



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION
140 MAIN STREET
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 017**

Traffic Commission Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Tuesday, August 29th, 2017 at 10:00 am in the City Council Committee Room, City Hall. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, DPW Commissioner John Ghiloni, Fire Chief Kevin Breen and City Clerk Lisa Thomas Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins and City Councilor Ed Clancy, and City Councilor Katie Robey. Minutes taken by: Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Tuesday, July 25th, 2017.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
TO APPROVE – Accept and Place on File

2 – New Business

2a) Intersection of Ash Street & Hudson Street – Failure to stop at Stop Sign

Chief Giorgi received three emails on this issue after the recent rollover here, one from a resident of the area, one from Officer LeDuc and one from Councilor Irish. He also tried to run an accident history prior to the meeting, however, was having trouble running the report. The Chief advised that he did go out to check the intersection himself. The recent roller involved a car coming out of the hospital and the other coming from Hudson Street and going through the intersection without stopping. All three emails mentioned vehicles not stopping at the stop sign, even while officers were there investigating the accident. A request was made for lighted or blinking stop signs.

Tim Collins said this four-way stop might not actually meet the required warrants. The requirements for a four-way stop include a volume of 300 cars per hour over an eight-hour period on the major street, with 200 cars per hour on the cross street. He also noted

that a four-way stop should have Advance Warning Signs in place. Engineering can review current signage and make recommendations.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to review signage and advise at next meeting.

Motion was made by Chief Giorgi to take Agenda Items out of order as Councilor Robey was in attendance for a specific issue. All in Favor.

2c) 25 MPH Speed Limits Authorization.

Chief Giorgi realized that this issue was already addressed at a prior meeting. He passed out a copy of a section of the minutes from the 3/2/17 Traffic Commission meeting which summarized the discussion. Chief Giorgi has already spoken to Nick Milano on this issue. The Traffic Commission had advised that they would prefer to see a street by street change, as needed, rather than a citywide change in the speed limit. Tim Collins passed out a list of streets that have a Thickly Settled Zone, all of which remain at 30 mph.

Lisa Thomas advised that the last action taken on this issue was February 2017. She will communicate this to Nick.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Lisa Thomas to communicate with Nick Milano on the latest action.

2b) Crosswalk locations language and Stop Sign language

Chief Giorgi said that he had received an email from Officer Larose about a pedestrian accident on Cook Lane at Nolan Way. Tim Collins reviewed the existing signage and crosswalks along the entire length of Cook Lane and all along Farm Road and the connecting roads and found many crosswalks and 2 stop signs were not properly regulated. He put together language to add what was missing from the existing regulations. This will now make everything up to date. Mr. Collins will forward an electronic copy to Lisa Thomas for advertisement.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Lisa Thomas to advertise the amended regulations.

2d) Request to move portable electronic speed sign on Framingham Rd.

The group determined that this type of request does not need to come before the Traffic Commission and can be handled by the Police Department, as needed.

Chief Giorgi passed out two Summary Reports generated by the new portable electronic speed signs, one for 481 Elm Street and one for 94 Framingham Road. He wanted the Traffic Commission to be aware of this new tool and the type of information we now have available. The report shows such things as speed limit, average speed traveled, volume of cars per day, volume of cars during the during the entire duration, maximum speed and a breakdown of timeframe and vehicles that slowed upon seeing the sign. All members were impressed with the feedback provided by these new signs. Chief Giorgi

also advised that they cost approximately \$4,500 each and are battery powered. Officer Larose of the CEMLAC Accident Reconstruction Team saw these signs used in Auburn and researched more about them and presented them to the Chief.

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

2e) Request for Stop Sign at Stow Road and Beaman Lane

This request was made per a phone call from a local resident. Tim Collins asked if we knew why the resident was asking for a Stop Sign here. He explained that stop signs are not to be used to slow traffic. It is an ineffective use of a stop sign. Tom DiPersio said he also spoke to the resident and he thinks it may actually be more of a site distance issue due to bushes in front of a fence. Tim Collins advised that bushes fall under the same requirements as a fence under our City Ordinance. The bushes cannot be higher than 3 feet and must be 15 feet back from the sidewalk. If this is the case, it is an issue that can be forwarded to Pam Wilderman, the Code Enforcement Officer for the City.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to call the resident and discuss the issue. If any further action is needed by the Traffic Commission he will advise.

2f) Unattended trailers parking in public way

Tim Collins asked to discuss the need to regulate unattended trailers being parked in the public way along with the No Parking Regulation for Maple Street, as a trailer is currently causing problems.

Commissioner Ghiloni also mentioned a boat parked on Maple Street between Shawmut and Essex that has been there for three months. This particular issue is also a safety issue as the trailer is on a slight incline and on concrete blocks. Mr. Collins passed out a copy of a regulation from the City of Manhattan Beach, as an example. It prohibits parking of nonmotorized vehicles (i.e. one that can't be moved under its own power) on a public way. It states that "Public Streets are not intended for long-term vehicle storage – they are intended for vehicular travel and temporary parking." The vehicles in question are all registered vehicles parked on the road.

Chief Giorgi mentioned another boat issue on Maple Street. He went out and talked to the resident in person and the boat was moved. Apparently, there was a tree limb that was preventing the resident from backing onto the property. Councilor Clancy also mentioned a camper that is parked on Chandler Street. There is a hose and electrical hookup and it looks like someone is sleeping here at times also. Pam Wilderman has also had issues with landscaping trailers parked in the street over the weekend. Code Enforcement used a "blight" ordinance to deal with this issue at the time. It may be that a new City Ordinance is needed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for further review.

2g) Brook Street – Review of No Parking Regulations

Tim Collins advised that there are currently signs on Brook Street that do not conform to the regulation. He passed out two GIS diagrams of the area, one showing the number of parking spaces available on each side of the street and one showing the areas indicated as No Parking and a copy of the current No Parking Regulation from June 7, 1982.

He found that there is room for 14 parking spaces on the left side of the street and 16 spaces on the right side of the street. It is a narrow road and it makes sense to restrict parking on one side. He advised that the Traffic Commission would need to repeal the existing regulation and create a new one. All were in agreement.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for the proper language to repeal the existing regulation and create a new one which would restrict parking on the left side.

Lisa Thomas asked for a suspension of rules to introduce an item not on the Agenda.

Lisa Thomas passed out a page from the Special Permit for McDonalds. Item #13 pertains to the Traffic Commission. It states, "Applicant, its successors and/or assigns shall be responsible for providing, installing and maintaining all signage or marking required by the Marlborough Traffic Commission. Such signage or markings shall meet the standards of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices".

The Special Permit was approved last night at the City Council Meeting.

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

3-Old Business

3a) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.

Lisa Thomas said that finally, after 10 years, the Traffic Commission Rules and Regulation Manual is almost complete and up to date. General Code has recodified all the outstanding amendments and forwarded them to the Police Department. Karen Lambert is in the process of reviewing them to make sure that everything was added as requested and will have this completed for the next meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE.

3b) Request for stop signs on Weed St. at Florence St.

Commissioner Ghiloni advised that this issue is still pending and needs to stay on the agenda.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE.

3c) Elm Street @ Bigelow St. intersection concerns.

As discussed, Engineering has added pavement markings to indicate a narrower opening at this intersection. The attempt is to make it a standard "T Intersection". The Traffic Commission has received feedback that the opening is too narrow and that it will be

difficult to maneuver the turn. Tim Collins said that it is deceiving because the center line has already been repainted based on the wider opening. It would be changed once the new roadway opening was marked. The opening would be 28 feet wide, which is the same width as all other new subdivision streets in the City.

Councilor Clancy mentioned that he likes the rumble strip at Kings Grant. He finds that it works and causes people to slow down and widen the turn. There is another one at Miles Standish and Simpson Road. It was also noted that they do not cause problems for plows because the grooves go down below the pavement, not above.

After much discussion, the Traffic Commission has decided to change the pavement markings to reflect the narrower opening. Any reconstruction of the roadway would depend on when and if funds become available.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for design and implementation of the changes to remediate the intersection concerns.

3d) Parking Issue Shawmut and Maple (Update)

As discussed previously, there are sight distance issues with vehicles parking on Maple Street between Shawmut Ave. and Essex Street and Bridge Street and Maple Terrace Engineering is proposing a “No Standing, Stopping or Parking” in this area. Tim Collins passed out a GIS diagram with the proposed area indicated and the corresponding language for the regulation.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Lisa Thomas for advertisement.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert
Records Clerk
Marlborough Police Department

List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

- Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, August 29, 2017. (Including City of Marlborough Meeting Posting).
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from July 25, 2017.
- Email from Karen Boule (City Council Secretary) to Chief Giorgi, dated 7/27/17, re: Call from Stacie Reynolds – Accident @ Ash and Hudson Streets at stop signs.
- Email from Officer LeDuc to Chief Giorgi, dated 8/4/17, re: Hudson and Ash.
- Email from Tim Collins to Chief Giorgi, dated 7/31/17, re: Crosswalk Locations language and STOP sign language.

-Email from Nick Milano to Chief Giorgi, dated 8/1/17, re: 25 MPH Speed Limits Authorization.

-Email from Councilor Doucette to Chief Giorgi, dated 8/14/17, re: Items for next traffic meeting.

-Email from Carrie Lizotte to Chief Giorgi, dated 8/15/17, re: Phone call from John Burch and request for Stop Sign on Stow Rd. @ Beaman Lane.

-Email from Tim Collins to Chief Giorgi, dated 8/16/17, re: Parking trailers in roadway.

-Email from Tim Collins to Chief Giorgi, dated 8/23/17, re: Brook Street, review of No Parking Regulations.

Additional Handouts:

-No Stopping, Standing or Parking – Maple Street, GIS Diagram & regulation language.

-Email from Councilor Irish to Chief Giorgi, dated 7/28/17, re: Stop signs Ash St. / Hudson St.

-Extended Speed Summary Report form 481 Elm Street, WB

-Extended Speed Summary Report for 94 Framingham Road, EB

-Copy of pages 2 and 3 from minutes of 3/2/17 Traffic Commission Meeting with New Business Item 2c) City Council acceptance of Section 17C of Chapter 90 highlighted.

-2 GIS diagrams of Brook Street with Parking Surveys indicated on each, one with no parking areas and copy of corresponding City Council Order, the second with # of parking spaces available on each side.

-Detached Trailer and Oversized Vehicle Regulations for City of Manhattan Beach.

-Page from Special Permit for McDonalds, with #13 highlighted – pertains to Traffic Commission.