

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: APRIL 19, 2012 AT 10:00 A.M.
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. Trimount Avenue at Marivista Avenue – Dead End Sign

Mr. Aleksandr Pereplechikov, # 78 Trimount Avenue along with others, is requesting a DEAD END sign on Trimount Avenue which is private. Vehicles traveling on Trimount Avenue do not realize that Trimount Avenue “Dead Ends” after passing Maravista Ave.

Voted to place a “Dead End” sign at this intersection.

B. Felton Street at Harvard Street – Pedestrian Crosswalks

Councilor LeBlanc along with numerous residents is requesting pedestrian crosswalks at this location. Councilors Marchese and Logan forwarded letters of support. Councilor Diane LeBlanc appeared on behalf of this request and stated that the intersection is heavily used by pedestrians going to the corner store, there is a “School Bus Stop” located at this intersection, and the intersection has adequate lighting for an installation. Mr. Tuttiven owner of the corner grocery store submitted a petition signed by over 50 petitioners supporting consideration for painted crosswalks. Traffic Engineering also commented that the ramps on all four corners should be updated to be in compliance with new standards. **Voted to paint crosswalks on all four (4) corners of this intersection.**

C. # 15-6 Summer Street – Handicap Parking Space

Mr. Norman J. Neu, Jr., is requesting a Handicap Parking space in front of his residence. Mr. Neu attended the meeting and stated that presently there are two HP spaces in his parking area that are being used by other HP persons. He lives on the corner of Summer Street and Garden Circle. Garden Circle has approved All Night Parking. The Waltham Disability Services Commission has reviewed this request and sent a letter of support. **Voted to add a HP parking Space to Schedule 15: Garden Circle, east side, 1 space, opposite 15-6 Summer Street**

D. Waltham Coordinated Sign System

Planning Department along with other businesses are submitting this sign system for approval. Representatives from the Waltham Chamber of Commerce (Mr. Peacock & Mr. Waybright) attended the meeting and made a presentation for the new signage. These signs would be strategically located along Weston St., (from Rt.128) to Main St. and Moody St. Funding for the project has already been approved and will be under the direction of the Planning Department. The signs will be made from steel; some painted blue/white (points of interest) and others (Gateway Signs) will be maroon/white. **Voted to approve the erection of the signs and Traffic Engineering will assist in locations.**

2. TABLED ITEMS:

- A. Barbara Rd./ Chaffee Ave. – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk (11/09)
- B. #306 Lexington St. – Driveway Opening (4/10)
- C. Lincoln St. at Sanderson Rd./Curve St. – Traffic Improvements (6/10)
- D. Connors Pool # 148 Newton St. – Proposed revision to vehicle access to site (6/10)
- E. 110 Bear Hill Road – Proposed Development (11/10)
- F. Traffic Commission Policy – Revised Petition Policy (11/10) Law Dept. Opinion Received
- G. Four-Way Stop Review (11/10) – Law Dept. Opinion Received
- H. Review of Overnight Parking Enforcement Procedure – (2/11)
- I. Required Parking Spaces (2/11) – Review of Law Dept. Opinion Received

**J. South Street at Highland Street – Proposed Traffic Signal (3/11)
Voted to Remove from the Table**

Mr. Yigal Agam petitioned for a traffic signal at this location. The item had been placed on the table back in March 2011, waiting for a plan from Berkeley Investments per their Special Permit. Berkeley Investments hired BSC Group to design the signalized intersection and our consultant G.P.I. reviewed and forwarded their report. Berkeley Investments fulfilled their obligation with the proposed design installation of a traffic signal in November 2011 as described in the Special Permit which did not include any geometric changes. Our traffic consultant recommends that the Commission accept the design as required by the developers Special Permit, however a more involved construction of the intersection is needed that will include widening of the roadway and reconstruction of sidewalks. Vehicle “queing” along the southbound approach is an issue. The signal alone will improve operations for Highland Street, but conditions on South Street will suffer. A widening is needed to provide a dedicated left turn lane for southbound traffic at Highland Street. G.P.I. is recommending the City explore this possibility where some of the land (east side of South Street) is owned by the City. The vote was two part: **(1) Voted to approve the design as required by Special Permit which did not include seeking land takings or roadway widening. (2) Recommend the Commission look into additional land takings to construct turn lane and modify sidewalks for southbound traffic. Vote to re-table item (2) only.**

- K. Ellison Park & Summer Street Area – Traffic Calming (Sp. 3/11)
- L. Albemarle Road – Pedestrian Safety (4/11)
- M. 831 Main Street – Proposed Development (6/11)
- N. Warren Street – Truck Restriction (9/11)
- O. Smith Street at Trapelo Road – Change in Lane Use (9/11)
- P. Relocation of Sign and Paint Division (9/11)

Q. Plympton St. at Hammond St. – Four Way STOP (9/11) (12/11) Need response from Building Dept. Voted to Remove from the Table

Mr. Michael Provencher had forwarded a petition concerning this item. This request has previously been discussed and placed on the table pending a report from the Building Department. It is possible that the southeast and northeast corners are in violation of the corner clearance ordinance. The Building Department has been requested to investigate. GPI reports the sight lines looking north and south from westbound Plympton Street approach are obstructed by a fence on the southeast corner (#88 Plympton Street) and tree on the northeast corner properties. The Building Department has informed us that the southeast corner is in violation of the corner clearance, while the northeast corner is in compliance with the tree being just past the line of being not in compliance. Due to this information there will remain a safety problem due to sight distance on the northeast corner which will justify the installation of additional STOP signs along the northbound and southbound Hammond Street approaches. **Voted to approve two (2) additional Stop Signs which will make this a 4-way STOP intersection and add the following to Schedule 3:**

**Hammond Street (2) North & Southbound
Plympton Street (2) East & Westbound**

**At Plympton Street (4/12)
At Hammond Street (B-662 5/69)**

- R. Princeton Ave. – Speed Limit/Speed Hump (12/11)
- S. 275 Wyman St. – Proposed Development (1/12)

- T. Forest St. at Harrington Rd. – Proposed Pedestrian Crossing Signal (1/12) Write letter to Bentley University.
- U. 475 Winter St. – Traffic Issues (3/12)
- V. High St. at Newton St. – Traffic Signal Changes (3/12)
- W. Crescent St. at Orange St. – No Parking Issue (3/12)

- X. Upton Rd. at Trapelo Rd. – Reconsider Turn Restriction (3/12)

Voted to Remove from the Table

Councilor Darcy attended the meeting and requested a discussion. He reported that he is receiving complaints of unusual back-ups of traffic on Trapelo Road from the Waverley Oaks Road traffic signals. It appears that the detectors are not working at all. Rush hour is a particular problem and a review is needed to adjust the timing sequences.. Mr. Kelly (Wires Dept.) reported the signals are in need of repair. The detectors are not working in all directions and about \$10K is needed to install new equipment. **Voted to have Mr. Diaz check the signals for a short term solution and Mr. Kelly will seek to find funding to replace the non-working equipment. Turning movement counts will be conducted at both Trapelo / Waverley Oaks and Trapelo / Upton Rds. to review if existing restrictions are being followed and to assist in timing of signals. Re-tabled.**

- Y. **Yearly Merchant Sticker (3/12) Voted to Remove from the Table**

Councilor Joseph Vizard forwarded a recommendation to reduce the annual parking permit fee from \$350. to \$250./year and the monthly fee from \$35. to \$25./month as a compromise to the recent request to amend these fees. He points out that with recent MBTA proposed 35% fare increase, raises costs for the commuter rail passenger fees by \$38./month. He asks a consideration to help offset this major increase in the cost of the work commute. Traffic Engineering requested addition time to gather more information concerning this item.

Voted to re-table

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Parking Meter Report . . .for the third consecutive month revenues are up
- B. Full-Time MEO position – New employee Anthony Lupo started work on March 26th.
- C. Traffic Engineer position – Reposted at Grade 19, Step 3 with deadline April 11th.
The Chief reported that another candidate has submitted a résumé and a review will be made shortly
- D. Full-Time Parking Control Officer (PCO) position - Interviews were conducted on April 2nd.
New employee Linda Beck will start work on April 24th.
- E. Appoint new Vice Chair: an election was made and Mr. Magno was elected as Vice-Chairman
- F. Forest Street at Trapelo Road – Final Design for submittal . .voted to have GPI complete final design submissions. Copies of the plans will be sent to the Mayor and Councillors LeBlanc, Dacey, Curtin and McMenimen for comment. GPI expects plans and specifications being ready for bid by end of June. Voted to approve plans submitted by GPI and have them make additions per comments received as needed.
- G. Totten Pond Rd./Lexington St./Bacon St. reflective lane markings . . item to be out-sourced for implementation

- H. Main Street at Lyman./Heard Sts. Signal Issues . . still unresolved; .tabled
- I. Winter Street Bridge Punch List . . list being completed with Wires Dept. noting that a meter is needing installation.
- J. Totten Pond Road Ice Rink Pedestrian Signal . . The signal is completed, but two warning panels need replaced. This will be done this week with poured concrete rather than the asphalt which was original done. Voted to approve this signal as complete.
- K. Revised Budget . .The Mayor requested revisions to our budget. Voted to approve as modified.
 - a: withdrawal of additional PCO
 - b: convert new Parkeon Parking machines from Pay-by-Space to "Pay & Display
 - c: list streets for thermoplastic markings and prioritize

Added

4: Traffic Signal Cabinet Maple/Prospect & Crescent Street

Mr. Kelly reported the sidewalk may need an adjustment to accommodate handicap access.

Attendance: All members except Mr. Magno (Jury Duty).

Mr. Diaz, GPI; Councilors Ms. Diane LeBlanc (1B). Mr. George Darcy (2X) Norman Neu (1C), Mr. Peacock Waltham Chamber of Commerce (1D); Mr. Michael Provencher (2Q)

Adjourned @ 11:03 AM

Off Committee Speakers

Waltham Traffic Commission

Date of the Meeting:

Please Print

Name of Speaker	# Street, City	Affiliation i.e. Attorney - Abutter Interested party – Petitioner	For/Against Item No:
Diane LeBlanc	55 Berkley St	City Councilor	1B
Melvin Tutiven	145 Felton St	Business owner	1B
Michael Provencher	188 Hammond St	Petitioner	2Q

John C. Peacock	84 South Street	W.W. Chamber of Commerce	1 D
Doug Waybright	Nelson Co		1 D
Norman Neu	15-6 Summer St	Petitioner	1 C
George A. Darcy III	93 Hobbs Rd	City Councilor	2 X