

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD: FEBRUARY 26, 2015 AT 10:00 A.M.  
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

**Meeting was changed from February 19 to February 26 due to lack of quorum.**

**The Chair accepted a motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting. Voted**

**1. PETITIONED ITEMS:**

**A. Lafayette Street – Switch No Parking side of Street**

Mayor McCarthy is sponsoring this request due to safety issues at St. Jude's School. Ward Councilor Gary Marchese has asked that this item be tabled until the March meeting so that he could meet with the residents and discuss this matter. **Voted to place item on the table.**

**B. Cutting Lane – Convert to Two Way**

Mr. Duane Marks, # 11 Cutting Lane along with numerous neighbors are requesting that this street be converted to two-way from Main Street to Stow Street. The present "Right Turn Only" at Main Street has created an unintended significant inconvenience for the residents. Making the street two-way and retaining the "Do Not Enter" at Main Street will allow the residents to travel southbound and exit onto Stow Street. Parking is restricted on the east side, Main St. to Stow St and on the west side from Main St 75' south. The existing parking will not be removed. **Voted to make Cutting Lane a two-way street; retain the "Do Not Enter" at Main Street. Install a No Left Turn and a No Right Turn for the exit driveways of two commercial businesses on Cutting Lane. In addition, a Stop Sign to be erected on Cutting Lane at Stow Street.**

**Add**

**Schedule 11 Stop Signs**

Cutting Lane @ Stow Street facing southbound traffic

**Delete Schedule 14 One-Way Streets**

Cutting Lane – Northbound - Stow Street to Main Street

**Add Schedule 18 Turns Only As Designated**

# 1264 Main Street: All vehicles exiting driveway onto Cutting Lane Must Turn Left

# 1256 Main Street: All vehicles exiting driveway onto Cutting Lane Must Turn Right

**C. 225 Second Avenue – Proposed Office and Laboratory Space – Special Permit**

Vanasse & Associates presented the traffic impact report for this project. Attorney Michael Connors, and Mr. Giles Ham, VAI appeared on behalf of this item. Proposed is 77,000 square feet office space and 35,000 square feet laboratory space. This will include 514 on-site parking spaces and will have two access driveways on the west side of Second Avenue. It is expected to generate a net increase of 77 new vehicle trips in the weekday morning peak hour and 78 new trips in the weekday evening peak hour. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin agreed that the increase in traffic will have minimal impact to operations along Second Avenue. Voted to accept the Traffic Impact and Access Study as prepared. Included are recommendations for stop sign control, landscape and vegetation to be set back; installation of bike racks; installation of electric charging stations in the garage; membership to Route 128 Business Council; promotion of ridesharing and the addition of sidewalks along the frontage of the building. These sidewalks should connect Second Avenue sidewalks by constructing additional sidewalks along one side of each driveway and appropriate painted crosswalks. **Voted to forward this recommendations to the City Council for their deliberations on the issuance of a Special Permit.**

#### **D. Italian Festa**

Ms. Carol Rossi, Festa Director is requesting permission for parking spaces during their event which will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2015 from 11:00 am - 7:00 pm. A rain date has been set for Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. **Voted to approve parking in the Upper portion of the Central Square Parking Deck and alongside the Common on Elm Street. The request for the use of Carter Street Parking Lot was denied.**

#### **E. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual JB5K Blastoff**

Ms. Margaret McCullough is requesting permission to hold this race on Sunday, March 29, 2015 at 11:30 am. Lt. Cavallaro reported no streets will be closed; 400 participants are expected; and there will be police presence. He recommended the Traffic Commission approve the event. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin discussed the possibility of the Beaver Street culvert being installed on that weekend. According to Ms. McCullough she spoke Lt. Cavallaro regarding an alternate route should this occur. **Voted to accept this recommendation and forward it to the Mayor for a permit to issue.**

#### **F. Shifter's 5K for Dana Farber**

Mr. Rich Horgan is requesting permission to hold this race on Saturday, April 4, 2015 Starting at 1:00 pm. Lt. Cavallaro reported no streets will be closed; 350 - 400 participants are expected; and there will be police presence. He recommended the Traffic Commission approve the event. **Voted to accept this recommendation and forward it to the Mayor for a permit to issue.**

#### **G. St. Jude's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Family 5K Road Race**

Ms. Norma Newell is requesting permission to hold this race on Saturday, May 30, 2015 starting at 9:00 am. Lt. Cavallaro reported no streets will be closed; 400 - 600 participants are expected; and there will be police presence. He recommended the Traffic Commission approve the event. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin discussed the possibility of the Beaver Street culvert being installed on that weekend. It was discussed that they may need to also use the alternative route should that occur. **Voted to accept this recommendation and forward it to the Mayor for a permit to issue.**

#### **2. TABLED ITEMS:**

- A. Highland St. "Spur" at Curtis St. – Removal of "No Right Turn" Restriction (9/12)(10/12)  
Waiting for Law Dept. opinion
- B. Ellison Park traffic issues (9/13)(10/13)
- C. Main Street at Warren Street – Proposed Pedestrian Signal (10/13)
- D. Lake St. at Princeton St. – Pedestrian Flashing Light (11/13)(9/14)
- E. Lowell Street at Washington Avenue – Traffic Study (6/14)(9/14)(10/14)
- F. Appleton Street – Reinstallation of No Parking Except. Sunday & Holiday (6/14)
- G. Villa Street between Summit and Cedarwood Aves. – Speeding Issues (9/14)(11/20)

The following two items were voted off the table

#### **H. "Move from Block" defined in Rules and Regulations (12/14)(1/15)**

Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin recommended a legend be added to the green 2 HR Parking Sign that will be printed in Red stating "No Return To This Block on the Same Day". The sign will be 21" high and 12" wide. **Voted to approve this sign.**

**Article 10, Section 1 Definitions, add Subsection E as follows:**

**E. A Block**

**A block is defined as being within a meter zone, one side of the street, between two intersecting streets**

**Delete Article 10, Section 4 paragraph (c) and add new paragraph (c):**

(c) No person shall park a vehicle within a block, in any such parking meter space for a consecutive period of time longer than that limited period of time for which parking is lawfully permitted in the parking meter zone in which such meter is located, irrespective of the amount of payment deposited in such meter. Once the time limit for the vehicle has expired, the vehicle must be moved from that block, and must not return during the same day, unless posted otherwise that the vehicle may return after a specified length of time has passed.

**I. Taxicab Rules & Regulations, Article 21, Section 3, Subsection 4i (12/14)(1/15).** Several Waltham Taxi Cab owners attended this meeting and presented their case to rescind this Article relative to a taxi not being older than 10 years. The owners cite the increase costs for purchasing new vehicles (approximately 22 of the present vehicles would have to be replaced) would result in a need to demand higher fares. The cabs are subject to two Police inspections and there are rules that allow the Police to remove an unsafe vehicle from the road. Insurance rates effect unsafe driving, which is an incentive to maintain safe vehicles. Police Chief MacPherson spoke of the safety options that are included in todays' vehicles, which are mainly designed for the safety of the occupants. Fire Chief Ciccone suggested that this rule should be suspended until a further review can be made. **Voted to suspend the requirement of this rule, Article 21, Section 3, Subsection 4i** (No vehicle shall be allowed to remain in service as Taxicab that is older than 10 model years) **until further notice.**

**3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- A. Parking Meter Report . . . collections are down to about 34K for the month of January (Note: Blizzard 2015 January 27 thru February)
- B. Main St. at Newton St. and Main St. at Lyman./Heard Sts. – Update  
LED lens must be replaced and be followed by a 30 day trial period. The interconnect between Newton Street and Lyman Street still needs to be completed. Wireless coordination between the two intersections will be considered.
- C. South Street at Highland Street – Update – expected to go to bid shortly and will include wireless communication.
- D. Spruce Street and Walnut Street Parking Lot Reconstruction – Update – Lorusso Corp. has been awarded the bid and will start in the Spring.
- E. Pay Stations – Update. Had anticipated installation in February, but heavy snow has caused delay until March.
- G. Transportation Master Plan – Update . . . McMahon Associates awarded contract and approval was given to Mr. Garvin to seek \$320K in appropriations.
- H. Waltham's Bay State Bike Week – May 9-17, 2015 Waltham will again be a participant as last year.

**NO LATE FILED ITEM(S)**

Attendance: All members except Mr. Malone. Attorney Mike Connors, Mr. Giles Ham VAI, Mr. Tim White, Ms. Carol Rossi, and Mr. Charles Frost (also many Taxi Owners).

Adjourned @ 11:22 AM

Respectfully Submitted  
Frank S. Lombardo  
Clerk

Off Committee Speakers

## Waltham Traffic Commission

Date of the Meeting: February 26, 2015

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Michael Connors	6 Lexington St. Waltham	205-231 Second Ave Office/Lab	Attorney
Giles Ham		205-231 Second Ave Office/Lab	Traffic Consultant
Tim White		205-231 Second Ave Office/Lab	Petitioner
Charles Frost	23 Sunset Rd	Taxi Rules	Owner
Carol Rossi	13 Arlington Rd Natick	Italian Festa	Chairperson
Anthony Sekiswa	500 main St Waltham	Taxi Rules	Owner
Alex Yegian	183 Smith St Waltham	Taxi Rules	Owner
Ahmed Seklamate	181 Elm Street Waltham	Taxi Rules	Owner
Donald Atkinson	296 Newton St. Waltham	Taxi Rules	Owner
Barbara Murphy	296 Newton St. Waltham	Taxi Rules	Owner
Vincie Kaupelis	112 Charles St Waltham	Taxi Rules	Owner

