



**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, January 31, 2017 at 10:00am in the City Council Committee Room, City Hall. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief Mark Leonard, DPW Commissioner John Ghiloni, Fire Chief Kevin Breen and City Clerk Lisa Thomas. Minutes taken by: Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Tuesday, December 20, 2016.

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

2 – New Business

2a) Request from Tim Collins to evaluate the flashing yellow light at Main/Maple/Hildreth Streets.

Tim Collins sent an email to Chief Leonard advising that this light had been knocked down again. He went on to explain that when this light was installed that section of Main St. & Maple St. was part of Rte. 85 and had much higher traffic volume than what we see now that South Bolton is part of Rte. 85. Hildreth St. had a flashing red and Main and Maple had flashing yellow. It has always been confusing as to who has the right of way. Mr. Collins is now asking if the flashing light here is warranted. If not, he would like to add a stop condition at Maple Street instead.

The group went on to discuss the traffic pattern here and how everyone stops and no one really knows what to do. Chief Leonard said that he does not think the flashing yellow was actually warranted. It was just something that “has been there forever”. It was also questioned as to whether MA DOT has (or had) control over this area. Chief Leonard

asked if Mr. Collins could conduct a review and see if it meets the warrants for a stop condition here and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to see if this intersection meets the warrants for a stop sign and provide a recommendation at the next meeting.

2b) Request for speed limit signage on Boundary St.

This request came from a resident of Boundary Street. She sent an email to the Chief explaining that the traffic on Boundary Street “has increased drastically” and went on to say that “it has become a cut thru street during rush hour” and is dangerous for her young child at the bus stop. She said there is no speed limit sign on Boundary Street but GPS shows the speed as 30mph. She is requesting that speed limit signs be installed.

The group discussed whether or not this street is considered “thickly settled” and whether or not there is a special speed regulation here. They went on to agree that it should probably be looked at, especially down by the treatment plant where the turns are located. If it is not “thickly settled” it would actually revert back to 40mph. Tim Collins from Engineering was unable to attend the meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to determine the current speed limit for Boundary Street and TABLE for further discussion at the next meeting.

2c) Traffic Commission meeting schedule for 2017.

Chief Leonard prepared the meeting schedule for 2017 for review. He noted that the February meeting was moved up a week, from 2/28 to 2/21, so that he could be in attendance at the last meeting with the new Chief of Police. He knows that it is now the same day as the Site Plan meeting, however, and he may have to leave early. He also noted that the December meeting was bumped up to the third week of December rather than the last week of December due to the holidays.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to ACCEPT and PLACE ON FILE. Also, REFER to Lisa Thomas to post the schedule on the Traffic Commission’s website.

3-Old Business

3a) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.

Chief Leonard advised that he and Karen Lambert have reviewed the outstanding regulations and have now rectified what has been approved and advertised. They found an additional 10 regulations that still needed to be advertised and provided copies to Lisa Thomas. Ms. Thomas will forward them to the newspaper for advertisement.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Lisa Thomas to forward the last group of outstanding regulations to the newspaper for advertisement.

3b) Traffic Concerns at Wilson & Hemenway Sts.

Update: Engineering advised that they would be waiting until the Spring to make any changes here. They don't want to install the new island with the snow.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE.

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

Commissioner Ghiloni advised that this issue is still pending.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE.

3d) Parking restriction on Forest Street near AMSA.

Commissioner Ghiloni advised that "No Parking" signs have been installed near the school, however, he is not sure as to how many were put up. Chief Leonard said that he has not seen them yet. Tim Collins had previously advised that 50 signs were necessary to post the entire area, however, the Group thought this seemed excessive. Commissioner Ghiloni said he thinks that 4 are now in place. So far this winter has not been an issue because the weather has not been bad. There was a big issue two years ago when there were large snow banks on both sides of the road. Commissioner Ghiloni also feels that signs should be posted at the school driveway.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to bring the proper language to the next meeting.

3e) Request to explore the possibility of changing the one-way direction of travel on Hayden Street.

Fire Chief Breen was unable to attend the last meeting so Chief Leonard gave him a brief overview of the issue. The request was made by Trish Pope and the reasoning is that when people come off Granger Blvd. and proceed to the Senior Center Lot and find the lot full, they have trouble finding the way to the overflow parking at the school. Currently they have to take a right onto Hayden Street and get back onto Rte. 20. If the direction of Hayden Street were changed, they could take a left onto Hayden and proceed straight to the school.

Commissioner Ghiloni said that he thinks this would just back up other areas. He likes the idea for the Senior Center but not for those coming from South Street. It just creates other problems. Fire Chief Breen said that he will go take a look at the area when he leaves the meeting today. He would like to know how it would impact fire apparatus access if the direction of the roadway were to change.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to FIRE CHIEF BREEN to take a look at the area with respect to fire apparatus and advise at the next meeting.

3f) Request for truck exclusion on Winter Street.

Chief Leonard said that he thought he saw that new signs had gone up here indicating that the truck exclusion was ahead. Commissioner Ghiloni said that no those are the same signs that had already been installed but that they did put the counters out. There was a problem, however, because snow was coming and the counters needed to be pulled up for snow removal. As of the meeting today, they have not yet been put back down.

Commissioner Ghiloni also asked if the guardrail should be put back up. The large rocks have been used because the guardrail was hit so many times and kept needing to be fixed. The fear is that someone will hit the house without some type of barrier to protect the property. Chief Leonard said that he thinks the rocks are fine. They provide the same protection and don't need to be replaced. They will still keep a car from hitting the house. Commissioner Ghiloni also said that they will soon be working on this area and sidewalks are going to be added on Winter Street. He noted, however, that there is no room for any major widening of the roadway.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to put the counters back out.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 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, January 31, 2017. (Including City of Marlborough Meeting Posting).
- Draft of minutes from Tuesday, December 20, 2016.
- Email from Tim Collins to Chief Leonard, dated 1/6/17, re: Intersection of Main Street/Maple Street/Hildreth Street.
- Email from Kaitlin Fafard to Carrie Lizotte (for Chief Leonard), dated 1/3/17, re: Boundary St. – Marlborough.
- Traffic Commission Meeting Schedule for 2017.

Additional Handouts:

- None-