



**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, September 26, 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: Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins, Code Enforcement Officer Pam Wilderman and Building Commissioner Doug Scott. Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

**1- Minutes**

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Tuesday, August 29, 2017.

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

**2 – New Business**

**2a) Issues on Hayden and Water Street**

Chief Giorgi received an email from a local resident on this issue. She has lived on Water Street for almost two years and has noticed several issues since Ward Park was redone.

- 1) They have a very small “dead end” sign above their street sign which “no one bothers to read” resulting in too many instances of people speeding down their tiny road and then having to turn around.
- 2) People leave the park way too fast and she has almost been hit trying to leave her street.
- 3) People also do not read the Do Not Enter signs on the 1 way section of Hayden.

She also mentioned that someone had made their own dead end sign and hung it up. She said that it actually seemed to work but someone took it down. Tim Collins advised that

the City took the homemade sign down. It was replaced by a bigger diamond shaped sign which is now more visible. It was initially a small dead end sign at the top of the street sign due to the size of the road. The new sign should help the situation.

Mr. Collins also said that he thinks people know that this section of Hayden Street is one way, however, they look and see that no one is coming and “sneak down”.

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

### **2b) Speeding Concerns and Crosswalk Request on Framingham Road**

Chief Giorgi received an email from a local resident on this issue. She said that they have noticed the new flashing speed signs in the area, however, she said “there are still a large amount of people who blow through Framingham Road like a speedway”. They are concerned about the lack of compliance with the speed limit.

Chief Giorgi advised that Sgt. Campbell has also talked to this resident and that the electronic speed signs have been brought back out to the area to gather more feedback. The initial feedback was that the speed was not as excessive as she thought.

With regard to the crosswalk request, Tim Collins advised that the area in question, at Allis Road and Beverly Drive, actually has a driveway across the street. A crosswalk cannot go to a driveway opening. Also, a crosswalk must meet ADA requirements and this would require rebuilding of sidewalks. Mr. Collins mentioned that the Allis Road side already has a crosswalk installed. He said that there are no bus stops that require kids to cross the street. The bus stops and traffic stops and kids then cross the street to get on the bus.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for speed enforcement. Chief Giorgi advised that he would also speak to the resident about the parameters for a crosswalk.

### **2c) Crosswalk Request for Intersection of Wellington Street and Church Street**

Chief Giorgi received this request from a local resident of Midland Street who expressed concern that there was no sidewalk on the eastern side of Church Street and that several middle school children have to cross from the Wellington side to the Harvard side to get to their bus stop at the corner of Church and Edinboro.

Tim Collins advised that there is an alternate walk to the bus stop location that already has a crosswalk installed. It is about 50 feet longer but there is a crosswalk at Greenwood and Church. A new crosswalk would require reconstruction of the sidewalk in order to be ADA compliant.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to advise the resident that the issue was discussed, however, the children do have another alternative for safe crossing to the bus stop location.

*Chief Giorgi made a motion to suspend the rules and take the agenda items out of order as Pam Wilderman and Doug Scott were in attendance for Old Business Items 3d. All in Favor.*

### **3-Old Business**

#### **3d) Unattended trailers parking in public way.**

Code Enforcement Officer Pam Wilderman also has problems with this issue and how to enforce it. The group discussed different issues they have had with boats, trailers, car carriers and commercial vehicles and how to get them to stop parking on public roads. Ms. Wilderman has issued tickets based on City Ordinance 551.18 i.e. an obstruction of any kind that obstructs a public way for more than one hour.

Tim Collins drafted some new language which could be incorporated into the traffic code. Currently under Article II, Section 586.9 – Obstruction of Traffic, it states, “No person shall drive any vehicle in such a manner or stand alone or with others as to unnecessarily obstruct the normal traffic upon any street or highway.”

He is proposing adding new paragraphs that state:

No person shall park, or allow to be parked, an unregistered vehicle on any street or highway. Any unregistered vehicle parked on any street or highway shall be towed and stored, at the expense of the owner.

No person shall park, or allow to be parked, an unattended trailer or recreational vehicle on any street or highway.

No person shall park or allow to be parked, a trailer or recreational vehicle hitched to a registered vehicle or a registered vehicle on any street or highway, for a period of time not to exceed 24 hours. When a trailer is allowed to be parked on a street or highway, it shall be in such a manner that it is deemed safe. If the vehicle is parked in such a manner that it is not deemed safe, the vehicle will be towed and stored at the expense of the owner.

Ms. Wilderman said she has been using the “blight” ordinance, however, she liked the sound of this proposed wording better. She mentioned a vehicle she saw this morning that was unregistered that now has temporary “paper” plates on it. She wanted to have Officer Wicks or Officer Moro take a look at it for her. Anything that would help her to deal with unregistered vehicles on the roadway would be great for her.

Doug Scott suggested sending this language to City Council as it would involve a new area of ticketing even though it is under the jurisdiction of the Police Department and Code Enforcement. Lisa Thomas also suggested sending the proposed language to the Legal Dept. for review as we are “charting new waters”. We are creating new language rather than just adding a change to the existing Rules and Regulations.

All agreed that this language (or something to this effect) should be added under Section 856.9 but that it would be a good idea to have Legal review the wording. Ms. Wilderman said that she will continue to ticket under the “blight” ordinance in the meantime.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to discuss the new language with the Legal Department before moving forward.

**Return to: 2 – New Business**

**2d) Traffic Regulations at the 1<sup>st</sup> LT Charles W. Whitman School.**

Tim Collins requested that this item be added to the Agenda. He found that there are many signs at this location that are not in the Rules and Regulations Manual. The Traffic Commission previously reviewed what was in place at the High School and made revisions, however, this was not done at the Middle School. He passed out a large diagram entitled “Traffic Regulation Map – Whitcomb School”. He found that most of the signs are in place, however, nothing was ever regulated. He passed out wording relative to:

Section 586.46A – Schedule IIA: prohibited Right Turns

Section 586-49 – Schedule V: One-Way Streets

Section 586-50 – Schedule IV: Stop Intersections

Section 586-50.1 – Schedule VIA: Do -Not-Enter Streets

Section 586-53 – Schedule IX: No Stopping, Standing r Parking Anytime

Section 586-54 – Schedule X: Parking Prohibited Certain Hours

Section 586-60.1: Crosswalk Location

Mr. Collins pointed out all areas noted above on the diagram. He also noted where there used to be a sign that read “Stop for Pedestrians”. It now correctly states, “Yield to Pedestrians”. He advised that the Group could vote on the required regulations, as per the map, and then he can write up the proper legal descriptions for the next meeting so they can be advertised and approved. He will look back and see how it was done for the High School and do it the same way.

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

**2e) Request for Stop Sign at Stow Road and Beaman Lane (Additional Information/Clarification.**

This issue initially came in as a phone call and was discussed under new business at the last meeting. It was referred to Chief Giorgi to follow up with the residents for clarification. Chief Giorgi is now in receipt of a specific letter and photos. The specific concern is the speed of vehicles on Stow going both North and South and the limited visibility they have of the Beaman Lane intersection coming from either direction.

Tim Collins also went out to review the area. He does feel that it may be appropriate to install a yellow warning sign indicating “curve ahead”. He also reviewed the photos and feels they could be older as he did not see any vegetation that was obstructing the view of

the intersection. Chief Giorgi asked if it was possible to use a sign showing an arrow in each direction indicating that you can turn either way. Mr. Collins advised that this type of sign is usually used based on a problem history. It doesn't look like an issue of not seeing the traffic. The normal rule of the road is to get to the end of the street and look both ways before making the turn.

Mr. Collins also advised that we actually could put a stop sign here because a stop sign is warranted for a T-Intersection.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for speed enforcement on Stow Road also to Chief Giorgi to advise the resident as to the discussion.

and

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for an advance warning sign to indicate "intersection ahead".

### **3-Old Business**

*Lisa Thomas asked for a suspension of rules to formally approve three regulations that were recently advertised but were removed from the Agenda.*

MOTION was made by Lisa Thomas, seconded, duly VOTED to APPROVE:

- 1) Revised Regulation: Chapter 866, Section 53, Schedule IX: No Stopping Standing or Parking on a specific area of Maple Street (Refer to regulation for specific wording).
- 2) Revised Regulation: Chapter 586, Section 60.1: Crosswalk Regulations – to add crosswalks on Cook Lane, Blake Circle, Sunshine Dr. Sherwood Drive South, Sherwood Drive North, Nolan Way, Kane Drive and Reagin Lane (Refer to regulation for specific wording).
- 3) Revised Regulation: Chapter 586, Section 50, Schedule VI: Stop Intersections. Add Stop Signs on Nolan Way and Reagin Lane. (Refer to regulation for specific wording).

APPROVED – ALL IN FAVOR.

### **3a) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.**

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

Tim Collins advised that he went out to this area and reviewed the signage. He said that there is a stop ahead sign traveling northbound on Hudson Street, however, it is currently 600 feet from the intersection. It should be 200 to 250 feet from the intersection. There is also a stop ahead sign traveling southbound, however, it is 740 feet from the intersection. It should also be 200 to 250 feet from the intersection. Mr. Collins advised that he would have them moved.

Mr. Collins also noted that the stop sign coming out of the hospital entrance was hit and is leaning over. It is turned and not facing in the proper direction. It was discussed as to whether the hospital or the city should fix the sign. It is a private driveway but a four-way stop is indicated on the sign. Commissioner Ghiloni also is not sure who owns the sign but it needs to be fixed. He advised that the City should just take care of the sign and have it be done.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING and the DPW to fix the stop sign at the hospital driveway.

**3e) Brook Street – Review of No Parking Regulations**

It was determined at the last meeting that the existing regulation would be repealed and replaced with a new regulation that would restrict parking on the left side of Brook Street. Tim Collins will forward the proper language to Chief Giorgi so that he can prepare the amended regulation for advertisement.

Commissioner Ghiloni questioned if we should be notifying residents of specific streets of changes before they are advertised. It was discussed further and decided that this could be done on a case by case basis but only if there was a really big issue involved.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to prepare the revised regulation for the next meeting.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 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, September 26, 2017. (Including City of Marlborough Meeting Posting).

-Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Tuesday, August 29, 2017.

-Email from Samantha Clark to Chief Giorgi, dated 9/7/17, re: Water Street.

-Email from Natalie Dellecese to Carrie Lizotte, dated 9/8/17 (forwarded to Chief Giorgi same date), re: Speeding Zone Framingham Road.

-Email from Sara Douglas to Chief Giorgi, dated 9/20/17, re: Request for crosswalk to be added in Church Street neighborhood.

-Letter from John, Katie and Hope Branch to Chief Giorgi, dated 8/31/17, re: Request for stop signs on Stow Road and Beaman Lane.

-Email from Tim Collins to Chief Giorgi, dated 9/21/17, re: Brook Street – No Stopping, Standing or Parking language.

**Additional Handouts:**

-Regulation wording for 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Charles Whitcomb Schools – multiple schedules.

-Potential wording for new regulation - Unattended Trailers.