

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD: NOVEMBER 19, 2015 AT 10:00 A.M.  
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

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

**1. PETITIONED ITEMS:**

**A. Lake Street Traffic Study**

Councilor Fowler is requesting that a speed study be conducted to determine if speed limits can be posted. The Councilor was present and cited recent accidents and complaints of speeding from residents. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin reported that two previous speed studies (2013 and 2014) showed the 85% speed eastbound to be 33 and 32 MPH. In addition, seven (7) accidents were reported in 2015, none involved speeding as a cause. Mr. Garvin offered to conduct another speed study. **Voted to conduct a Speed Study and increase Police enforcement.**

**B. Manning Road – Various Traffic Request**

Mr. David Dajarian, # 8 Manning Road along with other residents on Manning Road are requesting various traffic improvements on this private way. Mr. Dajarian was present and spoke of the parking problems and the volume of traffic that has occurred since the turning prohibitions have been placed Trapelo Road at Upton Road. Manning Road is only 23 feet wide and it is difficult to enter/exit at the intersection of Trapelo Road with the present allowed parking. In addition, he asked for Stop control on Manning Road at Shirley Road. Turns should be prohibited from Trapelo Road onto Manning Road during the rush hours. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin stated that Manning at Shirley Road does not meet the Warrants for a Stop Sign. Prohibiting turning onto Manning Road from Trapelo Road would create problems for the residents to get to their homes, because they also would be prohibited from entering Manning Road during the scheduled times. Mr. Garvin did recommend a parking restriction on Manning Road from Trapelo Road 60 feet south. **Voted to table the request to prohibit entering Trapelo Road during rush hours until a traffic count can be completed; voted to deny the request for Stop Signs on Manning Road; and voted to approve No parking as follows:**

**Add to Schedule 1:**

**Manning Road both sides from Trapelo Road to a point 60 feet south.**

**C. Valet Parking in Downtown Area –**

Mr. Wayne Brasco, Chair of License Commission, is requesting permission to discuss this issue. Mr. Brasco was present and stated that a plan could be put in place for Valet Parking in the entire downtown area. Procedures with strict rules can be instituted to address the Fire Chief's concerns with "double parking or "dead parking". Each restaurant must be given the option to have Valet Parking and the Downtown Waltham Partnership should be involved in the process. Member Ms. Cagle agreed that the idea is appealing, however, it must be part of an overall Transportation Master Plan. Member Mr. Magno concurred and this cannot be done piecemeal. Mr. Brasco agreed to take the idea to the merchants and recommend a plan to the Commission at a future date. **Voted to table**

**D. Hovey Road – No Parking**

Police Safety Officer Ann Frassica, is requesting a No Parking sign in front of # 42 Hovey Road. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin reported that only resident effected by this request concurs that parking should be restricted. **Voted to prohibit parking as follows:**

## **Add to Schedule 1**

**Hovey Road both sides, No Parking Hamblin Rd. to Arlington Rd.**

### **E. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Moody Street 5K**

Ms. Colette Casey-Brenner was present to seek permission to hold this road race on Sunday, May 1, 2016. Lt. Cavallaro recommended approval. Police will be present and there will be some short term closing of streets. **Voted to recommend to the Mayor a permit to issue**

### **F. Small Business Saturday – Free Parking**

Councillor Logan is requesting free parking again this year for November 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Voted to approve free parking in all downtown municipal parking lots for Saturday November 28. Enforcement of Disabled, Bus Stop and Restricted parking violations will be enforced. On-street parking will still have time limited parking enforcement.**

### **G. Trapelo Road at Forest Street – Crosswalks and Bicycle Markings**

Councillor Darcy was present to discuss on this item. Trapelo Road was recently repaved and there is a need to review locations for crosswalks and bicycle lanes and sharrows. In addition, Councilor Darcy requested a “bike lane” on Forest Street, which is wide enough for bike lane and parking on one side. The Councillor stated that he spoke to both Ward 1 Councillor (Romard) and Ward 4 Councillor (McLaughlin) who are both ok with this. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin requested the item be tabled so that he could make recommendations at a future meeting and have further discussions with the Councillors involved. **Voted to table**

## **2. TABLED ITEMS:**

- A. Highland St. “Spur” at Curtis St. – Removal of “No Right Turn” Restriction (9/12)(10/12)
- B. Ellison Park traffic issues (9/13)(10/13)
- C. Main Street at Warren Street – Proposed Pedestrian Signal (10/13)
- D. Lowell Street at Washington Avenue – Traffic Study (6/14)(9/14)(10/14)

Voted to remove Items E & F off the table; both items discussed as one item

### **E. Prentice/Plympton/Tomlin/Irving – All Way Stop & Truck Exclusion (6/15)(9/15)**

### **F. Plympton St. Entire Length – Truck Exclusion (9/15)**

A survey was done on all the streets (Prentice St. – Dale St. – Plympton St.); none of them met the 5% minimum requirement to approve a truck restriction. **Voted to deny a Truck Restriction and Table the All-Way stop at Prentice/Plympton/Tomlin/Irving Streets.**

### **G. 475 Winter St. Service Rd. – Parking Improvements (9/15)**

Voted to remove from the table

### **H. Boston Children Hospital Traffic Study – (9/15)**

Attorney Connors and Mr. Sean Manning VHB traffic consultant made a presentation for an upgrade to Boston Children’s Hospital Hope Ave. as part of the Special Permit process. The project contemplates up to 95,000 SF of clinical space (including 48 inpatient beds and 12 operating rooms) and up to 35,000SF of ambulatory space. The project will also house the Ortho/Sports Medicine Center of Excellence. Presently, the Hospital consists of 390,000SF of mixed-use hospital space. On-site parking has been increased to 425 spaces. The front Main Entrance parking will also be increased (4 additional short-term spaces as compared to the study presented in September) and some of the steep grade will be removed. The Commission expressed concerns with this

area and the road grade that should be changed. Mr. Manning stated that there is long term possibility (5 years) to have the front lobby lowered to a new level and have the steep grade removed from parking area. **Voted to accept the traffic report and forward it to the City Council for their deliberations. The Commission also recommended the Council require the petitioner add additional short term parking as graphically shown in the long term parking improvement plan presented by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB) near the front entrance within the next five years.**

### **3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- A. Parking Meter Report .. Collections for 2015 year to date \$21,000 over last year at the same time.
- B. South Street at Highland Street – Thermoplastic work is completed and signals are expected to be installed by end of December
- C. Transportation Master Plan – Update – Public Kick-Off meeting was held on Wednesday November 18. The Mayor along with numerous City Councillors and intersected citizens were present and brought forth numerous suggestions. The presentation will be available soon on the city website.
- D. Revise definition under Service Zones/Loading Zones in Rules and Regulation  
Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin has requested Article 5. Sec. 5 be amended as follows:

#### **Art.5 Sec.5 SERVICE ZONES / LOADING ZONE (See Schedule 5)**

**Parking is prohibited upon any street in any service zone or loading zone for a period of time longer than 15 minutes, except while actually engaged in loading or unloading and then for not more than 30 minutes. All non-commercial plate vehicles are restricted from parking in any service zone or loading zone space which bears the Commercial Vehicle Only Signage (Nov 2015)**

#### **E: Capital Improvement Program**

Traffic Engineering presented the CIP request for consideration. The request is for FY17 through FY2021. **Voted to accept the CIP request.**

Attendance: All members except Mr. Kelly. Councillors Fowler and Darcy, Attorney Robert Connors, Wayne Brasco, David Dajarian, Collette Casey-Brenner and Sean Manning

Adjourned: 11:27 AM  
Respectfully Submitted

Frank S. Lombardo,  
Clerk

Off Committee Speakers

## Waltham Traffic Commission

Date of the Meeting: November 19, 2015

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Wayne Brasco	773 Moody St Waltham	Downtown Valet Parking	Chairman Licensing Commission
David Dajarian	8 Manning Road Waltham	Manning Road Traffic issues	Petitioner
Bill Fowler	54 Lincoln Street	Lake Street	Ward Councilor
Bob Connors	6 Lexington St Waltham	Children's Hospital Hope Ave	Attorney
Sean Manning	99 High Street Boston	Children's Hospital Hope Ave	VHB Traffic Engineer