



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting of February 25, 2010

The Traffic Commission held its regular monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 25, 2010, at the Brockton Police Station, 7 Commercial Street, Brockton, MA 02302. Present were Captain Leon McCabe, Chairman, and Commission members Councilor Paul Studenski, Councilor Todd Petti, Marshall Papineau, Chief Richard Francis, and Kenneth Goldblatt.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Captain McCabe. Upon motion made by Marshall Papineau, seconded by Paul Studenski and a unanimous vote of all members present, it was voted to waive reading and accept the January Minutes.

WESTON STREET

After Subcommittee review, the Commission members discussed the request to restrict parking to resident parking only from Pleasant Street to Baxendale Avenue. Captain McCabe stated that the Commission needs to limit the number of “resident only” parking areas and instead continue the enforcement aspect to make sure people are parked legally. Captain McCabe indicated that he had discussed the situation with Councilor Tom Monahan, who was in agreement. Marshall Papineau and Kenneth Goldblatt indicated that they understand the neighbor’s complaint about not being able to park in front of her own house, and suggested that the Red Cross be notified to post notices so that people taking classes at their center would be more careful where they park.

Upon motion duly made by Paul Studenski, seconded by Marshall Papineau, and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To continue with traffic enforcement and monitoring of the area.

ENTERPRISE STREET

After Subcommittee review, the members discussed the request to have the “no parking” restriction on Enterprise Street rescinded. Chief Francis noted that there are signs on Enterprise Street about 20 to 30 feet back from the corner and if the restriction is lifted it would be difficult for emergency vehicles to make the corner. It was unclear whether the signs were “No Parking” or “No Parking Here to Corner”. Captain McCabe indicated that allowing parking on both sides of the street would cause the same problem as it is a narrow street. Chief Francis suggested that parking should be limited to the east side of the street.

Upon motion duly made by Captain McCabe, seconded by Paul Studenski, and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To install “No Parking” signs on the west side of Enterprise Street and to install “No Parking Here to Corner” signs on the east side Enterprise Street at the corner of Emerson Avenue.

SPRING STREET and GLENWOOD STREET

After Subcommittee review, Captain McCabe indicated that the accident history for that location from January 1, 2008 to the present indicated a significant number of accidents and that a 4-way stop sign would be appropriate, as it is a bad intersection. Marshall Papineau suggested that “Stop Sign Ahead” signs also be placed before the intersection, but the members decided to place the stop signs and see if additional signage is needed in the future.

Upon motion duly made by Kenneth Goldblatt, seconded by Marshall Papineau and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To install two (2) additional Stop Signs on Spring Street at Glenwood Street, one for eastbound traffic and one for westbound traffic.

LINCOLN SCHOOL LOT

Captain McCabe indicated that Councilor Thomas Monahan has been receiving complaints that cars are using the Lincoln School as a cut thru to go from Ellsworth Street and while Captain McCabe and Councilor Monahan were viewing the site, they witnessed cars cutting through the parking lot. Councilor Studenski confirmed that he also was aware of this situation. Councilor Petti suggested installing a jersey barrier, but Captain McCabe indicated that this would create a public safety hazard if emergency vehicles needed to get to the school. Captain McCabe suggested that “Not A Thru Way” signs be installed to keep cars from cutting through, and that traffic enforcement could then stop violators and ticket them.

Upon motion duly made by Kenneth Goldblatt, seconded by Todd Petti, and unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To install three (3) “Not a Thru Way” signs at the entrances to the Lincoln School: one at the Ellsworth Street side, one at the Highland Street side, and one at the Newbury Street side.

Captain McCabe notified the Commission members that he had received a letter from the law firm of Babanikas, Ziedman & King requesting written confirmation as to whether the eastbound land located on Oak Street, specifically between the address of 350-370 Oak Street is a single-lane road traveling in one direction or a double-lane road traveling in one direction. The information is requested in conjunction with a motor vehicle accident occurring on September 29, 2006. Captain McCabe obtained a map of the area from the Department of Public Works, which was reviewed by the members.

Upon motion duly made by Captain McCabe, seconded by Councilor Todd Petti, and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To send correspondence to the law firm of Babanikas, Ziedman & King enclosing therewith the map provided by the Department of Public Works.

Councilor Todd Petti requested an update on the status of the Mary E. Baker School. Captain McCabe stated that weather had prevented the curb cut and that a petition had been presented by parents of students at the school requesting that the “No Parking, Standing or Stopping” signs be removed or tickets not be issued in that area, and that a decision had been made by the Commission at last month’s meeting to enforce the parking restrictions as it was a matter of public safety for the students.

Councilor Petti requested an update on the status of the Manthala George School and Captain McCabe informed him that everything is going well now. While there are still some complaints from neighbors, the Commission is satisfied that the traffic situation has been properly addressed and that any disruption to the neighborhood lasts only about one half hour.

Captain McCabe notified the Commission members that he had received a communication from George Bezreh of the School Department regarding the flashing school zone lights at the Kennedy School, which are currently inoperable. Captain McCabe also noted that the Arnone School lights were flashing at 3:00 a.m. and that there is a problem with the lights at West Junior High School. Captain McCabe would prefer to have the maintenance work done by the Fire Department personnel, and not renew the contract with an outside company. Chief Francis indicated that he is checking with Peter Tupper, who is compiling the information regarding the number of flashing school zone lights and the repair costs. Councilor Petti asked how and when an outside company was hired to do the work, and had the Traffic Commission voted on it. Captain McCabe explained that the work had gone out to bid through the Procurement Office and that the contract had been in place for a number of years and was expiring in June, and that was what prompted him to look at doing the work through the Fire Department and seeing if there could be a cost savings. Kenneth Goldblatt inquired as to whether the City could purchase its own equipment and

do the line painting rather than hire a private company and Captain McCabe explained that he had researched that and there are in excess of 325 miles of road and it would be impossible for the City to do it without hiring someone.

Upon motion duly made by Captain McCabe, seconded by Kenneth Goldblatt and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To continue the matter until the next meeting for a report from Chief Francis and Peter Tupper.

There being no further business to come before the Traffic Commission, upon motion made by Kenneth Goldblatt, seconded by Councilor Todd Petti, and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Florio, Secretary to the Traffic Commission

[Draft pending approval of Traffic Commission]