

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: MAY 17, 2018 AT 10:00 A.M.**

Voted to accept the minutes of the April Meeting.

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. 411 Waverley Oaks Road – Proposed Crosswalk

Mayor McCarthy is requesting this crosswalk on behalf of Mr. James Mesthene, # 360 Waverley Oaks Rd., who is legally blind. Mr. Mesthene goes to many of the businesses, including his doctors in this plaza. A site visit in the area of 411 Waverley Oaks Road shows no sidewalk on the business (east) side of Waverley Oaks Road. There is a slight curve facing northbound traffic and a drop in elevation into the parking lot of 411 Waverley Oaks Rd. There is no appropriate location for an ADA ramp on the business side of the road. **Voted to table and have the T.E. Mr. Garvin review and see if another location can be found.**

B. Everett St. and Nathan Rd. – Improve One Way signage

Mayor McCarthy is requesting this to be reviewed on behalf of residents. In addition Councillor LaCava spoke of the many violations that are occurring at this location. **Voted to have Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin review and determine if additional or corrective signage is needed.**

C. Turner Street – Parking Regulations

Councillor Mackin is requesting 2 Hr. parking or Overnight Parking restrictions on this street. The parking appears to be near the condominiums located on the south side of the street. Presently, there are no restrictions in this area. It's possible this may be due to the daily commuters using the nearby MBTA. **Voted to table and have the Police Department check for 24 hour parking violations. The Traffic Engineer will review and make a recommendation amending the parking regulations if appropriate.**

D. South St. at Turner St. – Proposed RRFB

Councillor Mackin is requesting a Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon at this intersection. The Councillor recognized that presently there are two RRFB in the vicinity and another may not be appropriate. However, this is a heavy pedestrian crossing and should be reviewed. Member Ms. Cagle suggested that the Traffic Engineer review the entire "South Street corridor" (Brandeis University south to the Weston Town Line) for suggested pedestrian safety improvements. **Voted to table for the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin to review to entire corridor.**

E. Milton St. – Proposed Speed Hump

Councillor Mackin is requesting a Speed Hump on this street. Milton Street is a "Public Way" for a short distance (Stow Street to #31 Milton St. approximately 240 feet). Mr. Ryan Devane, # 32 Milton St. stated that recent reconstruction and repaving has exasperated the problem. **Voted to table this item and have the Traffic Engineer conduct a speed study and attend a neighborhood meeting to discuss options.**

F. South St. btn. Charles River Rd. and Weston Town Line – Proposed Safety Island

Councillor Mackin is requesting a safety island to reduce speeding. Mayor McCarthy is also in support of this item. **Voted to table this item and include it as part of the entire "South Street corridor" study under Item 1D.**

G. Bright St. at Grove St. – Intersection Study

Councillor LaCava is requesting a study of the intersection to make it safer for both vehicles and pedestrians. Councillor LaCava has requested consideration for a RRFB, bigger crosswalks and more signage. Mayor McCarthy also supports a safety study. **Voted to table and have the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin review and make a recommendation.**

H. Bright St. – Proposed 25 MPH Speed Limit

Councillor LaCava is requesting a review to determine if Bright St. can be posted 25 MPH. Member Mr. Kelly asked for “white line” parking lanes to be painted. Mayor McCarthy also supports this request. **Voted to table and have a Speed Study**

I. Massasoit St. at Bright St. – Proposed No Idling signs

Councillor LaCava is requesting No Idling signs where Waltham Lumber trucks park. The Councillor is requesting assistance in enforcing MGLA Ch.90; sec16A Idling Motor Vehicle over 5 minutes (\$100. Fine). The Councillor also stated the Waltham Lumber has posted their own sign stating No Idling before 6AM which is confusing. The Mayor is also in support of this request. **Voted to have the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin post the appropriate signage for trucks in the area of Waltham Lumber 71 Massasoit Street.**

J. Main St. at Rose Hill Way – Proposed Crosswalk

Councillor LaCava is requesting a crosswalk on Main St. for pedestrians to access Warrendale neighborhood. Members of the Commission agreed that this is very long distance for a crosswalk and it needs to be carefully reviewed. Also, Mayor McCarthy is in support of this request and asked for the School Safety Officer to be involved in this review. **Voted to table and have the Traffic Engineer and School Safety Officer review for a recommendation.**

K. Waltham Day 5K Road Race

Ms. Margaret McCullough is requesting permission to hold this event on Sunday, September 16th at 10:00 AM. This race will be switching name to “Shoppers’ Café 5K”. **Voted to accept the Police Department recommendation and forward it to the Mayor’s Office for consideration and a permit to issue.**

L. 34 Charles St.- Proposed Disabled Parking Space

Ms. Sally Bimbo, is requesting a Disabled Parking Space in front of her home. **Voted to approve this request and amend Schedule 6 Disabled Parking:**

Added: Charles Street, South Side, 1 space, In front of #34 (TC05/18)

2. TABLED ITEMS:

Voted to remove items 2I – Lowell Street @ Ash St

2K – Tomlin/Prentice/Irving/Prospect Hill Rd.

2L – Lincoln Street

2N – Hovey Road

A. Highland St. “Spur” at Curtis St. – Removal of “No Right Turn” Restriction (9/12)(10/12)(5/16)(6/16)

B. Valet Parking in Downtown Area (11/15)

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

D. Trapelo Road at Waverley Oaks Road – Proposed Right Turn Lane (4/17)(5/17)

E. Main Street at Newton Street – Proposed Right Turn Lane (4/17)(5/17)

F. Trapelo Rd. at Pine Vale Rd. – Proposed Intersection Improvements (9/17)(10/17)

G. 48 Pine St. – Crosswalk Safety Improvements (9/17)(10/17)

H. Cabot St. Area – Traffic Calming Measures (10/17)(12/17)

I. **Lowell St. at Ash St. – Traffic Calming Study (2/18)** Councillor Harris was unable to make this meeting and asked for this item to be re-table. **Voted to Table**

J. Totten Pond Rd. at Veterans Memorial Ice Rink – Proposed Traffic Signal (2/18)

K. **Tomlin/Prentice/Irving/Prospect Hill Rd./Dale – Proposed 25 MPH Limit (3/18)**

Traffic Engineering found the 85% speed on all the streets in both directions was 30 MPH. The exception was Prospect Hill Road south of Elson Road where the speed was recorded to be 34 MPH. The policy for 25 MPH of narrow roadway, limited sight distance, high driveway density or unusually high crash rate has not been met. However, a traffic calming element may be introduced for the Wayside Rail Trail that will cross Prospect Hill Road; a raised crosswalk with an RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons). This will have an effect of slowing traffic at the point with the highest speed. **Voted to table item until the June meeting, when discussion of the Rail Trail is expected to be on the agenda.**

L. **Lincoln St. – Traffic Calming (3/18)**

Councillor Fowler, was unable to make this meeting and requested the item be re-tabled. Mayor McCarthy spoke and requested the School Safety Officer be asked to review the walking route for children attending the Kennedy Middle School. She requested input for the best choice to install sidewalks. Sidewalks are needed before a recommended crosswalk is created. **Voted to re-table and have the School Safety Officer review the walking routes.**

M. Eddy St. – Proposed Heavy Commercial Truck Restriction (4/18)

N. **Hovey Rd. – Proposed Traffic Study regarding Whittemore School (4/18)** At the request of Councillor Harris this item was re-tabled. A new procedure for the afternoon pick-up time has caused the queue to extend along Parmenter Road southerly, to beyond Ash Street. This interferes with traffic operations in the intersection for five to ten minutes around 3:00 PM. Other options need to be discussed. Mayor McCarthy spoke about this issue and believes we should move the drop off to Hovey Rd. Member Cagle wants data showing that the school is supporting children walking to school. The Traffic Engineer has suggested a neighborhood meeting, to include Councillor Harris and discuss alternatives with the drop-off and pick-up procedures. A vote can then be taken at the June meeting for any changes to take effect in September, the start of the next school year. **Voted to table and organize a neighborhood meeting to be reported back at the June meeting.**

O. High St. at Parmenter Rd. – Proposed RRFB (4/18)

P. Moody St. at Alder St. – Proposed RRFB (4/18)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Parking Meter Report Meter collections have increased by \$17K over last year at this time.

B. Main St. and Moody St. Sidewalk Project – Update. Mr. Kelly and Mr. Garvin are to review missing guide signs. At the June Traffic Commission meeting, a list of remaining signs will be presented for vote.

C. Request to purchase Lift Gate Truck for Sign and Paint Shop. Approval is needed to request a purchase of a Ford F450 4x4 Crew Cab Stake Truck with Lift Gate and portable compressor. The truck is needed to replace the existing 2001 Ford F350. Anticipated cost is \$60,000. And the portable compressor is \$6,500. **Voted to approve this request**

D. Request to purchase Pickup Truck for Traffic Engineering Office. Approval is needed to request the purchase of a Chevy Colorado 2WD Crew cab Pickup Truck that will replace a 2000 Ford Taurus that was surplused in 2014. This vehicle will be used by both the paint crew and the parking meter division. Anticipated cost is \$27,000. **Voted to approve this request**

E. Forest St. RRFB – Update

Councillor Romard attended the meeting and disagreed with the conclusion recommended by the Traffic Engineer concerning the location of the RRFB. The existing crosswalk crosses the southerly leg of the intersection of Harrington Road and south side of the access road to the Veterans Field. The recommendation is to keep the existing crosswalk; construct new ramps and install RRFB at the southwest corner and southeast corner of the intersection. This location is in line with the path that pedestrians actually take to cross Forest Street. An existing tree in the southwest corner of the intersection must be removed because when it is in full bloom it obstructs visibility of approaching vehicles. Mayor McCarthy voiced her concerns for the safety of student crossing; neighbors want the RRFB. The alternative option to move (or add) a crosswalk to the north of the intersection had little support. The present existing crosswalk is the most favorable choice and the RRFB must be easily accessible if it is to be used. **Voted to keep the existing crosswalk; after CPW constructs new HP ramps, install RRFB's at southwest corner and southeast corner of intersection.**

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

4A: Request to Purchase 6 new Pay Stations

Traffic Engineering is requesting permission to request the purchase of six (6) new pay stations; five (5) to replace Ventek machines at the Embassy Lot; and add one (1) new solar powered unit on the upper deck between 48 Pine Street and the Embassy Theater. Total request will be \$70,000. For installation, software, hosting fees and cellular connection. **Voted to approve this request**

4B: Bow Street Post No Parking

In order to maintain the area for public use, the Director of Consolidated Public Works, Mr. Michael Chiasson, is requesting No Parking at the end of the paved portion of Bow Street (approximately 291 feet north of Trapelo Road), City owned property. **Voted to direct Traffic Engineer to study parking regulations on Bow Street, and report back to the Traffic Commission.**

4C: Lexington St. – Proposed Crosswalk

Member Kelly is requesting a mid-block crosswalk on Lexington St. opposite # 163. Now that City offices have moved into this building the public and employees are crossing Lexington St. to access the building. **Voted to table and have Traffic Engineer study this area.**

Adjourned@ 11:56 Am

Attendance: All members; Mayor McCarthy; Councillors Mr. J. LaCava, Mr. D. Romard, Mr. R. Leblanc and Ms. K. Mackin; Mr. James Mesthene, Mr. John Meyers, Ms. Sossy Sarkuissian; Ms. Laura Maicine; Ms. Elizabeth Moy; Ms. Christine Montgomery; Ms. Martha Creedon; Ms. Janet pizza; Ms. Margaret McCullough; Mr. John Allen.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank S. Lombardo
Clerk

Date of the Meeting: May 17, 2018

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Jeannette A. McCarthy	610 Main Street	1A – 1B – 1G – 1H 1I – 1J - All	Mayor of Waltham
Joey LaCava	11 Kenmore	G - J	Councillor
James Mesthene	360 Waverley Oaks Rd	1D	Petitioner
John Meyes	58 Milton St	1E	Abutter
Sossy Sarkissian	23 Lisa Lane	RRFB Forest Street	Petitioner
Laura Maicne	78 Harrington Rd	RRFB Forest Street	Petitioner
Elizabeth May	15 Bright St	G - J	Resident
Christina Montgomery	123 Bright St	G - J	Resident
Martha Creedon	751 South St	I - F	Resident
Daniel Romard	291 Dale St	I - F	Councillor
Janet Pizzi	370 Forest St	RRFB Forest Street	Resident
Randy Leblanc	21 Linden Circle	Forest St	Councillor
Margaret McCullough	46 Midland Dr	Shoppers Café Road Race	
John S. Allen	7 University Park	South St-	Resident
Kristine Mackin	12 Wheelock	South & Turner	Councillor
Menishe Sluh	17 Assabet Dr. Westborough	South & Turner	30 Turner St