

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
MARCH 15, 2012 AT 10:00 A.M.**

At the start of the meeting Chief LaCroix introduced Fire Chief Paul Ciccone as the newest member of the Commission.

**1. PETITIONED ITEMS:**

**A. 475 Winter Street – Traffic Issues**

Ms. Kerin Quick, # 308 River Street, Waltham is requesting someone observe the traffic and possible traffic signal for this frontage road. This frontage road is the entrance/exit to the mini-mall located on the north side of Winter Street, west of the Bridge. The intersection of driveway to winter Street is controlled by a Stop Sign. Vehicles who want to go the east, must enter Winter Street and cross over at least two lanes in order to reverse direction. There is sufficient pause to the traffic to allow this maneuver. The completion of the re-construction of the Winter Street Bridge should provide adequate time for vehicles to make a safe movement. **Voted not to take any action at this time and monitor for accident activity.**

**B. High Street at Newton Street – Traffic Signal Change**

Mayor McCarthy requesting this on behalf of Ms. Debby Berube, # 28 Whitman Road Unit 2-1 is that an arrow or delay for eastbound traffic be considered. **Voted to table this request and have Wires Department and G.P.I. review signal and report to the Commission if this is practical.**

**C. Crescent Street at Orange Street – No Parking issue**

Mr. Richard Evans, # 29 Orange Street is requesting line painting to restrict corner parking. Mr. Evans stated there are constant violations, and he feels that painted “cross-hatch” on the street will deter violations. “Cross-hatch” painting is limited to the downtown high volume business locations and is inappropriate in resident neighborhoods. **Voted to place the item on the table and request the Police Department increase enforcement efforts to resolve the problem.**

**D. Upton Road at Trapelo Road – Reconsider Turn Restriction**

Steven & Kathleen Johnson, # 70 Albemarle Road are requesting that the recently approved Turn Restriction onto Upton Road from Trapelo Road between 7AM – 9AM be rescinded. Councilor McMenimen appeared before the Commission concerning this item. She spoke of the difficulties this item has created when a neighborhood is divided. She suggested the Commission consider an “input hearing” from the residents. GPI Mr. Diaz stated that the concerns of the residents were that of speeding and volumes through the neighborhood. Neighborhood streets are not designed to handle high volumes of traffic that should be using Trapelo Road. If the signals at Waverley Oaks Road and Trapelo Road are not functioning properly to handle the traffic flow then that signal should be looked at. **Voted to have GPI (Mr. Diaz) review the signal timings and if appropriate, recommend changes. This item was tabled pending that review.**

**E. Yearly Merchant Sticker**

Ms. Kari Sprigg, Alberts's Photo Studio, # 409 Moody Street along with numerous Moody Street Merchants are requesting the current \$350 Yearly Sticker be reduced to \$175 for merchants. Ms. Sprigg attended the meeting and stated that the present fee is a hardship to the merchants considering the hard economic times. The fee was raised from \$100. /year to \$350. /year. Presently, the daily rate for all day parking (12 hours) is \$2.00. Three (300) hundred work days would mean at least \$600.year. The purpose of the parking fee is not for revenue, but for parking turnover space to the customers. The Commission voted to amend the fee in April 2009 and it is

inappropriate to go back and forth, amending these decisions. **Voted to table this item and review fees in other communities to see if the present fee is appropriate.**

**F. 10 & 20 CityPoint (formerly “Waltham Office Center”) – Revised Traffic Study**

VHB has submitted a revised Traffic Study on behalf of Boston Properties for their project located at the corner of Third Avenue/Totten Pond Road. (Mr. Robert Nagi VHB, Mr. Richard Monopoli Boston Properties and Att. Phillip McCourt all appeared on behalf of this item)

The original project received a Special Permit issued from the City Council and this request may amend or require a new Special Permit to be issued. The project is located along Totten Pond Road, surrounded by Third Avenue to the west, and Prospect Hill Lane to the south. It involves the redevelopment of the existing site including the elimination of the existing buildings and construction of 425,659 square feet of mixed-use that will have approximately 377,814 sf of new office space, 25,563 sf of retail space and 21,282 sf of restaurant use. There will be 1,542 parking spaces and the site will be served by two primary driveways, one on Totten Pond Road (the North Entrance) and the other on Prospect Hill Lane (the South Entrance).

In general the developer has reduced the amount of retail/supermarket/restaurant space by approximately 20,000 sf. The traffic generation numbers have dropped slightly during the PM peak hour (but are slightly higher during the AM peak hour). The proponents’ mitigation package remains essentially the same as previously agreed upon. The proponent has also agreed to provide traffic signal coordination for the entire Winter Street/Totten Pond Road corridor from West Street through Third Avenue, as well as modifications to the Winter Street/West Street intersection.

**Voted to accept the Traffic Impact Report as an accurate analysis of the traffic effect and forward the report to the Council for their deliberations.**

**G. Carter Street at Moody Street – Lane restrictions missing in book**

Left lane on Carter Street is left turn only . Voted to add the restriction to Schedule 14 and install a sign stating this restriction.

Add to Schedule 14- Turns Only As Designated

**Carter Street: All vehicles traveling westbound on Carter Street in the left lane approaching Moody Street MUST TURN LEFT**

**H. Main Street at South St./Weston St. – Lane restrictions missing in book**

Left lane only to South St., Middle lane only onto Weston St., Right lane only to Main St.

Voted to add the restriction to Schedule 14

Add to Schedule 14- Turns Only As Designated

**Main Street: All vehicles traveling westbound on Main Street in the left lane approaching South/Weston Street (Banks Square) MUST TURN LEFT ONTO SOUTH STREET**

**Main Street: All vehicles traveling westbound on Main Street in the middle lane approaching South/Weston Street (Banks Square) MUST TURN ONTO WESTON STREET**

**Main Street: All vehicles traveling westbound on Main Street in the right lane approaching South/Weston Street (Banks Square) MUST CONTINUE WESTBOUND ON MAIN STREET**

**2. TABLED ITEMS:**

- A. Barbara Rd./ Chaffee Ave. – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk (11/09)
- B. #306 Lexington St. – Driveway Opening (4/10)
- C. Lincoln St. at Sanderson Rd./Curve St. – Traffic Improvements (6/10)
- D. Connors Pool # 148 Newton St. – Proposed revision to vehicle access to site (6/10)
- E. 110 Bear Hill Road – Proposed Development (11/10)
- F. Traffic Commission Policy – Revised Petition Policy (11/10) Law Dept. Opinion Received
- G. Four-Way Stop Review (11/10) – Law Dept. Opinion Received
- H. Review of Overnight Parking Enforcement Procedure – (2/11)
- I. Required Parking Spaces (2/11) – Review of Law Dept. Opinion Received
- J. South Street at Highland Street – Proposed Traffic Signal (3/11)
- K. Ellison Park & Summer Street Area – Traffic Calming (Sp. 3/11)
- L. Albemarle Road – Pedestrian Safety (4/11)
- M. 831 Main Street – Proposed Development (6/11)

**N. Warren Street – Truck Restriction (9/11) Removed from the Table**

GPI Mr. Diaz had been instructed to report on an alternative route so the Commission could consider enacting a Heavy Truck Restriction on Warren Street. Consideration was also to be considered for a part time night restriction. The Commission is bound by the rules and regulations issued by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and a permit must be issued by MassDOT. In order for a local street truck exclusion to be approved the City must state a viable alternative route, within the City, for the trucks to use. Linden Street (Rt.60) is the most viable route for a truck to use to get to the north from the River/Gore Street area. The geometric conditions at the Main St./Linden St. intersection make it impossible for large westbound trucks to turn right from Main Street onto northbound Linden Street. Other northbound routes are not practical. In addition, negotiations with Watertown, would most likely be futile. **Voted to deny a Heavy Truck Restriction on Warren Street**

- O. Smith Street at Trapelo Road – Change in Lane Use (9/11)
- P. Relocation of Sign and Paint Division (9/11)
- Q. Plympton St. at Hammond St. – Four Way STOP (9/11) (12/11) Need response from Building Dept.

**R. 193 Hammond St. Limited Handicap Parking Space (11/11) 90 Day Trial Period**

**Voted to approve this request permanently.** Member Mr. Magno voted no. Hammond Street in this area does not approved All Night Parking. Regardless of the HP sticker the vehicle can not park all night and this a precedent.

- S. Princeton Ave. – Speed Limit/Speed Hump (12/11)
- T. 275 Wyman St. – Proposed Development (1/12)
- U. Forest St. at Harrington Rd. – Proposed Pedestrian Crossing Signal (1/12) Write letter to Bentley University.

**V. St. Jude School 5K Road Race – Saturday, June 2, 2012 (1/12) Removed from the Table  
Voted to recommend a permit be issued for this race (Rain date June 9)**

**W. Piggy's Run 5K Road Race – Saturday, Nov. 17, 2012 (1/12) Removed from the Table  
Voted to recommend a permit be issued for this race.**

Mr. John Logue was present and spoke about the race. The Commission had previously approved this race, however, on two occasions the promoters had altered the route, (one downtown and another was a Highland route). The route now will be in the Waverley Oaks Road area.

**3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- A. Parking Meter Report
- B. Full-Time MEO position . . a candidate has been chosen and final paperwork is being completed.
- C. Traffic Engineer position . . voted to request starting salary be amended to Grade 19, step 3; a new Job posting will be requested, upon Council approvals
- D. Full-Time Parking Control Officer (PCO) position posted with deadline of March 19
- E. Winter Street Bridge . . tweaking continues
- F. Forest Street at Trapelo Road . . design plans being summarized
- G. Main Street at Lyman./Heard Sts. - Signal Issues still pending
- H. Totten Pond Rd./Lexington St./Bacon St. – reflective lane markings – Letter to/from MassDOT  
MassDOT has recommended that “lane reflectors” should only be used on highways that have large turning radius. It was recommended that “thermo plastic” be considered. Voted to have GPI review the lane markings in the Piety Corner area and make a recommendation to use thermo plastic lane marking if applicable.

**4: Added Item**

Ms. Mary Early attended the meeting and submitted a number of items for the Commission to review. All the items dealt with traffic issues and Chief LaCroix referred the letter to the Police Department, Capt. Russo to handle.

Meeting Adjourned @ 11:28 AM

Attendance: All members except Mr. Tim Kelly. Mr. John Diaz represented GPI. All speakers signed in (see attached)

Respectfully Submitted:

Off. Frank S. Lombardo  
Clerk

## Waltham Traffic Commission

**Date of the Meeting:**      **March 15, 2012**

**Please Print**

<b>Name of Speaker</b>	<b># Street, City</b>	<b>Affiliation i.e. Attorney - Abutter Interested party – Petitioner</b>	<b>For/Against Item No:</b>
Mr. John Logue	23 Warwick Ave	Petitioner	Piggy Run
Kathy McMenimen	City Councilor at Large	Upton Trapelo Road	
Kari Spriggs	409 Moody St	Petitioner	Merchant Parking Stickers
Richard Evans	29 Orange St	Petitioner	Orange / Crescent St
Robert Nagi	101 walnut St Watertown`	Traffic Engineer VHB	10/20 City Point
Richard Monopoli	800 Boylston Street Boston	Petitioner - Developer	10/20 City Point
Mary Early	21 Flood Street	Abutter	Traffic Enforcement Items