



**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, May 26, 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, Fire Chief Geoff Herald and City Clerk Lisa Thomas. Also present: Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins and local resident James Joubert. Minutes taken by: Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
TO APPROVE.

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
TO APPROVE. (Lisa Thomas abstained as she was not present at this meeting)

2 – New Business

2a) Communication from Farm Road residents, re: Farm Rd. construction project.

Residents sent a letter to Councilor Page, outlining numerous concerns on this project. Their three main concerns are 1) the addition of a stop light at the intersection of Broad Meadow Rd. and Farm Rd. 2) The likelihood of significant increases in overall speed and 3) flooding problems at the intersection of Farm Road and County Lane.

Chief Leonard advised that Evan Pilachowski (Engineering) has already addressed most of the concerns brought up by the residents. He noted that he was copied on an e-mail with the responses.

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

2b) Communication from Maureen Matott, re: Request for yield sign for traffic on East Main St. @ Stevens St.

In her correspondence, Ms., Matott outlined a “very dangerous issue that has been happening for years”. Cars traveling straight through this intersection onto Stevens Street have the right of way, however, cars coming in the opposite direction and taking a left onto Route 20 often do not yield to vehicles going straight. She notes, “I can’t tell you how many times other times I have almost been hit by a car/truck/bus...you name it...turning left onto Rt. 20 East as I am going straight onto Stevens, or how many times I have seen others almost get hit too”. Ms. Matott is at least looking for a sign indicating who has the right of way.

Chief Leonard agrees that this can be a “tricky” intersection. Traffic on East main has the right of way. The rule is that turning traffic is to yield to straight traffic. He is not sure as to the exact MUTCD wording. Tim Collins confirmed that there is no exclusive left turn here and that there are two lanes on Lincoln Street coming east. He noted that the stop sign is far from the intersection. The first car make a quick turn and scoot across and then the second car tries to do the same as the straight traffic is moving forward. According to Tim Collins, “those tuning left must yield on the green ball”. A sign here does make sense.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to determine the proper yield sign for this location.

2c) Communication from Ruben Rassi, re: Lakeside Ave. at Lincoln St. /Bond St. intersection concerns.

Mr. Rassi noted his concerns with this intersection on SeeClickFix. His main concern is with cars speeding the wrong way up onto Lincoln Street from Route 20. There are currently Do Not Enter signs but also a double yellow lane that extends to Route 20. He also goes on to provide a few suggestions on how to correct this problem.

Tim Collins passed out a photo of the intersection with a graphic of “proposed line painting will deter Lakeside Avenue traffic from using Lincoln Street.” (Prepared by Evan Pilachowski). Tim Collins explained that the hash marks would be another visual that this area is one-way and help to deter Lakeside Ave. traffic from entering Lincoln Street. The lines would be white as white typically indicates one-way. Yellow is used for two way traffic.

It was noted that a left turn at the end of Lincoln Street onto Lakeside Ave. is allowed except between the hours of 4 to 6. Cars will have to cross this hashed area to make the turn. The hash marks are intended as a visual for those on Lakeside Ave.

Chief Leonard advised that we should try this and see how it goes. He also asked if the Do Not Enter signs could be moved closer to Lakeside Ave. and that the old double yellow lines be removed. He also advised that he would speak to the resident and see if there was

any specific time of day that was more of a problem and he could then work on enforcement.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to move forward and to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement.

2d) Communication from Joe Duca, re; Beach St. speeding concerns.

Mr. Duca is requesting that speed bumps be placed at the intersection of Beach Street and Clover Hill. If this is not possible, he would at least like to see police patrols there between the hours of 6:00am to 9:00am and then again from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

Chief Leonard explained that historically has not been in favor speed bumps and has found that they actually create more problems. He noted that the road was made narrower to help with the speed issue. He has also tried to get directed patrols out there, however, it's difficult to do in that area because its hard to pull cars over without blocking the roadway. The best that can be done at this point is to work on enforcement.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement through directed patrols.

2e) Request for deer crossing sign near 421 Bolton St.

This request came through Priscilla Ryder's office. It appears that there have been a number of deer sightings here and they almost caused an accident recently. The resident was hoping signage may alert motorists.

Chief Leonard advised that we have dealt with this issue before. Similar signs were recently installed on Elm Street near the conservation area. It is a tough issue because there are deer all over the city. The property near the land fill is being disturbed by developed which is probably causing the current problem. It may not continue to be a problem.

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

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

Chief Leonard received a phone call on this issue. The woman stated that her parents live at this address and are 90 years old. Summer people are parking here for Fort Meadow. She need access in front of their house to be able to get them in and out. The Commission went on to discuss that this is a very dangerous place to put a HP spot as it is on a hill. The steep slope would be difficult for a wheel chair. It would not meet the requirements for an HP spot.

Chief Leonard advised that he would discuss the issue further with the caller. Fort Meadow is a neighborhood beach. Is she looking for a parking restriction in front of the house?

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Leonard to get more information.

3-Old Business**3c) Stop signs on Bigelow Street.**

Mr. Joubert was in attendance for an update on this issue. Chief Leonard advised that we are looking for a hardwire location for the second sign. He reviewed how the Traffic Commission was trying to come up with a compromise

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

3f) Request to consider making Francis St. one way.**3d) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.**

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

3f) Towing vehicles from municipal lots for snow removal.

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

3g) Minutes of March meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

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.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 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, May 26, 2015. (Including City of Marlborough Meeting Posting).

-Letter from Deborah Jakubowski Russ, Christopher Russ, Cathy Horman, Christopher Horman and Elizabeth Montgomery to Councilor Page, dated 4/10/15, re: Concern over Farm Road Construction Project.

-E-mail from Maureen Matott to Chief Leonard, dated 4/23/15, re: Traffic sign needed.

E-mail from Evan Pilachowski to Chief Leonard, dated 5/4/15, re: Intersection of Lincoln St. and Lakeside Ave.

-Letter from Joseph Duca to Chief Leonard, dated 5/13/15, re: speed concerns on Beach Street.

-E-mail from Priscilla Ryder to Chief Leonard, dated 5/12/15, re: Deer Crossing signs on Bolton Street.

-Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from 3/31/15.

Additional Handouts

-Proposed regulation to add a new crosswalk on Williams Street at Robin Drive.

-Photo of intersection of Lincoln St. at Lakeside Ave indicating proposed line painting.

-Traffic Volume Counts for Francis Street along with corresponding diagram.

-Diagram of Hill Road and Lakeshore Drive.