

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
TO BE HELD: JUNE 20, 2013 AT 10:00 A.M.  
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

**1. PETITIONED ITEMS:**

**A. Rezoning Petition for Land at Seyon St. and Grove St.**

Ron Muller & Associates have submitted a Traffic Impact Study for this proposed rezoning as required by our guidelines. Mr. R.J. O'Connell, Developer for the proposed rezoning and Mr. Ron Muller Traffic Engineer and Consultant attended the meeting. It was explained that the Zone change being requested is to change the area of Grove Street at Seyon from Residence A4 to Residential B. T.E. Mr. Garvin agreed the proposed change only adds 2 family residential. All other allowed projects are equally the same under Residence A4 the present zoning. The change to 2 family zoning, maximum allowable, would not have a significant effect on traffic. If the proposed zone change is accepted by the Council, the Traffic Commission will not have to comment on a proposed project, that is built under existing Zoning, unless a Special Permit is required. The intersection of Grove/Seyon/Gore operates at LOS F and will continue at this level. Volumes and safety issues will not change. **Voted to accept the traffic study, prepared by Ron Muller & Associates, summarizing the impacts of the highest density development that would be allowed under the requested zone change, which is not permitted under existing zoning.**

**B. # 110 Charles St. – Proposed Handicap Parking Space**

Ms. Judith Diblasi, # 110 Charles St. is requesting a Handicap Parking space in front of her residence. Ms. Diblasi attended the meeting and explained the difficulties of getting a parking space. Mr. Mark Johnson, Disability Services Commission also recommended approval for a space. **Voted to approve 1 space in front of #110 Charles Street.**

**C. Barnyard Bingo Festival – Street Closing**

Friends of Saint Jude is seeking permission to close a portion of Waverley Oaks Road between Beaver St. and Linden St. This is for their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Barnyard Bingo festival being held on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013 from 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>. Lt. Cavallaro reported that Police will be present, it is expected that there will be 200-400 Participants and there have been no detrimental past incidents. **Voted to approve the closing of Waverley Oaks Rd Saturday October 5, 2013 11am to 5pm.**

**D. Fourth of July Celebration – Street Restrictions**

The Mayor's office will be holding the fireworks event on Friday, July 5. **Voted to approve the parking restrictions and street closures starting at 3:00 PM Friday July 5**

**E. Movie Production – 14 Church St.**

Warner Brothers is requesting permission to use on-street parking on Church St., use of the Church St. parking lot and parking for movie crew at the Central Square Parking Deck. No written proposal had been submitted and Traffic Engineering did not have sufficient time to submit a report. Mr. Jeremy Fiske, Warner Brothers Movie Productions, requested approval for July 22 thru 24. A movie is being made and 14 Church Street is being used "a Police Station". Production trucks and personnel (approx 100 people) have need of parking. Concerns for City employees (Wires Department and IT Services), merchants and patrons who will be displaced were discussed. The lot on the north side of 14 Church Street is needed for production vehicles. Shuttle parking from McDevitt Middle School will be utilized as well as St. Mary's parking lot. The Commission had insufficient details to vote on specific measures. **Voted to have the T.E. Mr. Garvin review proposals and authorized him to act on the appropriate steps needed to comply with the request.**

## **2. TABLED ITEMS:**

- A. Smith Street at Trapelo Road – Change in Lane Use (9/11)
- B. High St. at Newton St. – Traffic Signal Changes (3/12)
- C. Highland St. “Spur” at Curtis St. – Removal of “No Right Turn” Restriction (9/12)(10/12)  
Waiting for Law Dept. opinion
- D. 60 Turner Street – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk (11/12)
- E. Taxi Stands – Additional Spaces (3/13)

**The following two items – Voted to remove from the Table.**

**F. Columbus Ave. Speed Study (5/13).** Traffic Engineering reported the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed to be 34 MPH for both east and west bound vehicles. Any request for a Speed Permit should be at 35 MPH. The section qualifies as being in a “Thickly Settled” zone which has an advisory speed signs of 30 MPH. Installing warning signs will not alter this behavior in a meaningful way. Councilor Waddick, who attend the meeting, urged the Commission to post the street with the “Thickly Settled” and 30 mph warning signs. The street is a major “cut through” to avoid Main Street, it is narrow and has authorized on-street parking. Member Mr. Kelly agreed with the Councilor and also stated that the warning signs are needed. **Voted to approve two yellow “Thickly Settled” and two “30 MPH” signs (one in each direction) on Columbus Avenue.**

## **G. Closing Doty Street Neighborhood Traffic Impacts (5/13)**

T.E. Mr. Garvin was asked to conduct a study of the likely impacts to the surrounding neighborhood streets if Doty Street (Forest St. to Trapelo Rd.) is closed to traffic. Closing the street would create a more safe traffic condition. A “cut through” route might be selected if it is perceived that it will save time over the normal route. A “cut-through” using Alderwood Rd was found to be 2-3 seconds longer during “off-peak hours” and 15-20 seconds longer during “peak hours”. It would appear not to be a viable alternative to the traffic signal at Forest/Trapelo Road.

The matter of closing Doty Street appears to have some confusion on the residents’ part and has not been present to the Board of Planning & Survey. For the residents to request this street be one-way to southbound traffic, which is preferred they will need to petition the Commission. They will review and determine if we have jurisdiction over this “Private Way”. **Voted to Re-Table.**

## **3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- A. Parking Meter Report . Annual totals are down slightly
- B. Forest Street at Trapelo Road Update – Information Only  
Roadway to be near completion in July; signal installation in August
- C. Main St. at Newton St. and Main St. at Lyman./Heard Sts. Update– Information Only  
Taking Order is with the Mayor’s Office and will go before the Council in June 24.
- D. Lyman Street at Summer Street – Traffic Signal Study (5/12)(12/12)  
Land is being surveyed to locate a possible mast arm
- E. Transportation Master Plan (12/12)  
91 intersections have been identified for traffic counts and Traffic Engineering will attempt to “outsource” the project which may cost up to \$40K -\$50K

- F. Moody Street Loading/Unloading Zones (5/13) – Update in Sept.  
Numerous parking violations are occurring although no evening truck parking for loading or unloading has been noted. Traffic Engineering will continue to monitor.

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

**4: 3 Pearl Street Handicapped Parking Space**

A request from Mr. Alexander Proia 3 Pearl has been received. Upon review and also with the recommendation of Mr. Mark Johnson, Disability Services Commission, the Commission approved this request. **Voted to have 1 HP space in front of #3 Pearl Street.**

**Adjourned 2 11:16 AM**

**Attendance: All members except Fire Chief Ciccone (FF Funeral)**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Frank S. Lombardo,  
Clerk**

Off Committee Speakers

## Waltham Traffic Commission

Date of the Meeting: June 20, 2013

Please Print

Name of Speaker	# Street, City	Affiliation i.e. Attorney - Abutter Interested party - Petitioner	For/Against Item No:
Jeremy Fiske		Warner Bros	1E
Robert Waddick	129 Church Street Waltham, MA	Councilor Ward 6	2 F
Ron Muller	56 Teresa Rd Hopkinton, Ma	RMA Traffic Engineering	1A
Brian McCarthy	80 Montvale Ave Stoneham, MA	R J O'Connell	1A
Robyn Nyderian	110 Charles Street Waltham,	Petitioner	1B
Jeanie Scafidi	3 Pearl Street Waltham	Petitioner	4