

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: JANUARY 16, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M.**

The motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting was approved.

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. 11TH Annual JB5K Blastoff

Ms. Margaret McCullough is seeking permission to hold this event on Saturday, April 25, 2020.

Voted to recommend a permit be issued.

B. Crescent St. Parking Lot Dumpster Issue

CPW Dept. requested discussion regarding this dumpster. Mr. Stew LaCrosse CPW attended and spoke of the conditions caused by the overflowing dumpsters from the Indian Market located at 315 Moody Street. They obtained permission from the Traffic Commission to have these dumpsters located in the Crescent Street Municipal Parking Lot back in October 2011. Mr. Syed Raheen from the Indian Market attended the meeting and addressed this issue. He stated that he has the dumpsters emptied every day with the exception of Sunday. The weekend is a problem because the dumpsters are not emptied until Monday. Mr. Raheen promised to improve cleaning the area. Traffic Engineer reminded Mr. Raheen of the conditions that were agreed to in 2011 allowing the dumpsters in the City parking lot. He recommended a warning and a probation period for improvements. **Voted to issue Waltham Indian Market a 90 day warning that they must follow the above conditions as voted and approved in 2011. If they continue to disregard these conditions after 90 days, then the Traffic Commission will revoke its approval to place these dumpsters on the dirt area and the dumpsters will be removed at the expense of Waltham Indian Market. The building owner will also be notified about this vote and the conditions that must be met. The Health and Street Departments will be asked to monitor progress.**

C. 1111 Lexington Street Proposed Bank – Traffic Study

Shaun Kelly with VAI presented this traffic study. The proposed bank will be located at the former Friendly's Restaurant. The existing building will be razed with a new 3,470 square foot bank with a separate drive-through ATM; this requires a Special Permit. Vanasse & Associates, Inc. stated the expected project will generate 226 new vehicle trips on an average weekday and Saturdays will generate 194 vehicle trips. This will add 20 trips in the PM daily peak hour and 24 in the Saturday peak hour. Levels of Service are not expected to change. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin recommended acceptance of the report. **Voted to accept the traffic impact assessment prepared by Vanasse & Associates, for the proposed redevelopment of 1111 Lexington Street, allowing the applicant to proceed to the City Council for a Special Permit.**

2. TABLED ITEMS:

A. Highland St. "Spur" at Curtis St. – Removal of "No Right Turn" Restriction (9/12)(10/12)(5/16)(6/16)

B. Totten Pond Rd. at Veterans Memorial Ice Rink – Proposed Traffic Signal (2/18)(4/18)

C. Derby St. at Lowell St. – Traffic Improvements (9/18)

D. Warren St. – Traffic Safety Issues (5/19)

E. Elson Rd. Parking Study (6/19)(10/19)

F. # 80-86 Orange St. – Whalen Housing Authority (9/19)

G. Oakley Lane near Beaver Street – No Parking (10/19)

H. School St. – Proposed Speed Hump between Lyman St. and Lexington St. (11/19)

Speed Data was collected between December 6 and December 12, and the 85% speed was found to be 18 mph; speeding is not indicated. The McDevitt Middle School is located adjacent to School Street in this area and meets all of the requirements for a School Zone. **Voted to deny the request for a speed bump. Approve the designation of new School Zones on School Street and on Church Street, in front of the McDevitt Middle School property**

In Schedule 16 School Zones, in the Traffic Rules & Regulations

ADD

School St. at McDevitt Middle school, When Children are Present

Church St. at McDevitt Middle school, When Children are Present

I. Whitney Ave. Private Way – Loading Zone (12/19)

Mr. Vecchio and Ward 9 Councillor Paz attended on behalf of this request. Presently a commercial truck must unload using the front door to Family Dollar Store at 299 Moody Street. This creates a problem where large inventory is placed just inside the front door, which creates confusion and a fire hazard. He requested to have a loading zone on Whitney Avenue from 5:00 AM to 9:00 AM. The truck could be backed into Whitney Avenue. In addition, he expects to rent the second floor to a tenant who could use the side entrance to move musical instruments in and out. Chief MacPherson stated that if approved Whitney Avenue should be made one-way in the opposite direction or closed to vehicular traffic. Fire Chief MacInnis expressed his concerns about the Fire hazards, having inventory obstructing the front entrance, and limited access for the second floor tenants. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin stated that Whitney Ave has very low traffic volumes, however, exiting traffic onto Moody Street would be very difficult and it is not recommended. Whitney Court is better suited for a Loading Zone. (Entrance/Exit onto Spruce Street) **Voted to table and have the Traffic Engineer, review the possibility of Whitney Court having a Loading Zone and consider other possibilities.**

J. Trapelo Rd. at Our Lady's Church – Crosswalk Options (12/19)

K. Floyd St. – Restrict Parking On One Side or Make One-Way (12/19)

L. Lexington St. – Dedicated Off-Road Bicycle Lane (12/19)

Councillor Darcy spoke in favor of this proposal. Land on the east side of Lexington Street from Beaver Street north to Jack's Way is mostly City land. From Jack's Way, north on the west side, there is sufficient room west of the sidewalk to have an exclusive bike lane. There would be very little land takings. Lexington Street will need four lanes of traffic in some areas. **Voted to table, have the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin review, and seek some innovated ideas for this proposal. Upon further review this item wasn't tabled in December, so it does not need to be placed on the table. No further action necessary.**

M. Review Citywide Street Widths for Minimum 25 feet width (12/19)

N. Trapelo Rd. at Graverson Playground – Possible Raised Table (12/19)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Parking Meter Report – Revenues for the year are down \$19,000 from same time last year.

B. Piety Corner – Update – Conservation Commission has given final approvals; two light poles must be moved. The debris from the house still needs to be removed.

C. Moody St. and Main St. Sign Update - 10 remaining signs must be approved by the Mayor.

Adjourned: 11:28 A.M.

Attendance: Ms. Cagle and Mr. Chiasson absent. Councillors Mr. Darcy and Mr. Paz.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank S. Lombardo, Clerk
off Committee Speakers

Waltham Traffic Commission

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Date of the Meeting: January 16, 2020

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Shawn Keay	10 NEBC Dr. Andover, MA	1111 Lexington St	Traffic engineer VAI
Jeff Vecchio	1051 Beacon St Brookline, MA	Whitney Ave	Petitioner
L. Jonathan Paz	109 Chestnut St	Loading Zone	Ward Councillor
George Darcy	93 Hobbs Rd	Lexington Street Bike Lanes	Ward Councillor
Stew LaCrosse	165 Lexington St	Crescent Street Parking Lot	C.P.W.
Syed Raheem	315 Moody St	Crescent Street Parking Lot	Business Owner