



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting
December 9, 2010
7:00 P.M.

The Traffic Commission held its combined November/December meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2010, at the Brockton Police Station, 7 Commercial Street, Brockton, MA 02302. Present were Captain Leon McCabe, Chairman, and Commission members Fire Chief Richard Francis, Kenneth Galligan, Paul Sullivan, D. P. W. Commissioner Michael Thoreson, Councilor Paul Studenski and Councilor Todd Petti. There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Captain McCabe.

Upon motion made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Paul Studenski, and a unanimous vote of all members present, it was voted to waive reading and accept the October Minutes and the Minutes of the November 10, 2010 Special Meeting.

MANTHALA GEORGE SCHOOL

Request from the residents in the vicinity of the George School to have a School Zone flashing light posted at the corner of Colonel Bell Drive and Tucker Drive.

Captain McCabe said that he and Subcommittee members Ken Goldblatt, Chief Francis and Ken Galligan discussed this issue and it would be in violation of the rules and regulations from the state regarding having a school zone flashing light outside of the school zone area.

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

VOTED: to take no action on this matter.

151 COPELAND STREET - 151 HAYWARD AVENUE

Request that a section be added to an existing guardrail at 151 Copeland Street

NOTE: Ken Galligan noted that the proper address for this request is 151 Hayward Avenue rather than Copeland Street.

Captain McCabe said that a while ago the Commission had requested from the Law Department an opinion on the liability issues if rocks/boulders were added to people's lawns rather than placing guardrails, and it was suggested that a follow up letter be sent to the Law Department. Captain McCabe felt that it would be much less expensive to have the rocks and they are more attractive than the guardrail. Ken Galligan questioned whether it would be better to have the homeowner make a request to the Department of Public Works to put boulders on their front yard, so that the Traffic Commission is not putting them there, but the D.P.W. is fulfilling a request from the homeowner.

Commissioner Thoreson and Ken Galligan stated that they have had this issue come up in the past and there are houses where boulders have been placed. Paul Studenski and Captain McCabe both stated that in this instance the house has been hit in the past and a large tree in the front yard was hit. Commissioner Thoreson was concerned that the City would be liable and requested that the issue be referred to the Law Department for a determination. Ken Galligan questioned whether the City requested to put boulders on a resident's yard if that would be different than if the homeowner requested from the City that if there are any boulders available that they be placed on the homeowner's property. It would be decided that a letter would be drafted to the Law Department and it was suggested that it be made clear that the boulders would be placed only for safety reasons and not for decorative reasons.

Upon motion made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Paul Studenski and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: to take no action on this matter.

FIELD STREET

Request to make the section of Field Street on the east side of Montello Street designated as resident parking only 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Captain McCabe and Ken Galligan viewed this site and determined that there are no residents on that portion of the street and it appeared that the few cars parked there were visiting the bar in that vicinity.

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

VOTED: to take no action on this matter.

274 SUMMER STREET

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski on behalf of resident Carmina Rocha of 274 Summer Street to have a guardrail installed at that location.

Captain McCabe stated that the Commission members view the site and it is a bad location and there are legitimate concerns, but the members recommended handling the situation in the same manner as the request for Hayward Avenue.

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

VOTED: to take no action on this matter while awaiting an answer from the Law Department.

As a point of information, Todd Petti asked whether the boulders would be placed about every three feet so that the smallest of compact cars cannot get through it. Captain McCabe indicated it would be something to that effect and Todd Petti said they should be placed close enough so that a “smart car” cannot get through it. Chief Francis responded that a “smart car” would turn away and go a different direction.

Captain McCabe commented that a benefit of the boulders would be that if they get hit, they would be okay while if a guardrail gets hit it would be damaged and would be costly to repair.

RAYMOND ROAD AND CRICKETT ROAD

Request from Councilor Chris Macmillan that a 4 way Stop sign be added to the intersection of Raymond Road and Crickett Road.

Captain McCabe did a review of that area and there have been no accidents recorded at this location for the past two years. Captain McCabe suggested starting with double stop signs rather than a 4 way stop.

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

VOTED: to place two additional stop signs for northbound and southbound traffic on Raymond Road at Crickett Road (Note: do not create a 4 way stop).

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

VOTED: to approve a painted “Stop” line at Rainbow Circle and to add a Stop sign for northbound traffic on Rainbow Circle.

BAKER SCHOOL – QUINCY STREET

Request from Captain McCabe that there be no parking allowed on the west side of Quincy Street from Court Street to approximately 121 Quincy Street;

Captain McCabe indicated that the curb cuts have been removed to allow traffic to move around the school and traffic flows around the school. All traffic coming out of the east side of the school takes a right turn; and the other exit is for traffic taking a left turn. If you leave the school and head south on Quincy Street the view would be blocked if there are cars parked on Quincy Street so a determination was made that for safety purposes “No Parking” signs should be added to Quincy Street from Court Street to 121 Quincy Street.

Upon motion made by Todd Petti, seconded by Paul Studenski and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: to add “No Parking” signs on Quincy Street from Court Street to the vicinity of 121 Quincy Street.

NORTH MAIN STREET

Requests from Captain McCabe for North Montello Business Association as follows:

1. to have one (1) hour parking on the east side of North Main Street from Ames Street to Field Street;
2. to have two (2) hour parking on both sides of North Main Street from Ames Street southerly to 658 North Main Street.

Captain McCabe met with the Business Association and the members said that the one hour parking in that area is not consistent and that people living in that area take all of the street parking spaces and then there is no parking available for store customers.

Upon motion made by Paul Studenski, seconded by Chief Francis and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: to make one (1) hour parking on the east side of North Main Street from Ames Street to Field Street; and

to make two (2) hour parking on both sides of North Main Street from Ames Street southerly to the vicinity of 658 North Main Street.

NORTH MAIN STREET at WILLOW STREET

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski that a crosswalk be restored on North Main Street in the vicinity of the Washburn Heights development or Willow Street.

Councilor Studenski indicated that people cross the road there to go to the store and the crosswalk is needed for safety reasons.

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

VOTED: to establish a crosswalk on North Main Street in the vicinity of the Washburn Heights development and/or Willow Street. (This location to be placed on the list for spring 2011 painting)

CONCORD STREET and NORWOOD STREET

Request from Officer William Healy, as Community Police Officer, that “Caution Children” signs be placed on Concord Street and Norwood Street.

Captain McCabe viewed the area and noted that Norwood Street does not appear to need any additional signs: there is one heading westerly at #101 Norwood Street and there is one headed easterly at #37 Norwood Street. On Concord Street there is a sign at #194 Concord Street northerly; at #52 Concord Street southerly there is a sign and at #10 Concord Street southerly there is a sign. There is also an old sign that should be replaced at #136 Concord Street headed northerly. After Officer Healy gave the list to Captain McCabe, Officer Healy and Frank Gazerra viewed the area and notified Captain McCabe that there were plenty of signs already there.

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

VOTED: to take no action except to replace one old “Caution Children” sign in the vicinity of #136 Concord Street.

TERMINAL PLACE

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski to have “No Parking Here to Corner” signs on both sides of Terminal Place and to have the signs placed about 100 feet in from the corner.

Councilor Studenski indicated that the two vehicles cannot make the swing in to Terminal Place; Councilor Studenski has gone to the area every day and it is the same three vehicles parked there, from early morning to late in the day.

Ken Galligan recalled that previously the Commission had voted to put No Parking on Terminal Place on the south side, so that this request would be on the north side one hundred feet in from Montello Street.

Upon motion made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Paul Studenski and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: to refer the matter to Subcommittee review.

SEAVER STREET

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski on behalf of Councilor Tim Cruise that Seaver Street be made one way east to west from Ash Street to Moraine Street

Paul Studenski stated that Councilor Cruise has been receiving a lot of telephone calls from people who live on Seaver Street and in that immediate area about the amount of traffic since the new light was put in at Moraine Street and Pleasant Street.

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

VOTED: to refer the matter to Subcommittee review.

(After much discussion on the intent of this request, Paul Studenski offered to contact Councilor Cruise to determine the exact area that he wants made one way and the purpose of his request.)

GREEN STREET

Request from Councilor Tom Monahan to have “Resident Only Parking” signs installed on Green Street from where the parking meters end to the intersection with Warren Avenue.

Captain McCabe stated Councilor Monahan indicated to him that the parking spaces for people who live in that area are being taken up by people going to the Neighborhood Health Center and now that there is stricter enforcement of parking violations in the downtown area, those spots are filled up very quickly.

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

VOTED: to refer the matter to Subcommittee review.

MAIN STREET

Request of the Campello Businessmen's Association to have One Hour parking on the west side of Main Street from 995 Main Street southerly to South Street.

Captain McCabe met with the Campello Businessmen's Association and they requested the one hour parking to make the area consistent. Ken Galligan questioned why the east side of Main Street was not included and Captain McCabe indicated that the Businessman's Association did not feel that side was a problem and there is 15 minute parking there now. Ken Galligan asked whether the area from Benner's north to Calmar Street was already posted and Captain McCabe indicated that it was limited to fifteen minute parking and they did not want to change that area. Captain McCabe indicated that all of the business owners in the area in the Business Association are in favor of this request.

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

VOTED: to restrict parking to one (1) hour parking on the west side of Main Street from #995 Main Street southerly to South Street.

MAIN STREET

Request from Parking Authority Executive Director Robert Malley to have the Traffic Commission clarify the parking restrictions in front of the Public Library as there are "One Hour Parking" signs and meters for the same location.

Captain McCabe viewed the area and noted that it appears that the meters were there at one time, then were removed and the 1 hour parking signs were installed. Later, the meters were put back in place, but the one hour signs were not removed. No members had any historical knowledge of any other reason why the signs remained there. At the present time, it is confusing for patrons as there is signage and meters at the same location. Ken Galligan questioned whether there is any issue if cars park there for several hours later in the day when the meters are not in use, and the consensus was that it would not pose a problem.

Upon motion made by Todd Petti, seconded by Chief Francis and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: to remove the One (1) Hour Parking signs from the area of Main Street in front of the Library to the vicinity of the YMCA.

10 CENTRAL SQUARE

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski on behalf of Ellen Factor to have a Handicapped Parking spot designated in front of 10 Central Square.

Councilor Studenski stated that Ms. Factor is a very nice lady who is handicapped and requested that a handicapped spot be designated near her home. She actually enters through Warren Avenue but cannot park there.

Upon motion made by Paul Studenski, seconded by Commissioner Thoreson 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 Commission, upon motion duly made by Todd Petti, seconded by Paul Sullivan and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

VOTED: To adjourn.