

**Minutes OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: NOVEMBER 8, 2018 AT 10:00 A.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

The Chair accepted a motion and the minutes of the October meeting and Special October Meeting were accepted. Chief MacPherson abstained from the vote for the regular October Meeting.

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. Main Street at Hammond Street – No Left Turn Sign

Councillor Romard requested additional No Left Turn signs at this intersection. A communication was received from Mayor McCarthy that stated “Prior, to installing any signs on Main or Moody Streets on the sidewalks or any public way thereto, please obtain my permission. (Pursuant to the Law Department’s previous opinion). That does not include the Wires Inspector’s Poles. You have to obtain permission from him)”. Traffic Commission had a discussion regarding its authority to install signs, since The Act that established the Commission states that it has exclusive authority to approve signs and that the Traffic Engineer is responsible for sign installation that conforms to Traffic Commission Regulations and the MUTCD.

The Commission voted to request the Law Department to have Assistant Solicitor Michelle Learned attend the next meeting and discuss the authority of the Traffic Commission to erect and maintain signs on the public way, including Main and Moody Streets.

(Request was sent on November 20, 2018). Voted to remove the policy that the Traffic Engineer first seek approval for new signs on Main and Moody Streets.

B. 9th Annual Moody Street 5K Race

Reid Lyons is requesting permission to hold this race on Sunday, May 5, 2019 at 12 Noon. A recommendation was received from Lt. Cavallaro. **Voted to approve the recommendation and forward it to the Mayor’s Office for a permit to be issued.**

C. Trapelo Road at Smith Street – Proposed Right Turn Lane

Mr. Paul Tracey, # 11 Crestview Rd. is requesting a designated right turn lane for eastbound Trapelo Rd. traffic. This item has been discussed twice before (Nov. 2011 and Nov. 2013) and Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin stated a review is warranted. **Voted to have the Traffic Engineer conduct a study to determine if a dedicated Right Turn Lane is warranted.**

D. 305 Second Avenue – Proposed Marijuana Dispensary

Attorney Joe Connors and Ms. Heather Monticup with GPI presented the traffic study for this proposed development. The location of this development is the former TD Bank. The existing structure on the site contains 8,079 square feet. The Traffic Impact Analysis estimates a weekday PM peak hour increase of 79 vehicle trips and Saturday peak hour will generate 169 trips. It is anticipated traffic will evenly arrive from the north and south. The site driveways will operate at Level of Service B or better. The intersection of Bear Hill Road and Second Avenue will operate at Level of Service E during both peak hours and there will be no noticeable effect on the Level of Service. **Voted to accept the T.I.A. and forward it to the City Council for their deliberations on issuance of a Special Permit.**

E. 300 Third Avenue – Proposed Development

Giles Ham with VAI and Attorney Mike Connor presented this traffic study. The proposed project will raze the existing build of 21,171 square feet and 74 parking spaces to 130,000 square feet for

office or Life Science with 433 parking spaces. The proposal will generate 103 vehicle trips in the morning peak hour and 120 in the evening peak hour. This will have an effect on the existing failing conditions at intersection of Totten Pond Road/Third Avenue. The traffic report is complete and accurate. **Voted to accept the Traffic Impact Assessment and forward it to the City Council for their deliberations. In addition, the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin is directed to prepare a memorandum detailing the reservations the Traffic Commission has regarding the additional traffic on Third Avenue. The memorandum should include a recommendation that the new office building should only be permitted to be occupied once the new northbound Route 128 on-ramp opens at the intersection of Third Avenue and Prospect Hill Lane, with the new traffic signal.**

F. 1490 Trapelo Road – Various signage

Murtaza Qureshi is requesting various signage on Trapelo Road near his driveway. **Voted to table this request and consider if signage is appropriate at this location.**

2. TABLED ITEMS: Voted to remove Items D – I & M off the table

- A. Highland St. “Spur” at Curtis St. – Removal of “No Right Turn” Restriction (9/12)(10/12)(5/16)(6/16)
- B. Amend Art. 5, Sec. 18 GVW (3/16)(10/18)
- C. Trapelo Road at Waverley Oaks Road – Proposed Right Turn Lane (4/17)(5/17)

D. Main Street at Newton Street – Proposed Right Turn Lane (4/17)(5/17)

The rule of thumb for parking supply is that at the peak time for parking demand, the available spaces are 85 percent occupied. On Main Street from Elm Street to Appleton Street there are 32 spaces with a 69% occupancy; from Appleton Street to Newton Street there are 21 spaces and spaces are at 105% capacity (Sunday AM peak capacity was at 95%) . The Senior Center Parking Lot has 84 spaces and showed a peak hour demand (2:30pm) of 62%. The shortage of parking during peak hour demand is from Appleton Street east to Newton Street. Some additional parking can be obtained with the movement of the existing bus stop just west of Appleton Street to the corner stop line (about 6 spaces) and 2 additional spaces can be installed just east of Appleton Street. If the Senior Center Parking Lot could be used for parking, the parking on Main Street, north side from Craven Circle to Lyman Street could be removed and an exclusive Right Lane for Right Turn onto Lyman Street could be created. This would help alleviate the present existing congestion of vehicles turning left onto Main Street who want to continue north onto Lyman Street. **Voted to create eight new on-street parking spaces on Main Street. Approve a request to the MBTA to relocate the bus stop at the corner of Main Street and Appleton Street. In addition the Traffic Engineer will continue to review removing parking off the north side of Main Street from Craven Circle to Lyman Street, and present the results to Traffic Commission prior to sending communication to the Council on Aging.**

- E. Cabot Street Area – Traffic Calming Measures (10/17)(12/17)
- F. Totten Pond Road at Veterans Memorial Ice Rink – Proposed Traffic Signal (2/18)(4/18)
- G. Moody Street at Alder Street – Proposed RRFB (4/18)
- H. Waverley Oaks Road at Wilson Road – Proposed RRFB (6/18)(9/18)

**I. Main Street from Church/Elm Streets to Newton Street – Parking spaces (9/18)
See Item 2D**

- J. Derby Street at Lowell Street – Traffic Improvements (9/18)

K. **Mallard Way – Traffic Calming Measures (10/18)** Councillor Darcy and Mr. Leo DeNatale were present to discuss this study. Mr. DeNatale suggested placing the counters on Briarwood Rd. and a different location on Mallard Way. Voted to approve conducting additional counts at these two locations and report back.

L. Trapelo Road at Porter Road – Proposed RRFB (10/18)

M. **1077 and 1093 Lexington Street – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk (10/18).** Councillor Darcy was present and spoke in favor of this crosswalk and that pedestrians need some protection. Look into the possibility of an RRFB at this location. In this area there are five (5) travel lanes that transition to two lane wide, making it very difficult for a motorist to anticipate a pedestrian crossing. Placing a crosswalk would encourage pedestrians to cross where it is not safe to do so. **Voted to re-table and have the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin, gather more data, especially pedestrian accidents, and see if there is any other alternatives to be considered.**

N. Central Street – Speeding Issues (10/18)

O. River Street at Jackson Street – Proposed RRFB (10/18)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Parking Meter Report - revenues continue to increase slightly

B. Piety Corner – Update - Mayor has sent form to Mass. Historical Commission for review. Upon acceptance from Mass. Historical Commission, consultant may initiate design.

C. Church Street Parking Lot – Update- Sunshine Paving has started the reconstruction of the lot.

D. River/Farwell/Seyon – Update – New signal is being installed. There has been damage done to the conduit (unrelated to signal contractor) which will need to be replaced before work can be finished.

E. Eddy Street Heavy Overnight Truck Restriction Approval Mass DOT has approved our request for a truck restriction. A Truck Exclusion permit will be requested, and signs will be installed.

4: Late Item

A: Cedarwood Ave @ Weston Street

Tim Kelly has forwarded a request from Councillor Mackin for street painting “DO Not Block Intersection” Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin recommended approval and a request will be made to Mass DOT

B: Placard for Building Dept. Plumbing Inspector was approved.

Meeting adjourned@ 11:51 AM

Attendance: All members present except Ms. Cagle and Fire Chief McInnis; Mayor McCarthy, & Councillor Darcy.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank S. Lombardo

Clerk

Date of the Meeting:
Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Jeannette A McCarthy	91 Hamilton Rd	2D,2I	Mayor of Waltham
Giles Ham	Andover, MA	1E	VAI- Traffic Engineer
Joe Connors	404 Main St Waltham	MIMS 305 2nd Ave	Attorney
Heather Monticup	181 Ballardvale Wilmington, Ma	MIMS 305 2nd Ave	Traffic GPI
Nancy Koury	111 Flash Rd Nahant, MA	MIMS 305 2nd Ave	Petitioner
Dan Marzilli	38 Farquhar Rd Newton, MA	MIMS 305 2nd Ave	Petitioner
Jim White	121 E Berkley Boston, MA	MIMS 305 2nd Ave	Engineer
Michael R Connors	6 Lexington St Waltham, MA	300 Third Ave	Attorney
George Darcy	93 Hobbs Rd	Lex St Crosswalk	Councillor
Dr. Leo deNatale	204 Mallard Way	2K	Resident

