

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 17, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M.**

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. South Street at Highland Street – Proposed Traffic Signal

Request from City Council Public Works Committee to have a signal installed. A Council resolution was forwarded urging the Mayor and the Traffic Commission to facilitate the installation of a traffic signal at this location. A meeting with the Council was held on February 22 (Public Works Committee) attended by Chairman Chief LaCroix, Mayor McCarthy, Lisa Gerlach and Mr. John Diaz (GPI Consultant). It was determined that there is funding from contributions submitted by Children's Hospital (\$20,000.), Roy McDowell (\$80,000.) and The Watch Factory (\$25,000.) for the installation of the traffic signal. The Special Permit also states that an additional contribution from The Watch Factory to prepare design and contract documents is required. The Transportation Department will be responsible for engineering services during the construction. Transportation Department recommended that GPI collect traffic data along South Street (Jewish Cemetery, Highland St., Bedford St. & Winthrop St.) in preparation for a traffic study to install a traffic signal. Att. Michael Connors, attended this meeting, and it was suggested that The Watch Factory give the City a "gift" with the intent that the City have our traffic consultant GPI do the design rather than the developer. **Voted to approve the recommendation and have Mr. Diaz, (GPI) collect traffic data and report his findings at a future meeting. Attorney Connors will ask his client (The Watch Factory) to amend their agreement with the City and ask the Council to accept their contribution as a "gift" to the Gift Account Fund, so that our consultant (GPI) can prepare design and contract documents for a possible installation. Voted to Table.**

B. Trimount Avenue at Marivista Avenue – STOP Sign

Ms. Paula Ridolfi, # 49 Braemore Road is requesting a STOP sign at this location. Councilor Edmund Tarallo, Councilor Ward 2, could not attend the meeting but informed the Commission through member City Clerk Malone that he supported this request. Ms. Ridolfi stated that eastbound vehicles on Marivista Avenue have a conflict with Trimount Avenue vehicles. Presently, there is a STOP for westbound vehicles on Marivista Avenue, which was approved in April 1990. Since then there has been an increase in residential homes causing additional traffic in the area. A site visit of the intersection justifies that a STOP should be installed. **Voted to add a STOP sign for eastbound traffic.**

Amend Schedule 3 - STOP Streets as follows:

Add Marivista Avenue at Trimount Avenue, facing eastbound traffic

2. TABLED ITEMS:

A. Barbara Rd./ Chaffee Ave. – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk (11/09)

B. Brookfield Rd. at Upton Rd. – Stop Sign (2/10)

C. Weston St./South St./Main St. – Confusing Lane Signage (10/10) Removed from Table.

This item was tabled in October 2010 for review by GPI. Mr. Diaz has made his recommendations and it was voted to accept. The Sign and Paint crew will implement the sign changes now, and paint when weather permits.

Voted the following: Westbound traffic on Main Street at Weston/Main/South

The far left lane to have a "Left Turn arrow" - South St. Only

The middle lane to have a "Left angled arrow" - Rte 20 West - Weston St Only

The inner right lane to have "a straight arrow" - Rte 117 West – Main St Only

In addition, each lane will have appropriate arrows and legend painted on the roadway.

- D. #306 Lexington St. – Driveway Opening (4/10)
- E. Lincoln St. at Sanderson Rd./Curve St. – Traffic Improvements (6/10)
- F. Spruce St. Parking Lot – Stone Wall (6/10)
- G. Connors Pool # 148 Newton St. – Proposed revision to vehicle access to site (6/10)

H. Main St. at Heard St. – Relocation of MBTA bus stop (6/10) Removed from Table Voted to Place this item on File

- I. Zone Change Request – Change in Policy (6/10)
- J. 200 Moody Street – Proposed Development (9/10)
- K. Traffic Commission Policies (9/10)
- L. #1019 Trapelo Road – Redevelopment of former Shell Station (9/10)
- M. Highland St. “Spur” between Hope Ave. & Curtis St. – Review traffic (10/10)

N. Moody St. / Crescent St. / Pine St. – Delayed Green Signage (10/10)

GPI had been requested to review the timing sequence and determine if changes should be made. GPI changed the left green arrow for Crescent Street to become a “lead” rather than a “lag” during the cycle for a trial period. The revised timings have reduced the rush hour delays. **Voted to approve the timing changes and install a “Wait for Delayed Green” sign for westbound Pine Street.**

- O. Lexington St. at Glenmeadow Condominiums – Proposed Traffic Signal (10/10)
- P. 110 Bear Hill Road – Proposed Development (11/10)
- Q. Traffic Commission Policy – Revised Petition Policy (11/10) – In Law Dept.
- R. Four-Way Stop Review (11/10) – In Law Dept.
- S. Trapelo Road at Pine Vale Road – Full Traffic Signal (11/10)
- T. Ellison Park – Posted Speed Limit (12/10)
- U. Ellison Park near # 115 - Speed Hump (12/10)
- V. Main Street at Appleton Street – Traffic Signal Issues (1/11)
- W. South Street at Wheelock Road – Exclusive Left Turn Retiming 90 Day Trial (1/11)
- X. Review of Overnight Parking Enforcement Procedure – In Law Dept. (2/11)
- Y. Upper Moody Street – Change Free 1 Hr. Parking to 2 Hr. (2/11)
- Z. Required Parking Spaces – In Law Dept. (2/11)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Parking Meter Report – revenues are strong although annual amount is still low due to the heavy snows of February
- B. Budget Discussion FY 2012 - Traffic and Parking Meter Proposed FY12 Budget
 - 1: Approved to request a Transportation Director Grade 19-1 @ \$87,399.
 - 2: Approved to request a Motor Equipment Operator Grade 7-6 @ \$45,999.
 - 3: Approved to request Engineer Consultant fee @ \$100,000.
 - 4: Approved to request a part time position for Custodial Services @ \$9,000. (presently being done by a PCO; former custodian passed away; part time position 10 hrs/wk; cleaning Embassy & Central Sq. Decks).Member Tom Magno abstained from page 2 (Traffic Personnel) of the budget.

- C. Indian Market traffic issues – The owner of the Indian Market (Moody & Spruce St) has been working to improve the parking situation on Spruce Street and the removal of his carriages' on the street and in our parking lots. In addition, he has introduced a flyer and will have an employee checking the street. We will continue to monitor this area and inform the Commission if any continual problems exist.
- D. Totten Pond Road Ice Rink Pedestrian Crossing – Update – Att. Phil McCourt has indicated that Boston Properties will be seeking permits in April to start work at this location.
- E. Forest Street at Beaver Street Relocation of Utility Poles – Update – Member Wires Inspector Kelly has met with Verizon. One pole is a simple transfer; the other will cost \$30,000 and Verizon may waive this cost. Mr. Kelly is in negotiations and will keep the Commission informed on the issue.
- F. Forest Street at Trapelo Road – Proposed Traffic Signal Update
The City's Law Department has determined that the Doty Street extension is a Private Way and may have an effect on the configuration of the signal. In addition, the State has yet to respond on whether the City can widen Trapelo Road on the north side (old Met State property). Will keep the Commission informed as to opinion from the State.

Adjourned @ 10:40 AM

Attendance: All members, except Chief Cardillo (Note: Mr. Tashjian Director CPW retired March 1). Mr. Diaz and Att. Michael Connors

Respectfully Submitted

Frank S. Lombardo
Clerk