



MEMORANDUM

TO: Richard J. White, Town Manager

FROM: Traffic Safety Advisory Committee

DATE: Thursday, December 21, 2006

SUBJECT: **TSAC Minutes from December 21, 2006**

The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee met on Thursday, December 21, 2006 at 8AM to discuss the following issues brought before us:

Member presence:

- Chief David Goldstein, Chair
- Chief Larry Powers
- Michele Karas
- Joe Montalto
- Mike Diluiso
- David Hickey, Jr.
- Ed Cox

Chairperson, David Goldstein called meeting to order at 8:10AM.

No Posted Agenda Items

Recommendation:

Since there were no residents or attendees for public meeting; committee opened the floor to discuss any committee issues.

Committee Discussion:

1. **Review David Hickey, Director of Public Works request for information received via eMail by the TSAC on 12/19/2006 at 5:05PM - questions regarding signage for the following areas:**

- **Public Landing** – Hickey writes, “Do we need a “move your vehicle after the snow event” sign at the Landing? Do we have the right to ticket and tow there?

Recommendation:

TSAC agrees that a sign stating “Move your Vehicle after the Snow Event” is a good idea. Chief Goldstein stated that his officers have ticketed and towed vehicles but it was only at special events, i.e. 4th of July.

Goldstein stated he would look into the laws and get back to the committee. It was discussed the Town Landing is State property, but the Town of Winthrop does maintain it.

David Hickey agreed that he does plow it after a snowfall but after it is clear, no cars are tagged or towed to get that done.

Michele brought up the future parking and enforcement arrangements the town would need to construct and adhere to once the Public Landing Terminal is established and operational. TSAC agrees this would have to be brought to the Council to review how and what the Town is able to treat parking at the Landing under our currently by-laws; Council may have to add or edit current bylaws.

- **Fort Banks** – Hickey writes, “Given all the issues with Fort Banks School, do we want to draw attention to the spaces along Kennedy?”

Recommendation:

TSAC agrees that Kennedy and the Fort Banks area is very congested while a snow emergency is in effect. Concerns with Public Safety were discussed and it is best that the area in and around Fort Banks stays as vacant as possible.

- **Lot behind Winthrop Police Department** – Hickey writes, “How do we handle the lot behind the Police Station as far as “advance direction” signs?”

Recommendation:

Discussion that a “Municipal Lot” sign is already positioned at the entrance of that lot designating it as such. TSAC agrees that a “P” sign is to be erected within the lot.

Police vehicles and businesses currently use the lot and there are limited vacant spots available. TSAC agree on no “advance direction” signs will be needed to direct motorists in that area.

Discussion of past history regarding that lot was brought up. There have been a lot of issues pertaining to that lot. When people do park in the rear lot, businesses complained that residents did not leave the lot when they were suppose to making it hard for it to be cleared by Public Works, and for customers to use for the local

businesses. Again, police vehicles use about half of the lots spaces and at times the lot does not grant great maneuverability.

- **Coughlin Park** – Hickey writes, “Are “advance direction” signs needed at Shirley and Bay View to draw people to the four (4) public spaces at Coughlin Park?”

Recommendation:

TSAC agrees that no “advance direction” sign is needed. Those spots are known in the area and filled immediately by the local residents. Adding a sign to a spot in town with limited spaces would only confuse residents, possible anger them.

- **Larsen Rink Arena/Behind EB Newton School** – Hickey writes, “What/when are our intensions for the rink parking and the lot below School Street?”

Recommendation:

Public Works Director asked the committee what the history was of the lot, who uses it? Also, commented that town’s signs have been removed from that location.

Michele states that the Larsen Rink is now Town property and the Parks and Recreation Dept., Sean Driscoll, oversee its operations, etc.

Chief Powers agreed with Michele. It is Town property now. Not sure about the parking behind the school though.

Chief Powers expressed, “People do parking there and there seems to be no complaints. It was originally created for employees of school department, EB Newton.”

TSAC agrees to erect a “P” sign designating the area at Larsen Rink to be public parking and to research the area behind the school with the School Department.

2. Discussion of Resident Permit Program

TSAC agrees that the first step is to hold a PUBLIC HEARING for resident feedback, testimony.

Michele will schedule a room for Thursday, January 25, 2007 at 7PM.

TSAC agrees to cancel Thursday, January 18, 2007, 8AM meeting due to vacation schedules and to hold it as part of the January 25, 2007 meeting.

Michele has scheduled the 2nd floor conference room for PUBLIC HEARING due to a conflict with the Joseph Harvey Hearing Room with the BOA.

Michele will draw up a PUBLIC HEARING advertisement which she will work with Charlotte and/or Carla to post on Town’s website, local newspaper, WCAT.

3. Discussion of Street Sweeping Program

Michele brought up that the Council would have to adopt some language and adopt the street sweeping program so the Town can enforce it.

David Hickey states, "I think Rick's expectation is that the DPW recommend a ramped up program, that the TSAC review and recommend and then the Council can act on it." In addition, "Because it is a global Town-wide program, he has the proper signs that conform to State law, a sign to be erected at each entrance that state "Street sweeping – 3rd Thursday."

Note: Parking Clerk/Police Ticket Books do have Street Sweeping Violation as a \$40.00 fine (Schedule B: Code 34).

Michele stated that to properly enforce the program, laws have to be adopted so we can tag and tow. Also, the Town needs to look at outside enforcement agencies to assist with such programs like this one, and the Resident Permit. Chief Goldstein stated he feels the union is open to this; it works in other communities.

Michele stated, "Agencies like, MMA, are an extension of a police department not a replacement. Officers have voiced their suggestions to adopt such a program."

Other:

- Chief Goldstein asked Michele to run report on Resident Sticker violations.
- Nick Basso will have to construct a report that shows the increase of revenue received over the time of the program - correct place of garaging, registering vehicle properly to Winthrop where resident resides. This report can be given in conjunction with TSAC recommendation to Council regarding continuing, disbanding, or amending Resident Permit Program.
- Parking along little league field – David Hickey stated, "Carley Fence is currently working in the area on the grandstand and fence for Parks & Recreation. Once machinery has moved, and weather permits, Public Works will begin striping and erecting a temporary fence to assist motorist where and how to park in the time of a snow ban. Fence will discourage motorist from parking on the field."
- Motion of last Council meeting stated "Entire side of River Rd and Waldemar Ave" which is in correct. Recommendation for specific areas of those roadways. Will have to make sure that correct language is adopted.
- David Hickey has "TSAC Procedural Manual" he is currently editing. Over holiday season he will amend and post on Town website and hand out to TSAC for a guide to assist residents and the committee. Example: sidewalks, four (4) way stop signs, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michele N. Karas.