



TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT

TRAFFIC STUDY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ELIHU THOMSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
22 MONUMENT AVENUE, SWAMPSCOTT, MA 01907

MEMBERS
GINO CRESTA, DPW
S. PETER KANE, PLANNING
GARY LORD, POLICE
RONALD MENDES, PARKING
JAMES POTTS, FIRE

NOVEMBER 28, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Time: 10:00 – 11:40 am
Location: Swampscott Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room, 22 Monument Avenue
Members Present: G. Cresta (DPW), G. Lord (Police), J. Potts (Fire), P. Kane (Planning)
Members Absent: R. Mendes (Parking Clerk)
Others Present: Doris Long (resident), Jay Catelli (resident), Darryl Smith (business owner)

Meeting called to order at 10:05a by Chair Kane.

MEETING MINUTES

No comments on September and October 2016 drafted meeting minutes.

MOTION : by G. Lord to approve Sept and Oct 2016 meeting minutes, seconded by J. Potts, unanimously approved.

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATORY REQUESTS

The Committee agreed to take items out of order based on residents in attendance interested in each item.

#D – STOP SIGN INSTALLATION REQUEST (BUENA VISTA ST @ BURPEE RD)

Jay Catelli said that there's a T-intersection at Buena Vista and Burpee. When people are coming down Burpee (from Foster), there's an incline and a blind spot. When you're on Buena Vista, you can't see vehicles coming from Burpee. G. Cresta said there's already a stop sign at Jessie & Burpee (heading south). Due to the hill at Jessie, you need the stop sign there. The Committee discussed concern for a double stop (one at Jessie and then again at Buena Vista). G. Lord said it's very close to the previous stop sign at Jessie. G. Cresta agreed it's an issue but isn't sure it's going to help. G. Lord and G. Cresta agreed that we need to look at the actual location before deciding. G. Lord would like to look at accident data for that intersection. Mr. Catelli would like to be notified of the next review of intersection.

MOTION : by J. Potts to continue to next month, seconded by P. Kane, unanimous.

#E – ON-STREET PARKING CONCERN (SHERIDAN TERRACE)

Doris Long said that her concern is with 6 Sheridan Terrace. Ms. Long's home is at the very end of the street. Ms. Long said where she parks is private but where 6 Sheridan Terrace park's is public. Ms. Long read a police report regarding 6 Sheridan Terrace that said "a garage is available and parking area at back of house". She had a VHS tape from a 1997 meeting. She says that only 6 Sheridan Terrace parks on the street. Ms. Long said that the resident at 6 Sheridan Terrace is on the Board of Selectmen and that it's a conflict of interest. There are six children that live on the street, six families, three story homes, senior residents. Ms. Long provided a photo of the street in "1997" snow but dated 2001 (when she printed it). G. Lord said that based on the photo it looks like there's ample space but even when there's not, DPW is called in to re-clear a street. G. Lord said that even with the change in the bylaw (regarding winter on-street parking ban), residents must still get off the street when there's a snow event. Ms. Long said that Mr. Younger (previous Town Administrator) said he would perform a call to residents to get off the streets during snow storms. G. Cresta said Tom Stevens (police dept) has made the call in the past. They didn't need to last year because there wasn't an issue with snow storms. Ms. Long asked how the Fire Dept feels about it. J. Potts said he went up to the street and that Fire needs 10 feet but there's 13 feet there. Ms. Long said that when 6 Sheridan Terrace parks, they block all the traffic. G. Lord pointed out there's very limited traffic on the street (it's a short dead end) and it's easy to turn around on the street. G. Lord said that he can't see any issue. Ms. Long asked why waivers were granted years ago and then the ban within the bylaws was then removed a few years ago. G. Lord said it was removed because it was unnecessary. G. Lord said the Town will make a more concerted effort to remind residents to get off the road during a storm event. G. Lord asked if any other Sheridan Terrace residents share her concern. Ms. Long said the lady at 4 Sheridan Terrace "doesn't want to cause any trouble" (because they share a driveway). The Salatovs wasn't able to talk with her about it. Ms. Long asked for the invoice from the previous survey of Sheridan Terrace. G. Cresta said he can get that and asked that Ms. Long put in a written request addressed to him for that information. P. Kane stated that it appears there isn't an issue with the on-street parking but instead a personal issue between the two property owners. G. Lord said he sees no reason to limit on-street parking on Sheridan Terrace except during snow storm or construction projects. J. Potts noted there's only one person here making the request.

MOTION : by G. Lord to maintain status quo, seconded by J. Potts, unanimous.

#C – EXTEND PARKING TIME LIMIT (HUMPHREY ST BETWEEN 26 PURITAN RD & 491 HUMPHREY ST)

Darryl Smith was present and said his office is on Puritan Road (backs to Humphrey St). He's practiced on Humphrey St since 1997. Staff and visitors park on Humphrey St and never gotten a ticket (to his knowledge). A few months ago, Bob Cavallero the old barber shop/art gallery. He's reported to the police about parking concerns on the street. The street is posted as 30-minute parking. Mr. Smith said that Cavallero's workers though have parked for long periods. The Committee reviewed the street map and the parking restrictions that exist there based on each property. The Committee said it would prefer to keep 30-minute parking options for short term needs but can see extending the limit to an hour. P. Kane said he believes that Cavallero is concerned with the parking while he's trying to get a tenant into the business space but once that space is filled, it may not be an issue any longer. The Committee said they could see doing one-hour parking on south side of street from gas station to 491 Humphrey.

MOTION : by G. Lord to change 30-minute parking restriction to one-hour parking limit from the gas station to 491 Humphrey St (just the south side), J. Potts seconded, unanimous.

#A - REDUCE SPEED LIMIT TO 25MPH ON PURITAN ROAD

This was continued from last month's meeting. G. Cresta and G. Lord haven't had a chance to look at the posted signs and the road realities (design and flow). The police however have increased enforcement regarding speeding. G. Lord wants to find exactly where the 20/25 mph posting starts. The Committee tabled this further until next month.

#B – CROSSWALK VERTICAL SIGNAGE (HUMPHREY ST @ MONUMENT AVE)

This is a request for vertical crossing signs at the pedestrian crossing on Humphrey St @ Monument Ave. G. Lord said that the Town had some a number of years ago due to a grant but they got damaged and weren't replaced. G. Cresta said that signs have been bought by Clarke School and Tedesco (private funds rather than Town money). G. Lord said that as far as jaywalking is concerned, the State just says that it needs to be a crosswalk but doesn't need a sign. G. Cresta said he's seen articles that caution against the signs because when they get hit, they become projectiles. G. Lord asked if we could see a collection of various signs. Committee discussed there used to be one at Cindy's and the church. P. Kane will put together a collection of potential signs and the committee will review next month.

#F – PARKING RESTRICTION ENFORCEMENT (REDINGTON ST BETWEEN DEVENS RD & MAPLEDALE PL)

There's concern that the no-parking restriction on Redington St between Devens Rd and Mapledale Place isn't being enforced. G. Lord said there have been concerns, mostly close to Devens Road. G. Cresta believes the signs need to be replaced. G. Cresta will look at updating the signs. G. Lord will look into increasing enforcement.

#G – ON-STREET HANDICAP PARKING SPACE REQUEST (MIDDLESEX AVE @ CLARKE SCHOOL)

G. Cresta said that the parents of the handicap student at the school had agreed with the handicap space on Norfolk. The Committee said there's very limited information about the actual need. They would like more information from Trish Malphrus if the Disability Commission also agrees with the request as well as a letter from the principal. G. Lord was wondering if the space on Norfolk Ave should just be moved to Middlesex Ave. The Committee decided to continue the discussion to next month.

OTHER BUSINESS

CHANGES TO SPEED LIMIT REGULATIONS PER MUNICIPAL MODERNIZATION BILL

P. Kane said that under the bill, there's a chapter in MGL that the Town can accept that changes all thickly-settled roads to 25 mph. It may just require updating existing signs though G. Lord believes that signs may need to be installed at the town entrances to make people aware as well. P. Kane said he hasn't had the time to review the recent FAQs on the new process. The Committee discussed the cost implications of signs when you do street-by-street changes rather than a town-wide change. P. Kane will pull FAQs and the Committee will review at the next month's meeting.

MOTION : by G. Lord to close the meeting, seconded by J. Potts, unanimous.

Meeting closed at 11:40a

S. Peter Kane
Traffic Study Advisory Committee, Chair