

**Minutes OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: NOVEMBER 21, 2019 AT 10:00 A.M.
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

The Chair accepted motions for the minutes of the October 17, 2019 meeting and the minutes of the Special Meeting held on November 6, 2019 were approved. The Special Meeting scheduled for November 15, 2019 was cancelled.

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. School St. – Proposed Speed Hump between Lyman St. and Lexington St.

Mayor McCarthy is asking that a request from Mr. Kevin Kozin be placed on the agenda. Mr. Kozin attended the meeting and spoke in favor of speed humps or other traffic calming measures. He stated he has found the Waze travel app is promoting the increased use of School Street to bypass Main Street. In addition, with McDevitt Elementary School located on School Street there are many walkers. T.E. Mr. Garvin recommended the item be tabled and that he be instructed to conduct a speed study. This area may also qualify as a 20 MPH School Zone. **Voted to table and conduct a study.**

B. Proposed Costco Gas Addition – Traffic Impact Study

John Harter with Atlantic Traffic submitted the traffic study for this project. Mr. Harter explained the proposal is for 18 fueling positions located at the far end of the Costco parking lot at 71 Second Avenue. The parking in this area is underutilized. To improve traffic operations for patrons Costco will permanently close the offices located on the second floor above the retail store. The present driveway on Second Avenue will be widened to improve the turning radius. There will be a new exit from the parking lot through the adjacent hotel egress onto Winter Street eastbound, which will reduce the number of left turn vehicles exiting the parking lot onto Second Avenue and improve operations along Second Avenue. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin recommended accepting the traffic study. **Voted to accept the Traffic Impact and Parking Accumulation Study, prepared by Atlantic Traffic & Designs, dated Oct. 30, 2019, for the proposed Costco fuel facility and forward this recommendation to the City Council for their deliberations of a Special Permit.**

C. Proposed MBTA Route 70 Bus Stop Closure

Andrew Smith, MBTA, Senior Transportation Planner is requesting certain bus stops be removed. Mr. Brian Francis, MBTA Service Coordinator attended and spoke of the changes proposed for the MBTA Bus Route #70 to consolidate stops that are infrequently used. The proposal is to close nine bus stops, relocate four stops and create two new stops. These changes conform to the recommendations in the Waltham Transportation Master plan.

Proposed to be closed

Main Street, eastbound at Malone Street

Main Street, westbound at Malone St

Main Street, eastbound at Wellington St

Main Street, westbound at Grant St

Main Street, eastbound at Townsend Street

Main Street, westbound at Pleasant Street

Main Street, eastbound at Lafayette Street

Main Street, westbound at Bowker Road

Moody Street, southbound at Main Street **(Recommended to be denied by T.E. Garvin due to the distance between bus stops for Bus Route 170 exceeding the recommended 750 feet)**

Proposed to Relocate

Main Street, westbound, Palmer St. - relocate to west of Palmer Street (**Recommended to be denied by T.E. Garvin due to the distance requested is very short**)

Main Street, eastbound, opposite Francis St - relocate to west of Prospect St (requires Mayor approval)

Main Street, eastbound, at Heard St – relocate from west of Heard St to east of Heard St (requires mayor approval)

Main Street, westbound, at Chamberlin Terrace – relocated slightly further to the west (requires Mayor approval)

Proposed New Stops

Elm Street, northbound at Main St

Elm Street, southbound at Main St

Mr. Garvin, Traffic Engineer recommended the MBTA conduct a public meeting to inform the transit users of the potential changes. In addition, if the Bus Stops are removed the City is requesting the MBTA remove the thermoplastic pavement markings that were recently installed. **Voted to accept the Traffic Engineer's recommendations and amend the Parking Rules & Regulations that will be required when final approval of the bus stops occur.**

D. 220-226 Moody St. – Clarification of Surplus Air Rights & Ground Lease

Paul Finger presented a report regarding these issues. The developer is proposing a hotel at 210 Moody Street and has a design for a parking deck to be built over the City owned parking spaces known as the Embassy Parking Facility. The upper level will be accessed either via a new curb cut on Moody Street or a ramp originating within the Embassy Parking Facility. The votes taken by the Traffic Commission on May 12, 2019 and April 18, 2018 did not specify the parcels. It only referred to the City owned parking in the surface parking level. At that time no specific square footage was approved. Mr. Finger reported that the facility in question is in two parts, Parcel #18 and Parcel #19. (Note: these numbers represent City of Waltham Property Parcel ID R060-028-0018, 230 Moody Street, a total of 19,414 Sq. Feet and Parcel ID# R060-028-0019 14 Pine Street, a total of 45,334 Sq. Feet). The hotel's proposal needs an easement line between these two parcels to be extended, from Parcel #18 into Parcel #19 and the total Square Footage would increase to 18,440 SF. The November Traffic Commission package, page 36 The Cox Hotel 210 Moody Street Air & Ground Rights Plan dated February 21, 2018 outlines the request of 18,500 SF on parcel #18. The Traffic Commission has no authority to approve an easement onto Parcel #19, but does support the extension. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin reported there will be no loss of any City parking spaces, the Embassy clearance will remain in place and the additional ramp will not interfere with the lower surface parking. During construction the 35 City owned parking spaces will be needed for construction access and staging and there will be security measures. Both Councillors Robert Logan and Cathynn Harris support this proposal.

Traffic Commission Vote on 11/21/19

Vote#1 – Voted to declare as surplus as represented on Paul Finger Assoc. Air & Ground Rights Plan shown on page 36 of the November TC package. Total is 18,500SF +-

Vote#2 – Voted to support the easement plan as defined on page 39 of the Nov. TC package.

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. Amend Art. 5, Sec. 18 GVW (3/16)(11/18)

- C. Totten Pond Rd. at Veterans Memorial Ice Rink – Proposed Traffic Signal (2/18)(4/18)
- D. Derby St. at Lowell St. – Traffic Improvements (9/18)
- E. Warren St. – Traffic Safety Issues (5/19)
- F. Elson Rd. Parking Study (6/19)(10/19)

Voted to remove from the table

G. Fiske Ave. at Weston St. – Traffic Issues (9/19)

The intersection is under control of MassDOT. On Fiske Avenue it was recommended a stop line and 100 foot long double yellow line be painted. On Weston Street it is recommended that a request be sent to MassDOT to paint a the “Do Not Block The Box” pavement markings at the intersection and additional lane makings to show that two westbound lanes merged into a single westbound lane. Member Mr. Kelly expressed concern that although this is needed it is not enough to ease the problem. **Voted to approve the street pavement markings on Fiske Avenue and request MassDOT to approve the street pavement markings for Weston Street (State Route #20). In addition the Traffic Engineer is to continue to monitor the area for any additional improvements**

- H. # 80-86 Orange St. – Whalen Housing Authority (9/19)
- I. Oakley Lane near Beaver Street – No Parking (10/19)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Parking Meter Report - Total revenue down approximately \$25,000 compared to last year.

B. Piety Corner – Update. There is a Conservation Commission meeting tonight to discuss the landscaping plan. If approved then the demolition contractor can finalize the removal of the debris. BSC will also be able to finish their design and Wires Dept. can work utility company on relocating the utility poles.

C. Review of intersections missing STOP control. Voted to install 38 new stop signs and 3 yield signs as follows:

Sign On	At	Location of Sign
Meadow Lane	Berkley St	Facing Southbound Traffic
Milner Street	Ode St	Facing both Northbound & Southbound Traffic
Overlook Road	Lakeview Ave	Facing Eastbound & Westbound Traffic
Wildwood Lane	Clark Lane	Facing Northbound & Southbound Traffic
Hawthorne Rd.	Sartell Rd	Facing Northbound & Southbound Traffic
Woodland Rd	Upland Rd	Facing Eastbound Traffic
Wyola Prospect	Upland Rd	Facing Westbound Traffic
Helen Street	Emmeline Ave	Facing Eastbound & Westbound Traffic
Mallard Way	Albermarle Rd	Facing Southbound Traffic
Greer St	Abbott Road	Facing Eastbound & Westbound Traffic
Marguerite Ave	Hobbs Rd	Facing Northbound & Southbound Traffic
Marguerite Ave	Doty Street	Facing Southbound Traffic
Hemlock Terr	Doty Street	Facing Northbound Traffic
Augustus Rd	Doty Street	Facing Northbound Traffic
Lauricella Lane	Pigeon Lane	Facing Southbound Traffic
Amerlia Drive	Pigeon Lane	Facing Northbound Traffic
Edwin Road	Candace	Facing Northbound & Southbound Traffic
Manor Road	Neighbors Lane	Facing Eastbound & Westbound Traffic
Chaffee Ave	Neighbors Lane	Facing Westbound Traffic

Webster Street	Grant Ave	Facing Northbound & Southbound Traffic
Grant Ave	Grant Ave	Facing Westbound Traffic
Pelham Road	Grant Ave	Facing Eastbound Traffic
Wetherbee Road	Florence Rd	Facing Eastbound & Westbound Traffic
Knollwood Drive	Edgewater Drive	Facing Eastbound Traffic
Riverside Drive	Edgewater Drive	Facing Westbound Traffic
Clark Street	Bright Street	Facing Eastbound & Westbound Traffic

D. Felton St. – Changes to regulations – Amend the Rules and Regulations as follows:

Amend Schedule 1 – Parking, Standing & Stopping Restrictions:

Delete: Felton St., north side, from Central Ave. to Prospect St., No Parking 7am-9am & 4pm-6pm.

Delete: Felton St., north side, from Williams St to Central Ave., No Parking

Add: Felton St., north side, Williams St. to Prospect St., No Parking

Amend Schedule 18 - Turns As Designated:

Add: Felton St. – All vehicles traveling westbound approaching Prospect St. in the left lane MUST TURN LEFT

E. Beaver St.at Warren St. – Request funds for intersection design

Voted to approve the request of \$67,650 and forward to the Mayor to redesign this intersection and include a new traffic signal.

F. Main St. at Barbara/Gore/Warren – Request funds for intersection design

Voted to approve the request of \$79,640 and forward to the Mayor to design new traffic signal at this intersection.

G. Trapelo Rd. at Waverley Oaks Rd. – Request funds for intersection design

Voted to approve the request of \$85,800 and forward to the Mayor design new traffic signal at this intersection.

H. Speed Study – Request Funds to conduct study – **It is requested funds in the amount of \$7,600. be forwarded to the Mayor for approval and have Quality Traffic Data, LLC the low bidder, conduct Speed Data Collections.**

I. Pay Station 4G Modems – Request funds to purchase - **\$11,000. (Parking Funds) is being requested to purchase fifteen (15) 4G AT&T Modems for the Ventek PayBySpace Ticket machines. These modems will replace the existing Verizon 3G Modems that are no longer supported by Verizon on December 31, 2019. Voted to forward this request to the Mayor.**

J. Cedarwood Ave. at Weston St – Removal of No Turn On Red – Response letter from MassDOT – **Information Only**

Mr. Paul Steman, District Highway Director, for MassDOT responded to our request to consider the removal of the NTOR (No Turn On Red). The signal operation at the intersection was revised in July 2018 and the NTOR signage was changed to clarify some possible

confusion. The following is the result of the request to remove the No Turn on Red on Cedarwood Avenue

“It was determined that the NTOR sign needed to remain since it was still possible for a driver turning right on red from Cedarwood Avenue to conflict with a driver turning left under green from Tavern Road. This condition is still possible today, so the NTOR sign must remain in place.”

4. LATE FILED ITEMS:

- A. Small Business Saturday Free Parking - City Councillors Logan, LaCava, Harris and Nabulime are requesting Free Parking in our parking lots for Saturday November 30, 2019. **Voted to have free parking all day in the parking lots only. On-street timed parking will still be enforced.**

- B. Elm St. at Elm St. Bridge – RRFB at new crosswalk to DCR Riverwalk
Councillor Logan is requesting a RRFB be installed at the new crosswalk installed.
Voted to approve and seek funding to install a RRFB at this new crosswalk for the DCR RiverWalk a.k.a. Blue Heron Path. T.E. Garvin and Wires Inspector Kelly will determine whether solar or hard wired unit will work for this location.

Attendance: Absent Members Mr. Magno, Ms. Cagle & Mr. Waddick.
Adjourned@ 12:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Frank S. Lombardo,
Clerk

Waltham Traffic Commission**Date of the Meeting: November 21, 2019**

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Robert G. Logan	109 Taylor St	1D – 4A – 4B	City Councillor
Kevin M. Kozin	14 School St #2	1A	Interested Party Resident
Elizabeth A. Cagninelli	14 School St #2	1A	Interested Party Resident
Michael Colomba	20 Felton Street	200 Moody St	Owner
Paul Finger	14 Spring St	200 Moody St	PFA Consultant
John Harter	35 Technolay St Warren, NJ	Costco	Costco
John Paul Andrews	45940 Horseshoe Dr #150 Stering, VA	Costco	Costco
Brian Francis	45 High Street Boston, MA	MBTA Bus Stops	MBTA