

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: OCTOBER 16, 2014 AT 10:00 A.M.
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

**The Chair accepted a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.
Voted to accept the September 2014 Minutes**

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. 1019 Trapelo Road – Re-review of Special Permit

Attorney Phil McCourt is requesting a Re-review for a 1,000 sf fast food restaurant. Attorney McCourt explained the request is to reduce the size of the fast food restaurant from 1,500 square feet to 1,000 square feet and correspondingly increase the size of the retail space by 500 square feet to a revised size of 4,819. This minor change is not expected to change the trip generation by any significant amount. **Voted to accept the original traffic study, prepared by H.W. Moore and forward it to the City Council for their deliberations to issue a Special Permit.**

B. Lexington Street at Brookway Road – Audible Pedestrian Signal

Mr. Mark Johnson, Chairperson, Waltham Disabilities Service Commission is requesting that an audible pedestrian signal be installed for a resident of Chesterbrook Apartments who is legally blind. The Commission agreed that an audible signal be installed at this location and at the request of Wires Inspector Mr. Kelly five (5) other locations were identified as needing a signal. The Disabilities Service Commission will be asked to fund the installations at an expected cost of \$2,100. **Voted to approve and request the following six (6) locations have audible pedestrian signal(s) installed:**

- 1: Lexington Street @ Brookway Road**
- 2: Lexington Street @ School Street**
- 3: Moody Street @ High/Maple Streets.**
- 4: Moody Street @ Crescent Street (S. Jct.)**
- 5: Bacon Street @ School Street**
- 6: Main Street @ Prospect/Hammond Streets**

2. TABLED ITEMS:

- A. Highland St. “Spur” at Curtis St. – Removal of “No Right Turn” Restriction (9/12)(10/12)**
Waiting for Law Dept. opinion
- B. Ellison Park traffic issues (9/13) (10/13)**
- C. Main Street at Warren Street – Proposed Pedestrian Signal (10/13)**

Voted off the Table

D. Longfellow Rd. at Fairfax Rd. – Removal of 4-Way Stop (11/13) (3/14)(4/14)(9/14)

There is no further evidence to approve reinstalling the 4-way Stop at this intersection. None of the required warrants can be met. Seeking a traffic calming measure, T.E. Mr. Garvin recommended four new crosswalks (one across each leg). This requires CPW to install new wheelchair ramps in each corner of the intersection. Pedestrian warning signs will be installed facing traffic on Fairfax. Mayor McCarthy indicated that she supports this option and will work with Mr. Chiasson (Director of CPW) for funding. **Voted to approve the Traffic Engineer’s recommendations and have new crosswalks at the intersection of Longfellow Road and Fairfax Road, once wheelchair ramps are installed.**

- E. Lake St. at Princeton St. – Pedestrian Flashing Light (11/13)(9/14)**

- F. Lowell Street and Adams Street – Traffic Study (6/14)(9/14). The following three portions of this item were tabled at the September meeting. Voted off the table were parts 1 & 2 only:**
- 1: Lowell Street @ Myrtle Street – “bump-out”.**
 - 2: Lowell Street @ Brown Street – “bump-out”.**
 - 3: Lowell Street @ Washington Ave.– Opinion from MassDot - relocate existing crosswalk**

T.E. Mr. Garvin along with assistance from Deputy Fire Chief Richardson, a review was made for the possibility of having “bump-outs” at these locations. Fire apparatus cannot negotiate a “bump – out” at these locations. Mr. Garvin revised his recommendation and will have the stop lines moved closer to the intersection to improve sight distances. **Voted to accept the Traffic Engineer’s recommendations to move the stop lines and stop signs at Lowell/Myrtle Street and Lowell/Brown Street closer to Lowell Street. Part 3 Lowell Street @ Washington Ave. remains on the table.**

- G. Appleton Street – Reinstallation of No Parking Except. Sunday & Holiday (6/14)
- H. Villa Street between Summit and Cedarwood Aves. – Speeding Issues (9/14)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Parking Meter Report – revenue from last year down approximately \$56,000.
- B. Main St. at Newton St. and Main St. at Lyman./Heard Sts. – anticipate completion mid-December
- C. South Street at Highland Street – Design to be completed on or about November 1
- D. Spruce Street and Walnut Street Parking Lot Reconstruction – ready for bid in a few weeks
- E. Pay Stations – award was made to Ven Tek in May 2014; awaiting funding
- F. Crescent St. Parking Lot – Removal of two spaces. Due to dumpsters being collected, sign posts have constantly been knocked over in the area of Whitney Avenue in the Crescent Street Parking Lot. It was recommended to remove these spaces and paint No Parking with appropriate signage. **Voted to accept the Traffic Engineer’s recommendation and remove spaces 267/268 from the Crescent Street Parking Lot and post No Parking.**
- G. Beaver Street Detour – After a State inspection, the Beaver Street Bridge across the culvert at 135 Beaver Street was closed to all heavy vehicle traffic. A second, subsequent inspection resulted in allowing all traffic to flow westbound only. The bridge eastbound, will remain closed until repairs can be made. As a result the Traffic Engineer made a number of temporary adjustments to the traffic flow in the vicinity, including Waverley Oaks Road, Beaver Street, Linden Street. In addition, Signal timing adjustments were made to Beaver Street at Waverly Oaks Road, and Main at Linden Street. He will continue to monitor the traffic and make adjustments as needed. **Voted to approve the temporary action taken by the Traffic Engineer.**
- H. Gardner Street – No Parking. Traffic Engineering is requesting a No Parking zone on Gardner St., west side, from Taylor St. to a point 153’ south. This was brought to their attention by Treasurers office in regards to a ticket being issued. A site review did confirm that the signage is misleading and should be relocated to 10’ south of the fire hydrant. The issue is then that a driveway is located nearby as well, which will then add more footage to the No Parking zone. **Voted to approve this request and add to Schedule 1.**

AND ANY LATE FILED ITEM(S) THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION.

4: Late Item

A: Small Business Saturday – Free Parking

Councilor Logan appeared before the Commission to request free parking for Small Business Saturday, November 29, 2014 (Saturday after Thanksgiving). **Voted to approve free parking in all municipal parking lots, where a fee is required, on Saturday November 29, 2014**

Adjourned @ 10:33 AM

Attendance: Absent Chief Ciccone & Mr. Malone. All others present.

Mayor McCarthy, Councilor Logan and Longfellow Road residents.

Respectfully Submitted:

**Frank S. Lombardo,
Clerk**