

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 19, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M.**

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. 468 Main Street – Proposed Development

Attorney Robert Connors, Jr. is seeking approval to meet with our traffic consultant. Att. Robert Connors requested the Commission approve consultation with Mr. Diaz (G.P.I.) our consultant, relative to a proposed project at 468 Main Street (corner of Main & Newton Sts). **Voted to approve this request and tabled until a future meeting.**

B. 468 Main Street – Right Turn Lane on Newton Street

A request came from Committee of the Whole, Councillor Marchese to provide square footage needed on Newton Street to provide for a right turn lane onto Main Street. It was noted for Attorney Connors to be notified of this request and consider it to be part of the review for 468 Main Street. **Information Only.**

C. 110 Lexington Street – Proposed Development

Attorney Michael Connors is seeking approval to meet with our traffic consultant. Attorney Michael Connors reported that he has a proposal for this location, a “take out” service and is seeking permission to consult with Mr. Diaz (GPI). **Voted to approve this request and tabled until a future meeting.**

D. 475 Winter Street – Proposed Development

Attorney Phil McCourt is seeking approval to meet with our traffic consultant. Attorney McCourt has a proposed “fast food” restaurant proposal and seeking permission to consult with Mr. Diaz (GPI). **Voted to approve this request and tabled until a future meeting.**

E. Whitney Avenue Fire Lane – Clarification – Information Only

Clarified that the vote does not include that area known as Whitney Court. (The driveway from Spruce Street, north to Whitney Avenue)

2. TABLED ITEMS:

- A. Barbara Rd./ Chaffee Ave. – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk (11/09)
- B. Brookfield Rd. at Upton Rd. – Stop Sign (2/10)
- C. #306 Lexington St. – Driveway Opening (4/10)
- D. Lincoln St. at Sanderson Rd./Curve St. – Traffic Improvements (6/10)
- E. Spruce St. Parking Lot – Stone Wall (6/10)
- F. Connors Pool # 148 Newton St. – Proposed revision to vehicle access to site (6/10)
- G. Zone Change Request – Change in Policy (6/10)

H. Voted to remove from the table – 200-226 Moody Street – Proposed Development (9/10)

Attorney Joseph Connors, representing 200 Moody Street LLC, appeared on behalf of this proposed development that would demolish the existing building, and replace it with a four story retail, residential structure, with an underground garage. Commission Member Mr. Kelly, asked that mitigation includes replacing “mast arms” at Hall’s Corner (Moody, Pine Crescent). Mr. Diaz stated that he wants a final “addendum” to include Saturday traffic counts (11am – 2pm) before making any recommendations. **Voted to table for final review.**

I. Traffic Commission Policies (9/10)

J. Highland St. “Spur” between Hope Ave. & Curtis St. – Review traffic (10/10)

GPI, Mr. Diaz, after discussions with Councilor Logan, and a positive reaction from several residents, recommended that “No Right Turn” from Highland St “Spur” onto Curtis Street, be approved as a Traffic Calming measure. An advance warning sign will be erected at or near the beginning of the “spur”. **Voted to accept this recommendation and add the following to**

Add to - Schedule 14 – TURNS ONLY AS DESIGNATED

Highland Street (south section) All vehicles traveling eastbound on the Highland Street “ south Spur” approaching Curtis Street, MUST TURN LEFT (5/11)

K. Voted to Remove from the Table

Lexington St. at Glenmeadow Condominiums – Proposed Traffic Signal (10/10)

GPI, Mr. Diaz is recommending an option to restripe the northbound and southbound approaches of Lexington Street to provide a dedicated left turn lane and a shared through/right lane. This configuration should help to define the roadway lane usage and allow easier access and egress from the two minor approaches as entering vehicles will be queued in dedicated turn lanes and the exiting vehicles will only have to cross a single through lane on Lexington Street. **Voted to accept this recommendation and Lexington Street striped accordingly.**

L. 110 Bear Hill Road – Proposed Development (11/10)

M. Traffic Commission Policy – Revised Petition Policy (11/10) – In Law Dept.

No action taken and will be discussed when a full quorum is present. Mr. Magno stated that there is a need for a policy to deal with petitions and help eliminate some of the conflicts that have occurred with requests for changes. We need to determine the appropriate percentage of signatures required for such petitions.

N. Four-Way Stop Review (11/10) – In Law Dept.

O. South Street at Wheelock Road – Exclusive Left Turn Retiming 90 Day Trial (1/11)

Voted to make the signal timing changes permanent.

P. Review of Overnight Parking Enforcement Procedure – Letter to Law Dept. (2/11)

Q. Required Parking Spaces (2/11) – Review Law Dept. Opinion

R. South Street at Highland Street – Proposed Traffic Signal (3/11)

S. Ellison Park & Summer Street Area – Traffic Calming (Sp. 3/11)

T. Voted to remove from the Table - Albemarle Road – Pedestrian Safety (4/11)

GPI, Mr. Diaz noted traffic volumes and travel speeds were recorded on Friday April 22, 2011 from 12 noon till Wednesday April 27, 2011 9:00 AM. The data, collected by an ATR showed that Albemarle road carries minimal traffic with a total of between 400-450 vehicles per day, with southbound (55-60%) slightly larger than northbound. The 85% travel Speed Summary showed Northbound at 26 mph and southbound at 28mph. (Average speed was 19mph NB & 22mph SB). The slight difference in speed may be attributed to the downgrade of the southbound traffic. A suggestion had been made to make Albemarle one-way northbound in the section from Trapelo Road north to Ivaloo. Councilor Darcy was in attendance and was asked to have a neighborhood meeting (including Ivaloo residents) to get a consensus for this Traffic Calming measure. **Voted to table pending the results of the neighborhood meeting.**

U. Voted to remove from the table - South Street at Brandeis University – Change Pedestrian Signal (4/11)

Representatives from Brandeis, Mr. Ed Callahan, Director of Public Safety, Mr. Collins were present. It was explained that the Commission had received a request to make the pedestrian cross light “fully” actuated. Mr. Diaz explained the procedures needed if this crossing did qualify for such a light. Mr. Kelly inquired if Brandeis would consider a “strobe” “wig-wag” type light for installation. Mr. Callahan stated he needed to know the cost and that he would definitely consider such an installation. Mr. Kelly said he would help with a cost estimate and notify Brandeis as soon as possible. **Voted to place the item on file.**

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Parking Meter Report - revenues continue to be in line with last year.
- B. Totten Pond Road Ice Rink Pedestrian Crossing – Update
Boston Properties is seeking construction bids. Once a contractor is selected, then the permits will be pulled.
- C. Riverfest 2011 Update - As requested at the April meeting, the petitioner discussed their proposed plan with both the Police and Fire. Both departments gave their approval for Diagram A - Option 1.
- D. Sewer Projects: It was noted that presently there are several projects occurring that have some effect on Traffic
 - 1: Totten Pond Road – from Craig Lane east to Lexington Street
 - 2: Trapelo Road @ Belmont Line – westbound to the Waverley Oaks Road area
 - 3: Lexington Street – Lake Street south to YMCA drivewayPolice Department is monitoring and will inform the Commission of any serious problems.

Adjourned @ 10:45 AM

Attendance: Chief LaCroix and Mr. LaCrosse absent. Vice Chairman Vokey chaired the meeting. All other members, including Mr. Diaz (GPI) and Ms. Gerlach.

Attorney Robert Connors – 468 Main Street; Attorney Michael Connors – 110 Lexington Street
Attorney Joseph Connors – & Mr. Brian Beasal -- 200-226 Moody Street; Attorney Phil McCourt – 475 Winter Street.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank Lombardo
Clerk