asked Officer Wicks to continue monitor the speeding.

Motion was made, seconded, duly voted to have the Police Department monitor the speeding.

### **2e) Communication from Theresa Lee, Speeding concerns on Framingham Rd.**

Ms. Lee has is concerned with the traffic of the speeding cars along this one way portion of Framingham Road, siting cars have ran over neighboring pets. She asked if there was any way to slow down the traffic. Tim Collins stated that there is not enough signs properly identifying the miles per hour along this route. It was also discussed about using a speed bump, in which both the Fire Chief and Police Chief were not in favor of this method of enforcement.

Motion was made, seconded, duly voted to refer to Department of Public Works to adding the signage as needed.

## **SUSPENSION OR RULES**

Motion was made, seconded, duly voted to suspend the rules to discuss Kings Grant.

Councilor Clancy, Kings Grant @ Applewood, discussion of speeding cars

Councilor Clancy discussed the intersection of Kings Grant onto Applewood and the cars turning at a fast rate. It was discussed how the cars turning onto Kings Grant speed and have nearly hit several trees or oncoming cars waiting to turn onto Applewood. It was suggested that a possible painted island or a possible rumble strip would be benefitted at that intersection.

Motion was made, seconded, duly voted to refer to the Department of Public Works.

2g) Communication from Janet Vigeant, Brigham Street traffic concerns.

In a letter to the Commission, Ms. Vigeant stated that she is concerned about the increased traffic throughout the day, in particular the morning hours. She is stating that with construction of Marlborough Hills, the increased amount of commercial trucks on the scenic road makes it dangerous for people to enjoy the area, including walking to Jericho Hill Recreation area.

There was discussion about the traffic flowing into Southborough to alleviate some of the commercial traffic. However, Mr. Collins stated that DPW does not have the right to enforce which way the commercial traffic into Southborough as they would need permission from the Town of Southborough according to MASS DOT. In which case, in the past, the Town of Southborough would not agree to allow commercial traffic. Chief Leonard stated he could ask the patrol officers to enforce the rules of the road.

Motion was made, seconded, duly voted to refer to the Police Department for increased enforcement.

Ms. Thomas excused herself from the meeting.

2h)/ West Hill Rd. commercial vehicle exclusion request.

It was brought to the Commissions attention that there has been increased commercial traffic on the narrow winding roadway. It was suggested that the Department of Public Works will do a traffic study.

Motion was made, duly voted to refer this matter to the Department of Public Works.

### **3-Old Business**

#### **3a) Municipal off street parking regulation.**

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:  
To TABLE.

#### **3b) High School parking regulations.**

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:  
To TABLE.

#### **3c) Stop signs on Bigelow Street.**

The Police Chief gave an update, several of the stop signs will be removed within a few weeks. He will report back once they have been removed.

#### **3d) Traffic Commission rules and regulations**

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

**3e) Towing vehicles from municipal lots for snow removal.**

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:  
To TABLE.

**3f) Communication from Maureen Matott, re: Request for yield sign for traffic on East Main St. @ Stevens St.**

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:  
To TABLE

**3g) Request for HP spot in front of 2 Hill Rd. and sign restricting parking within 20' of Hill Rd. and Lakeshore Dr.**

Motion was made, second duly voted:

To TABLE.

**3h.) Request for speed limit and other warning signs on Simpson Rd.**

Motion was made, second duly voted:

To TABLE.

**3i) Speeding and other traffic concerns on Lakeshore Dr.**

Motion was made, second duly voted:

To TABLE.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie A. Lizotte  
Records Clerk  
Marlborough Police Department

**List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:**

- Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, July 28, 2015 (Including City of Marlborough Meeting Posting)
- Draft of Minutes from meeting on June 23, 2015
- GIS MAP of Granger Blvd & New St, provided by T. Collins.
- GIS MAP of Lincoln Street before Bouvier Pharmacy.
- JAKE Brake information from Maine provided by T. Collins

