

CITY OF MARLBOROUGH MEETING POSTING

Meeting Name: Traffic Commission

Date: October 27, 2015

Time: 10:00am

Location: Memorial Hall, City Hall

Agenda Items to be addressed:

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CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
2015 OCT 21 A 9 57

- 1) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
- 2) NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Communication from Councilor Elder, re: Beach St. speeding concerns.
 - b) Speeding concerns, vicinity of 682 Elm St.
 - c) Speeding concerns, Chestnut St.
 - d) Traffic blocking intersection on East Main St. at Hosmer St.
 - e) Request for parking restriction exemption at 71 Maplewood Ave.
 - f) Traffic concerns, New St. at Granger Blvd.
- 3) OLD BUSINESS
 - a) Municipal off street parking regulation.
 - b) High School parking regulations.
 - c) Stop signs on Bigelow St.
 - d) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.
 - e) Towing vehicles from municipal lots for snow removal.
 - f) Communication from Janet Vigeant. Re: Brigham St. traffic concerns.
 - g) No parking regulation, Williams St.
 - h) Traffic pattern, parking deck behind City Hall.
 - i) West Hill Rd. traffic counts.

THE LISTING OF TOPICS THAT THE CHAIR REASONABLY ANTICIPATES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE TOPICS THAT WILL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. NOT ALL TOPICS LISTED MAY IN FACT BE DISCUSSED, AND OTHER TOPICS NOT LISTED MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.



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

DRAFT

Traffic Commission Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Tuesday, September 25, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Committee Room, City Hall. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief Mark Leonard, DPW Commissioner John Ghiloni, Fire Chief Kevin Breen and City Clerk Lisa Thomas. Also present: City Engineer Evan Pilachowski and Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins. Minutes taken by: Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Tuesday, August 25, 2015.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
TO APPROVE.

2 – New Business

2a) Spring Street traffic and speeding concerns.

A resident of Spring Street expressed concerns about speeding and Spring Street being used as a cut through. He offered his driveway as a “speed trap” location and also asked about the possibility of making Spring Street one-way or making the intersection of Spring and Frye a four way stop. Currently there are stop signs on Frye but not Spring.

Tim Collins passed out a GIS map of the area for reference with Spring Street highlighted and the lights at the corner of Elm Street and Pleasant Street indicated. Chief Leonard advised that officers have been up in this area for speed enforcement as this issue has

come up before. This street is used as a cut through as cars try to avoid the light at Pleasant and Elm. It was discussed that this is the “nature of the street”.

Tim Collins noted that the traffic on this road would not meet the warrants for a four way stop at Frye. The “peak hour warrants” call for at least 300 cars in one hour. It was noted that the speed on Spring is posted at 20 mph. It is a narrow road with no sidewalks and is thickly settled. The traffic counters are currently being used on West Hill Road.

It was discussed that making this street one way would just move the traffic onto Frye Street. Chief Leonard advised that this is not something that would be done. Fire Chief Breen asked how many electronic speed boards we have. It was discussed that there are two that are working and we try to keep one on each side of the city. There is currently one on Williams Street.

Tim Collins noted that there will eventually be two permanent electronic speed signs on Farm Road that will reflect your travel speed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement.

2b) Speeding concerns on Williams Street near courthouse.

Chief Leonard received a phone call regarding this issue. The caller’s dog was hit by a car in this area. Chief Leonard advised that the new crosswalk and advance warning signs have been installed, however, he wanted to check to see if any other signs were missing. This is now really an enforcement issue. The speed board is currently out on Williams Street.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement.

Chief Leonard requested a suspension of rules to discuss an additional new business item not on the agenda. – All in favor.

Parking Garage Issue – (Garage behind City Hall)

Melissa Irish, Planning Board Secretary, sent an e-mail on this issue to Chief Leonard. She described a close call with a head on collision as she was trying to back into a parking spot on the lower level. Another vehicle entered the garage and “immediately took the hard left to access the ramp for the lower level parking.” The other driver was “not looking as the driver was scouting for a parking spot.” She mentioned how the lower level had 2 access points. She is asking if it would be possible to make one a down only ramp and one an up only ramp.

Chief Leonard agreed that it is “a little blind here”. Lisa Thomas gave an example of an incident she had here and also says she understands the concern and that it is “definitely tight”. Lisa Thomas questioned if anyone would actually follow it if the Traffic Commission were to make a change here. The first level appears to be the only problem area.

Tim Collins said that the benefit of making the change is that if it is posted as "Do Not Enter" and you do enter and then cause an accident, you are definitely at fault. Chief Leonard asked the group for their thoughts. Fire Chief Breen mentioned "striping". This would at least give a visual that you need to keep to the right. It may help the driver to understand that vehicles could be coming from the opposite direction. Chief Leonard agreed that if the line were extended you would have a visual on the turn. Engineering advised that they would look into the issue and make a recommendation relative to striping or signage.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for review and recommendation.

3-Old Business

3h) Minutes from July Meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
To ACCEPT and PLACE ON FILE.

3g) Communication from Janet Vigeant Re: Brigham St. traffic concerns

This issue is still pending. Evan Pilachowski advised that that the traffic counts should be completed next week. There is nothing that can be done until that information is available. Tim Collins added that counts were done here before but it was determined that Engineering would do them again to see if anything has changed.

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

3i) Request for restricted parking for buses during certain hours on Newton Street near the parking garage.

Chief Leonard prepared the regulation to add the specific time limit parking restriction for bus parking only. The Traffic Commission voted to verbally approve the regulation at the last meeting. Tim Collins advised that he had also talked to the sign crew and passed out a diagram of the area, a GIS photo of the same, specifics for the regulation and examples of proposed signage. Engineering suggested green signs with "permissive parking for buses" rather than the red signs for "restrictive parking". Hopefully the signage will be installed in the next few days.

Tim Collins also advised that he updated the "downtown map". He took out the landscape island on Main Street and added the 4 new parking spots that were gained. He also added the four new bus parking spots. The original map was given to Lisa Thomas to keep in the Clerk's office. Tim Collins advised that he would send an electronic copy to the Traffic Commission.

Chief Leonard advised that he will revise the wording on the regulation to reflect "for bus parking only" as he had not included this. He will add this under the heading of "Time Limit". He will make the change and send it to Lisa Thomas for advertising.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to APPROVE the regulation as amended. All in Favor.

3e) Towing vehicles from municipal lots for snow removal.

Commissioner Ghiloni advised that he is still working on this issue.

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

3b) High School parking regulations.

Chief Leonard advised that he would like to get this signage completed. This item has been carried on the Agenda for a very long time. We need to align what is actually there with existing regulations and figure it all out. He mentioned that the new Principal at the High School has asked about closing the back gates. It was discussed that "years ago" the School Committee granted a "Right of Authority" to the Traffic Commission to have control over this area. The Traffic Commission does not want the gates closed and has the authority to make the proper regulations.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to review the regulations and advise,

3f) Communication from Jan Keith, re: Hemenway St./Wilson St. traffic concerns.

Tim Collins advised that there have been complaints of speeding and accidents here. He asked the Police Department for a 5 year accident history. Over the 5 year period, only two accident occurred and they were not related to speed. He also asked Dave O'Malley for a history on hydrants being damaged in the area. Tim Collins was advised that there were no repairs made to any hydrants there.

He passed out a GIS map and a photo of Hemenway Street at its intersection with Wilson Street and included speed limits and a proposed Advance Warning Sign "showing the geometric configuration along with an Advisory Speed Limit for the intersection". This type of sign (advisory) would not require a regulation or advertisement. It could just be put up.

He also suggested moving the Stop Sign away from the street sign so as to make it more clearly visible that there is a separate street there. Chief Leonard also said that officers have also been sent to do directed patrols in this area.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the DPW to install the signs as recommended by Engineering. All in Favor.

3c) Stop signs on Bigelow St.

Evan Pilachowski advised that they are still waiting on the pole for the electronic speed sign. It was also discussed that later the Traffic Commission would have to vote to

remove the regulations for the Stop Signs. The Blackboard Connect System could be used to advise the community. Temporary signage would also be helpful so that people will realize that Bigelow Street does not stop, something to the effect "through traffic does not stop". This will have to stay in place until people become familiar with the change.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE until pole comes in.

3d) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.

Tim Collins advised that he still needs to put this information into the proper format.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

Farm Road Update (Not on the Agenda)

Evan Pilachowski advised that they are getting close to installing the traffic signal on Farm Road. It will begin as a flashing light and then change to active. Residents will be informed as to when this will occur. He advised that the Traffic Commission will need to make a regulation for the new lights. He also noted that there will probably be some new crosswalks on Farm Road that will need to be regulated. Tim Collins advised that he will bring this information and also information on exclusive turn movements onto Broadmeadow Road to the next meeting.

3a) Municipal off street parking regulation.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

3j) No parking regulation, Williams St.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:39 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert
Records Clerk
Marlborough Police Department

List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

-Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, September 22, 2015. (Including City of Marlborough Meeting Posting.

- E-mail from Nicholas Milano to Chief Leonard, dated 8-26-15, Re: Spring Street traffic and speed.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from 7-28-15.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from 8-25-15.
- Amended regulation to add the commuter bus parking area on Newton Street.
- E-mail from Melissa Irish to Chief Leonard, dated 8-19-15, Re: Parking Garages.

Additional Handouts:

- GIS map of Hemenway Street/Wilson Street Intersection along with photo and proposed Advance Warning Sign.
- Diagram of proposed commuter bus parking area on Newton Street in front of Parking Deck along with GIS map of the same, language for the new parking restriction and proposed signage.
- GIS map of the Spring Street area.

Mark Leonard

From: Matt Elder <matt.elder@i9sports.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 7:11 PM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: Speed bumps on Beach St

Chief Leonard,

With all new development in the area, Beach St is becoming a real drag strip. Would the city be able to consider adding those small speed bumps on that street, like on Berlin Rd?

Please let me know!

--

Matt Elder
Program Director
PO Box 464
Marlborough, MA 01752
Customer Service: 508-305-2103
Weather Hotline: 508-784-2110
www.i9sports.com

Fax: 508-624-6938

From: Giorgis_Isaac@waters.com [mailto:Giorgis_Isaac@waters.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2015 4:58 PM
To: Mark Leonard <mleonard@marlborough-ma.gov>
Subject: Request for stop sign at 628 Elm St. and Millham St.

Dear Mark Leonard;

My name is Giorgis Isaac and I live in 628 Elm street Marlborough, MA. I have **four** kids below the age of **five** living in 628 Elm street. The street is really dangerous as there is no pedestrian buffer zone between our drive way or front lawn and Elm street. Given the age of our kids, my wife and I, are kindly requesting for a stop sign on both ways of Elm street in front of 628 Elm street. I would be happy to meet with you to explain the situation in detail or to let me know how to proceed with the case. Please see below for the map of the street.

Thank you for your consideration,
Giorgis

Giorgis Isaac, PhD
Principal Scientist
Pharmaceutical Business
Operations

Waters
THE SCIENCE OF
WHAT'S POSSIBLE.*

[tel] +1-508-482-3177

[tel] +1-508-482-4056

[url] www.waters.com

[email] giorgis_isaac@waters.com



Waters Corporation
34 Maple Street
Milford
MA 01757
USA

Mark Leonard

From: Giorgis_Isaac@waters.com
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 9:22 AM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: RE: Request for stop sign at 628 Elm St. and Millham St.

Dear Mark;

Thank you so much for your reply and your consideration. It would great if you can put the request on the upcoming Traffic Commission meeting for discussion and their consideration. Is the meeting open to the public? How do I know my request is on the agenda?

Regards,
Giorgis

Giorgis Isaac, PhD
Principal Scientist
Pharmaceutical Business
Operations

(T) +1-508-482-3177
(F) +1-508-482-4056
(W) www.waters.com
(E) giorgis_isaac@waters.com



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Waters Corporation
34 Maple Street
Milford
MA 01757
USA

Mark Leonard ---09/16/2015 05:13:12 PM---Mr. Isaac, I can put this item on an upcoming Traffic Commission meeting agenda, however the Traffic

From: Mark Leonard <mleonard@marlborough-ma.gov>
To: "Giorgis_Isaac@waters.com" <Giorgis_Isaac@waters.com>,
Date: 09/16/2015 05:13 PM
Subject: RE: Request for stop sign at 628 Elm St. and Millham St.

Mr. Isaac,

I can put this item on an upcoming Traffic Commission meeting agenda, however the Traffic Commission is not going to install a stop sign where the traffic conditions do not meet the warrants, pursuant to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). It is unlikely that the warrants at this location would be met. I will ask for directed speed patrols in this area, and you can feel free to call me at your convenience to discuss this further (I am out of the office the rest of this week, but will be back in on Monday).

Sincerely,

Mark F. Leonard
Chief of Police
Marlborough Police Department
355 Bolton Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
Office: 508-485-1212 x6974

Mark Leonard

From: Marcia Josephson
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 12:31 PM
To: Mark Leonard
Cc: Patricia Bernard; Evan Pilachowski
Subject: 53 Chestnut St Arman Aghaminz Howland & Chestnut

Hi,

In the below email item #3, Arman Aghaminz of 53 Chestnut Street expressed safety concerns for the 4-way at Howland St. & Chestnut St. He would like Traffic Commission to have a discussion on speed bumps.

Have a great day,

Marcia A. Josephson

Administration/Engineering
Department of Public Works
135 Neil Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
Tel. 508.624.6910 x33200
Fax: 508.624.7699
email: mjosephson@marlborough-ma.gov

From: Patricia Bernard
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 10:06 AM
To: Marcia Josephson
Cc: John Ghiloni; Nicholas Milano
Subject: 53 Chestnut St-numerous issues

Hi Marcia,

- 1) Mr. Arman Aghaminz stopped in from 53 Chestnut. He's complaining about his trash not being picked up continuously. The recyclables have been picked up without issue and he can't understand why the garbage truck has an issue. He leaves his trash on Howland St. and today the truck came down and did the opposite side early before construction started and did not finish even though he had time to finish.
- 2) Mr. Aghaminz also sent an email to someone in your department and got a response "not my department" instead of forwarding the email to assist him with regards to his trash issue.
- 3) Is it possible to put a speed bump in at the intersection of Howland and Chestnut streets because cars go through the four-way stop sign continuously? He feels it's a dangerous intersection. Not sure if this is a legitimate issue and should be addressed at Traffic Commission?
- 4) Recently they were paving one of the roads in the area and cars were still going through because there was no Police detail and he wondered why there was no detail? There was no one that was in the area to stop the vehicles.

He said he preferred to come to City Hall rather than post negative comments on Facebook.

His number is 781-330-9205 but said he doesn't require a call back.

Trish Bernard
Executive Secretary
Office of the Mayor
City of Marlborough
508.460.3770

I received an anonymous call from someone who complained about all of the debris left on the sidewalk, street and shrubs from the accident that occurred around midnight or early this morning. She told me that the Tow company was called by DPW this morning but it still was not picked up this afternoon.

Secondly, she would like to know if the MPD can monitor the speed since it is the second accident in two weeks.

Thank you.

Trish Bernard
Executive Secretary
Office of the Mayor
City of Marlborough
508.460.3770

Mark Leonard

From: Patricia Bernard
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 12:10 PM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: FW: Constituent Issues
Attachments: Attach0.html

Hi Chief,

See request below:

Thanks.

Trish Bernard
Executive Secretary
Office of the Mayor
City of Marlborough
508.460.3770

From: MarlboroughMA_MayrCommnt [mailto:MarlboroughMA_MayrCommnt@ma.virtualltownhall.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 12:08 PM
To: Patricia Bernard <pbernard@marlborough-ma.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Constituent Issues

Request From: David Wolfe
Email: dkwolfe@comcast.net
Source IP: 76.118.171.212

Address: 12 Avalon Dr Apt 10
City: Marlborough
State: MA
Zip: 01752-3573
Phone: (508) 481-3601
Organization:

I am constantly being held up exiting on to Rt 20 at the Hosmer Street lights due to vehicles racing to beat the traffic lights blocking the intersection. Can signs be added "do not block intersection" indicating a fine. Other cities and towns have done this. Common throughout Europe.

Mark Leonard

From: Pamela Wilderman
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2015 8:53 AM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: FW: Parking variance for 71 Maplewood Ave.

Mark...can we discuss at the next traffic commission meeting?\

Pamela A. Wilderman
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Marlborough
140 Main Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
508 460-3765
508 460-3736 (fax)
pwilderman@marlborough-ma.gov

From: Cindy Durand [mailto:smoke2cindurs@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 3, 2015 1:05 PM
To: Pamela Wilderman <pwilderman@marlborough-ma.gov>
Subject: Re: Parking variance for 71 Maplewood Ave.

I am sending this e-mail in response to our conversation of Oct. 2. My partially disabled husband and I take care of his 92 year old father. Up until this year we had the pleasure of parking at a neighbors' driveway in the winter. They have recently sold their home and leave us no place to park our second vehicle. We are looking for a variance to allow us to park in front of our driveway for the winter.

We look forward to hearing from you about our situation. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely, Cindy Durand

Mark Leonard

From: Lisa Thomas
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 10:32 AM
To: City Council; Elizabeth Jalonski; John Ghiloni; Karen Lambert; Kevin Breen; Korriane Bardsley; Mark Leonard; Mayor; Nicholas Milano; Patricia Bernard; Paul Valianti; Steven Kerrigan; Susan Blaisdell; Timothy Collins; Timothy Naze; Wilson Chu
Cc: Lisa Thomas
Subject: Traffic Flow on New St. & Granger Blvd.

Good morning Chief,

Can you please add to our next Traffic Commission Agenda the following two pronged item for New St. and Granger Blvd:

- Addressing traffic flow on election days
- Continue discussions pertinent to the same on non-election days

Steve Kerrigan conveyed to me the strategy your office used yesterday afternoon to ease traffic flow and he is stated that there was a noticeable difference. Thank you Chief for assistance yesterday.

Lisa M. Thomas
Marlborough City Clerk
www.marlborough-ma.gov
508-460-3720

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Mark Leonard

From: Patricia Pope
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2015 11:10 AM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: RE: New Street Traffic Concern - Traffic Commission Oct. 27 Agenda

Chief:

I do believe much of the issue that Councilor Oram is concerned about was the Candidates with Signs standing on both sides of New St blocking the line of site. There was a police detail later in the day and we probably will need to have one for the next election especially since it will be dark.

I have not received any complaints from people leaving the Center. When I leave in the evening typically between 5pm and 6pm I do not have an issue making a left onto Granger Blvd.

Trish Pope
Executive Director
Council on Aging and Senior Center

40 New Street
Marlborough, MA 01772
508-485-6492
508-460-3726 Fax
ppope@marlborough-ma.gov
www.marlborough-ma.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: City Council
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2015 9:47 AM
To: Trish Pope; Patricia Pope
Subject: FYI: New Street Traffic Concern - Traffic Commission Oct. 27 Agenda

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Leonard
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 8:11 AM
To: Mark Oram
Cc: Sara Corbin; City Council
Subject: RE: Update from Sara - Call - Councilor Oram

Councilor Oram,

I have put this item on the October 27th Traffic Commission agenda for discussion.

Mark F. Leonard
Chief of Police
Marlborough Police Department
355 Bolton Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
Office: 508-485-1212 x6974

Fax: 508-624-6938

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Oram [mailto:markoram@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2015 8:04 AM

To: Mark Leonard <mleonard@marlborough-ma.gov>

Cc: Sara Corbin <scorbin@marlborough-ma.gov>; City Council <citycouncil@marlborough-ma.gov>

Subject: Re: Update from Sara - Call - Councilor Oram

Hello Mark

This is a concern of safety and please note that it needs to be addressed before as soon as possible.

Please see my previous correspondence on near misses on pedestrian and vehicle accidents.

Thank you, Mark

Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 7, 2015, at 1:12 PM, City Council <citycouncil@marlborough-ma.gov> wrote:

>

>

>

> From: Sara Corbin

> Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:26 PM

> To: City Council

> Subject: RE: Call - Councilor Oram

>

> The Traffic Commission did look at one concern regarding the traffic at New Street at its July 28, 2015 meeting (New Business Item 2f). I've attached the email that got it on the agenda and the minutes from that meeting. Although I'm not sure it is exactly the same traffic concern that bothered Councilor Oram.

>

> Sara

>

> From: City Council

> Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 11:04 AM

> To: Sara Corbin <scorbin@marlborough-ma.gov<mailto:scorbin@marlborough-ma.gov>>

> Subject: RE: Call - Councilor Oram

>

> They cannot do the group order any longer, due to open meeting law issue. I will forward you two emails. It may be resolved now. I will follow up about the order.

> KB

>

> From: Sara Corbin

> Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 9:08 AM

> To: City Council

> Subject: Call - Councilor Oram

>

> Karen,

>

> Councilor Oram called yesterday afternoon from the corner of New Street and Route 20 and commented it is an accident waiting to happen, not only on election day but any daily use of the senior center. He would like it brought to the attention of the Police Chief and Traffic Commission. He would also consider a Council Order examining the safety of the area as cars come too fast down the street. He would welcome any Councilors to join him on the order.

>