



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION
140 MAIN STREET
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

Traffic Commission

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 10:05 a.m. in City Council Committee Room, City Hall. Members present: Chairman Police Chief Mark Leonard, Vice Chairman - DPW Commissioner Ronald LaFreniere, Fire Chief David Adams, City Clerk Lisa M. Thomas and City Planner Nancy Savoi. Also present: City Engineer Thomas Cullen, Timothy Collins, Engineering Division, City Councilor Ed Clancy, Code Enforcement Officer Pam Wilderman and Deborah Fairbanks from Renaissance Lofts. Minutes taken by: Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

1- Minutes

That the minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of February 24, 2009.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To APPROVE.

2-New Business

2d. Crosswalk on Lincoln St. near Winthrop St. – Artist Lofts

Pam Wilderman exhibited a copy of the approved site plan for this area with a crosswalk indicated at a certain location. The request is to now install the sidewalk in a new location. The Chief indicated that the original idea behind the crosswalk was that building occupants would be using the parking lot across the street. Pam indicated that the best place for the crosswalk, with the least damage to the existing sidewalk, would be at the curb cut that already exists at the driveway on each side of the street. She asked if this would be an appropriate location. DPW Chief Lafreniere indicated that he does not believe that it is necessary to modify the sidewalks to put in the crosswalk. The real issue is to put the crosswalk where it is best suited to accommodate the anticipated use. Pam also brought up the issue as to whether the crosswalk needed to be handicap accessible.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to refer to the Engineering Dept. to come up with a suitable location for the crosswalk and refer back at the next meeting.

To APPROVE.

2a. Communication from Jeff Niedzwecki, re: Speeding concerns on Stevens St. near Rte. 20.

Chief Leonard acknowledged that this is a difficult spot and that it is really an enforcement issue. The question came up as to whether the existing signage is appropriate. Chief Lafreniere believes that there is a white 20mph speed limit sign there. City Councilor Clancy stated that the main problem is with heavy trucks at this location. He also stated that when the light turns green cars speed down the hill to make the light.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly voted to refer the issue to the Police Department to enforce the legal speed limit and to the DPW to ensure that the proper signage is in place.

To APPROVE.

2b. Communication from First Student, re: Grant of Authority for on-site traffic and parking rules/regulations at their Hayes Memorial Site.

Chief Leonard advised that he will have to look at this more closely. He does not feel that much action is necessary at this site. He did not think that there were any “mandatory movements” required as part of the special permit.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to refer to the Police Department and the Engineering Department as to what may be required at this site.

To APPROVE.

2c. Proposed July 2009 Marlborough Triathlon.

Chief Leonard had a meeting today with the Mayor to discuss the triathlon. A follow-up meeting will be held at the end of April. The scheduled date is Sunday, July 26, 2009. The organizers anticipate approx. 600 participants. It looks like it will be a well attended event for the City. Traffic issues are expected to be minimal. A portion of the Causeway may need to be closed for a short time as the participants transition from the water to the bike portion. The Chief just wanted to bring this to the attention of the traffic commission at this point.

City Councilor Clancy expressed concern that the road race will be taking place in his ward and this is the first that he has heard about it. Chief Leonard advised that the planning stage for the race is just picking up and that we only received confirmation of the date this morning.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To REMOVE – does not involve Traffic Commission at this point.

3-Old Business

3f. Communication from Joe Camar, re: Traffic concerns on Donald Lynch Blvd. near Sports Authority store.

Tom Cullen and Tim Collins addressed this issue. There are not a lot of options for this site. They showed an aerial photo of the site indicating the turning radius of a large

truck. The turning radius is too large to make a U-turn at the light at Best Buy. A few different options were brainstormed. Chief Lafreniere suggested a possible “reverse direction jug handle” at Target. This would be a safer option than crossing several lanes of traffic to make the turn at present.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE for now.

3g. New School Zone and crosswalk regulations.

Tom and Tim advised that the signage is almost all installed. It had not been completed at the High School because the crosswalk has not yet been constructed. Emergency Preamble for 3 new school zones and Emergency Preamble for the new crosswalk were reviewed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly voted:

To APPROVE the two new Emergency Preambles.

Chief Leonard advised that the Police Department can now start enforcing the new speed limit at these locations. They would start by warning violators that the new speed limit signs are in place.

Additional item brought up – Tim Collins advised that last Saturday he saw another large truck at the Walgreens location blocking traffic. He had previously noticed two smaller trucks making the delivery indicating that they were trying to comply with the request to not block the road. Chief Leonard has also noticed the smaller trucks making deliveries. The Chief advised that he will talk to Captain Naze and have him touch base with the distributor again.

3a. Long term oversized vehicle ordinance.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

3b. Municipal off street parking regulation.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

3c. High School parking regulations.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE

3d. Request to review parking pick up/drop off on Stevens St. at rear of MIES (Stevens near Oakcrest) and request for school zone signage (and use of in-street pedestrian crossing signs.)

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
To TABLE.

3e. Communication from Barbara McGann, re: Request for school zone on Forest St. near AMSA Charter School.

MOTION was made, seconded, and duly VOTED:
To TABLE

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen L. Lambert - Records Clerk, MPD