



**BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of March 25, 2010**

The Traffic Commission held its regular monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 25, 2010, at the Brockton Police Station, 7 Commercial Street, Brockton, MA 02302. Present were Captain Leon McCabe, Chairman, and Commission members Marshall Papineau, Chief Richard Francis, Kenneth Goldblatt, D.P.W. Commissioner Michael Thoreson, and Councilor Todd Petti. City Councilor Chris MacMillan appeared on behalf of his constituents on several issues.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Captain McCabe.

Upon motion made by Marshall Papineau, seconded by Chief Francis and a unanimous vote of all members present, it was voted to waive reading and accept the February Minutes.

Several visitors appeared at the meeting under the belief that the situation at the Manthala George School and Colonel Bell Drive would be discussed. Present were Harold and Kathryn Cupples of 231 Colonel Bell Drive and Susan Doyle of 233 Colonel Bell Drive. Captain McCabe explained that he had received a call on Tuesday at 4:45 p.m. from their representative, Eric, who stated that he wanted the issue put on the Agenda for this meeting. Captain McCabe explained to him that the Agenda had already been established and published, and that it was too late to be heard at this month's meeting. Councilor Chris MacMillan spoke with Mr. and Mrs. Cupples and Ms. Doyle and explained to them that he is their Ward Councilor and that he would be happy to meet with them to discuss the issues, and invited them to attend his Ward meetings also. As the matter was not going to be heard, Mr. and Mrs. Cupples and Ms. Doyle left the meeting and indicated that they would contact Councilor MacMillan.

**CONTRACT FOR FLASHING SCHOOL ZONE LIGHTS**

Captain McCabe informed the Commission members that we currently pay \$1,700.00 per month for an outside contractor to monitor and maintain the flashing school zone lights. The current contract expires June 30, 2010. Currently, Captain McCabe said the custodians have been checking the lights and reporting any malfunctions to him, at which point he calls the contractor. He believes it is practically impossible for the contractor to monitor 48 school lights on a regular basis. In an effort to save expenses, request was

made for the Fire Department to undertake a study to determine whether they could assume these duties and be paid on an overtime basis. Chief Francis received a report from Peter Tupper, and the Fire Department has declined the offer to take over the duties on a regular basis, but that they would respond to emergency situations and make repairs then. Peter Tupper recommended that the School Department and Building Department electricians be contacted and Captain McCabe has made a preliminary inquiry to them. Lights would need to be adjusted at certain times of the year for daylight savings time, and the week before school starts and after school finishes for the year. Discussion was held regarding the need to contact the unions and the Law Department to determine how to negotiate the duties. Captain McCabe indicated that his impression was that the electricians could be called much in the same way police details are called; they would do the work on an overtime basis and then payment would be made through the Traffic Commission budget. Commission Thoreson inquired as to whether any special training would be required and Captain McCabe indicated that although most of the equipment is old, repair and maintenance should not be difficult for the electricians and less repairs will be needed as the old lights are replaced with the new solar lights.

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

**VOTED: To pursue the issue of using City employees by contacting the Law Department, the Department Heads and the appropriate union liaison and representatives.**

**WINTER STREET AND NORTH CARY STREET STOP SIGN**

Commission members discussed the removal of the Stop Sign by the State Highway. Marshall Papineau expressed concern that the sign was removed. Commissioner Thoreson questioned whether there was a crosswalk there and whether there was still a need for the Stop Sign where there is a traffic signal. Captain McCabe stated that he feels that the blinking yellow light coming up Cary Street to the Fire Station should be a blinking red light, and that there should be a Stop Sign there. He has received several complaints from Mr. Tatelbaum, a resident of that area, and Captain McCabe has given him the contact information for State Highway District 5. Captain McCabe stated that the original study should be reviewed again to see if the light could be changed back to red and put the Stop Sign back, and Commissioner Thoreson indicated that he would follow up with the issue.

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

**VOTED: To refer this matter to the next meeting for an update.**

### **CLARENCE STREET**

Councilor MacMillan stated that he had received a complaint from a resident of Clarence Street about cars parking along the street. Captain McCabe said Ernie Bethoney went to the street and found five cars there; Captain McCabe sent an officer there on Tuesday, who found five cars, ran all of the plates and all but one belonged to residents of the street. Captain McCabe went there himself on Wednesday around 10:00 a.m. and there were about 8 cars, but still plenty of parking available. Some of the old “No Parking” signs on the east side of the street were replaced, but Captain McCabe does not see a parking problem there. Councilor MacMillan stated that the residents feel that the problem is at the very end of Snell Avenue closest to Montello Street and at the end of Clarence Street. It appears that there is a gray pickup truck and a blue Infiniti that keep rotating between the streets and parking there all day while using the commuter rail. One of the individuals actually left a note to the homeowner stating that if there is any damage to his car, the homeowner will be held responsible. There have been confrontations between the vehicle owners and the homeowners. Councilor MacMillan is not necessarily in favor of more restricted parking areas, but feels that something should be done so that homeowners are not threatened. Kenneth Goldblatt questioned whether the Commission has a right to take action against the vehicle owners as it is a public street and they do have the right to park there, and Marshall Papineau agreed.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Thoreson, seconded by Marshall Papineau and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

**VOTED: To refer the matter to traffic enforcement for monitoring and to table the matter at this time.**

### **BELMONT STREET**

With regard to the issue of the BAT bus stop on the Belmont Street side of Brockton High School, Captain McCabe informed the Commission members that as part of the State Highway project coming off the highway on Manley Street, this area has been pinpointed as a problem and they will pay for the redesign and revisions. The project should be done within a year to a year and a half. Marshall Papineau agreed that this is a problem area and has himself seen an accident between a bus and a car, when the high school kids were being dismissed.

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

**VOTED: That no further action is needed on this issue.**

**TERMINAL PLACE**

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski that “No Parking” signs be re-installed on Terminal Place.

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

**VOTED: To refer the matter to Subcommittee review.**

**GARFIELD STREET**

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski that Garfield Street be restricted to resident only parking from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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

**VOTED: To refer the matter to Subcommittee review.**

There being no further business to come before the Traffic Commission, upon motion made by Marshall Papineau, seconded by Kenneth Goldblatt, 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]