



## Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 31, 2011

SUBJECT: TSAC Minutes from January 19, 2011

**Meeting called to order by Chairman Chief Terence Delehanty at 8:10 am..**

**Members Present:**

- David Hickey, DPW Director
- Mike Dilusio, Resident Representative
- Chief Paul Flannagan
- Chief Terence Delehanty

The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee met on January 15, 2011 at 8AM to discuss the following issues brought before it:

- **Bus Route**
- **Cab stand location**

Chairmen Delehanty began the meeting by stating there has been an Administrative Order from the Town Managers Office reducing TSAC to a five member board. Members will include the Police Chief, Fire Chief, DPW Director or their designee, a representative from Parking Department and a Civilian Member.

The Chair moved the cab stand issue to the front of the agenda. There was no public comment for this topic and a board discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Mr. Diliso made a motion to eliminate the cab stands on Veterans Road.

**SECOND:** Chief Delehanty

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

Board conversation continued to develop new cab stands in around the business district as authorized by the Ordinance. The Board felt strongly to keep the stands away from heavily populated residential neighborhoods. Chief Delehanty raised a concerned over the fact these were cab stands and not parking spots to be occupied by unattended cabs for a long period of time. Chief Delehanty felt we should allow a spot in two separate business zones, Revere Street being one. Board Members Chief Flannagan and Director Hickey, discussed Somerset Road near the new Health Center, however, because of the residential neighbors this thought was

never brought to a motion. Second location suggested by these Board Members was the Municipal Lot by Citizen's Bank.

**MOTION:** Chief Flannagan motion to make one cab stand on Revere Street by Governors Drive just before the bus stop and one cab stand in the municipal lot on Hagman Road.

**SEOND:** Director Hickey

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

### **BUS ROUTE:**

There were 3 members of the public in attendance and the meeting was opened for the purpose of allowing their testimony summarized as follows on changing the bus route:

Mr. John Eade from Wadsworth Street, a 20 yr resident with a visual impairment stated that he felt bus service to the Metcalf Square area (noting Browns Drug Store, the funeral homes and the Playmakers) were important to him. He is a no driver and the service is important to him. He views Walden St as potentially more dangerous but more importantly as less convenient. Comment that the bus drivers are safe and recommend that consideration be given to restricting parking on Hermon Street. Mr. Eade also stated that a legitimate traffic study is needed if the Town is going to get serious about moving the bus route. Mr. Eade stated moving traffic lights to Walden Street will be in excess of \$400,000.00 and improvements that are needed to a split bus route will also be about the same.

Mr Jim Soper of Read Street appeared and made it clear that he was there as a citizen, personally representing himself, and commented that he feel the Hermon / Pauline bus stops are very busy and was concerned that a route change may have an economic impact as well as a increased risk of hurting children along Ingleside Park. He continues to be concerned with the large truck activity associated with Muffin Town and the lack of handicap amenities along Walden Street. Mr. Soper also presented data of Police and Fire responses to Walden Street and feels this street should be keep open for emergency responses to residents and businesses on Walden Street and the bus route should not be moved. Mr. Soper also presented the Board with numerous photos showing obstructions on Walden Street that sometimes last for extended period of time.

Mr. Jack Dowd suggested making Hermon Street work better as a bus route then the Town should illuminate parking from 100-112 Hermon Street, from Belcher down two houses to include #72 which is the most dangerous and the people should use their driveways to keep traffic moving efficiently.

Director Hickey stated Walden Street still has several constructions projects to go through the next being the sewer project. Discussion ensued about the width of the street and layout.

Chief Flannagan stated it was 3-5 days before people were shoveled out and the snow was pushed back. He observed Walden Street being obstructed for 30-45 minutes in which access was closed off. He also was concerned with asking people to walk from Walden Street to Town Hall through snow in the winter and heat in the summer; these people are usually the ones with the toughest time in doing this.

Director Hickey shared similar concerns and feels strongly that Metcalf Square is the focal point of government which should be accessible.

Mr. Diliso stated that we all know Walden Street floods, it has no sidewalk on the top half of the street and we use Walden Street during snow emergencies. Logistically Hermon Street works better.

Chair suggested that we adopt the following information to submit in our final report:

- Accident Data

- Photos/Videos of the effected streets

- Engineering standards to determine what streets should be used for bus routes

- Pedestrian Safety

- Calls for service for police and fire on both streets.

Chair: Raised the question as to what is the question we are trying to answer?

Board: Which street is safest for the bus route to be on.

With no further comments Mike Dilisio made a motion to adjourn and continuing the bus route item to the next agenda. The motion was seconded by Dave Hickey and a unanimous vote was cast.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 am**