



**BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
MARCH 24, 2011**

The Traffic Commission held its monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2011, at the Brockton Police Station, 7 Commercial Street, Brockton, MA 02302. There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Captain McCabe. Present were Commission members Paul Sullivan, Kenneth Goldblatt, Kenneth Galligan, Councilor Dennis DeNapoli, Councilor Todd Petti, D.P.W. Commissioner Michael Thoreson, as well as Ward 4 Councilor Paul F. Studenski, Brockton Police Officer William Healy, and residents Paul Girard and Scott Dwyer.

Upon motion made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Dennis DeNapoli, and a unanimous vote of all members present, it was voted to waive reading and accept the February, 2011 Minutes.

*As Paul Girard of 660 North Main Street was attending the meeting to discuss the Terminal Place issue, Captain McCabe took this new business item out of order.*

**NORTH MAIN STREET**

Request from Councilor Chris MacMillan on behalf of Paul Gerard from the Professional School of Bartending located at 660 North Main Street to have the “Two Hour Parking” signs removed from that area. Mr. Girard requested the removal of two “Two Hour Parking” signs on the west side of North Main Street from Vine Street south. One is in front of the empty lot at 662 North Main Street and the other one is in front of the building at 658 North Main Street. Mr. Girard said that these signs went up recently. Mr. Girard’s wife operates the Brockton Professional School of Bartending and her classes run 3 1/2 to 4 hours, and the two hour parking is a real problem. Captain McCabe asked how many parking spaces are there, and Mr. Girard said from Vine Street down to 658 North Main Street there are probably 6 or 7 spaces, and Captain McCabe indicated he felt maybe 4 or 5 spaces as you cannot park within 20 feet of the corner and there are driveways there also. Mr. Girard said that he can put two cars in front his building and at least two more in front of the corner lot and three in front of the Dwyer building, and he would like to try to keep one of those spots open for that business. Captain McCabe stated that the Montello Business Association through Officer Bill Healy came to the Traffic Commission requesting changes in that area, and assured him that everyone in the Montello Business Association was for the suggested changes, and he followed their recommendations and the Committee voted to put the Two Hour Parking signs up. Captain McCabe stated that

businesses like Dwyer Glass don't want the parking spaces in front of his business tied up for 3 to 4 hours at a time. Mr. Girard stated that Dwyer does have one parking space there and he has a small parking lot beside his building that is for his customers. Captain McCabe asked Mr. Girard if he has a parking lot and Mr. Girard stated that his parking lot has 2 parking spaces for each of the apartments in the building.

Ken Goldblatt asked what the school hours were, and the Commission was informed that there are classes during the day from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and then again from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 or 10:00 p.m. and on Saturdays also. Captain McCabe asked if Mr. Girard was invited to the Montello Business Association to discuss this issue and Mr. Girard said that they are members but did not attend that meeting and so the first they knew about this was when the signs went up. Mr. Girard said that he had a conversation with Mr. Dwyer at the Montello Business Association meeting 3 weeks ago, and that Mr. Dwyer understood their position and their predicament but he would rather not have the signs come down. Mr. Girard stated that it is a real hardship for their business and they bring a lot of people into Brockton and they need to have parking close by.

Captain McCabe indicated that they were going on the recommendation of the Montello Business Association and Mr. Dwyer, who is the President of the Association. Ken Galligan stated that there is unrestricted parking on the west side of North Main Street from the south driveway of Dwyer Glass to Upland Road and also on the east side of North Main Street from St. Edith Stein Church to the U-Haul business. He asked why the students couldn't park in those spots and Mr. Girard stated that they could certainly do that but if the intent was to enhance the businesses in that area then in this particular case it is not an enhancement but a detriment to their business. He appreciates the Montello Business Association's efforts and concerns about parking, but there has never been a parking issue in his area in the 20 years he has been there and he would request that the signs be removed. The congestion is further up on North Main Street.

Captain McCabe stated that the goal was to help the businesses and now that the Commission is aware that Mr. Girard's business is being hurt by it, the Commission will take that under advisement and review the issue. At the same time, they don't want to hurt Mr. Dwyer's business to help Mr. Girard's business. Mr. Girard said that if there were parking issues in his neighborhood he would like them resolved for the good of the neighborhood as he would like to see that this neighborhood continues to improve.

Councilor DeNapoli asked when the next Montello Business Association meeting is scheduled, and stated that he will go as a representative of the City Council and Traffic Commission and discuss the issue with them and then the Commission would have a better understanding of the situation. Mr. Girard said that the next meeting would be the first week of April.

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

**VOTED: To continue the matter to the next meeting and get a report back from Councilor DeNapoli.**

On the motion, Councilor Petti asked how many tickets have been written in that area since the signs were put up. Captain McCabe indicated that with the patrol division it is very difficult to monitor two-hour and one-hour parking, so unless a business calls and reports that a car has been there for an excessive amount of time, it would be difficult to ticket.

Scott Dwyer from Dwyer Glass appeared at the meeting after discussion had concluded. Captain McCabe informed him that Councilor DeNapoli will be attending the next Montello Business Association meeting to further discuss the parking issue. Mr. Dwyer said that everything that was done by the Association he thought was done by agreement with all the residents and businesses and this was 2 to 3 years in the works so that they would get a plan where each business was allowed to have adequate parking. Mr. Dwyer understands the Girards' problems, but there area lot of people that attend that school and at any given time there area lot of cars taking up all the available parking. He stated that they are taxpayers also and he is sure the Association can come up with something that will make them happy also. Ken Galligan asked if the school's cars are parked in those spots all day long, and Mr. Dwyer said yes. Mr. Dwyer said they start parking their cars right next to Dwyer Glass and takes from the north side of the U-Haul business all the way back both sides of the street to Upland Road. Ken Galligan stated that they park block to block. Mr. Dwyer said that he asks them to leave him one spot, but it got to the point where there were no parking spaces and then students were pulling into his parking lot and he was having to chase them to get them to move. Mr. Dwyer said that Home Café has limited parking and that now all of the businesses in that strip are rented and a new one just opened up, and they all require some parking. Ken Galligan asked if the Two Hour Parking restriction between Vine Street and the Dwyer Glass property is still critical as far as the Montello Business Association is concerned. Mr. Dwyer said that he just wants to make sure he has a space in front of his business; in particular because he has elderly people who are customers and he wants them to be able to park and get right out and get into his business. Mr. Dwyer said that he thought the Association had done everything in compliance with the business owners wishes, and there is only that one business that is complaining. Mr. Girard has asked Mr. Dwyer to have the sign in front of Dwyer Glass removed and Mr. Dwyer said no, but he could request that the sign in front of his own property be removed if the City allows it. Mr. Dwyer also said that there are people who park their cars there and go on the commuter rail to Boston, because of the restricted parking on the side streets, and that was becoming an issue also.

*As Councilor Paul Studenski was present to discuss this issue, it was taken out of Agenda order by Captain McCabe.*

### **TERMINAL PLACE**

Request from Councilor Paul Studenski that the “No Parking Here to Corner” signs on Terminal Place be moved one hundred feet (100’) in from the corner of Montello Street.

Captain McCabe indicated that the Commission marked off 54 feet to the pole on the north side of Terminal Place, they were looking at the first gate to the entrance to the business, and they did not see the second gate to the entrance to the business. Councilor Paul Studenski said that they will be bringing larger vehicles in and the second gate will be used and they need the full street to make the swing to enter. He knows that there are residents there but if the signs were just below the driveway entrance to the house, those residents from across the street would be able to park there and that would be at the 100 feet. Captain McCabe stated that a resident came out while he was there and the resident was very concerned that he lost the parking on one side of the street already. Councilor Studenski said that the area used to have no parking when Hoppy’s was there, and then when that closed parking was allowed and now that it has been reclaimed as a business and there are large vehicles using the property the parking is an issue. Captain McCabe asked if there was a compromise that would allow parking on the south side after the entrance to the business and allow parking on the north side that won’t interfere with the gate. He suggested that the Subcommittee view the area again and then the Commission could decide. Councilor Studenski said that the residents who are concerned about the parking live on Montello Street, not on Terminal Place. Ken Galligan said that when the Subcommittee view it a tractor trailer had just left and they could see the tire marks on the street, and the trucks should have enough room coming out of the second gate if the cars are parked up to where the telephone pole is located.

Councilor Studenski asked if he could be notified when the Subcommittee goes there and he will notify the property owner and they will both be there and explain to the Subcommittee what their concerns are and have the truck there so that the Commission members can see it. Ken Galligan said that he feels it is legitimate to prohibit parking from Montello Street down to the telephone pole but that parking is so limited there that if they take all parking off that street it will cause problems for the residents on Garfield Street also.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Dennis DeNapoli and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

**VOTED: To refer the matter to Subcommittee for review and to notify Councilor Paul Studenski when the Subcommittee will be there so that he and the property owner can meet them.**

### **1127 PLEASANT STREET**

Request from Councilor Jass Stewart to have a deer crossing sign installed in the vicinity of 1127 Pleasant Street.

Captain McCabe said that the Subcommittee did not have a defined opinion and wanted to leave the decision to the full Commission. He also stated that last year the officers wrote 506 speeding tickets, so drivers are ignoring the 30mph speed limit signs, and he did not feel that the Deer Crossing sign would have much effect. Ken Goldblatt said he has lived in that area for 37 years and has never seen a deer on that street; Ken Galligan stated that he has seen them in his yard, but not on the street.

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

**VOTED: To take no action on this matter.**

### **“NO THROUGH TRUCKS” SIGN ON PLEASANT ST. AT SUMNER ST.**

Captain McCabe found some paperwork which indicates that the State regulates when you start posting “No Truck” signs that you have an alternate route to direct them, so that before we put up signs like that we would have to have a study done. Ken Galligan said that before we blocked trucks we would need to have discussion with the Town of Easton as it would impact them also on the Union Street side. Ken Goldblatt said that Torrey Street and West Elm Street Ext. would be the only two other routes and those are narrow road also. He lives on Sumner Street and does not see a problem with the semi trucks. Ken Galligan said that the issue may have to be addressed in the future if the commuter rail goes to Easton. He also questioned how a determination would be made as to what trucks would not be allowed, i.e. tractor trailers, landscaping trucks, construction trucks.

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

**VOTED: To table this matter.**

### **NORTH MAIN STREET AT COURT AND PLEASANT STS**

Request for a left turn arrow—both directions.

Captain McCabe indicated that the Subcommittee recommended that discussion be held with Commissioner Thoreson to determine if this intersection is scheduled to be updated in the near future. Commissioner Thoreson stated that he spoke with a representative from Camp Dresser & McKee and these arrows are not scheduled to go in. He will go back and see if the State will add them in if the Commission requests. Ken Galligan observed that a leading green light, so that if you were coming south on Main Street and were taking a left down Court Street, and the cars had a red light coming north, the left turn could be made.

The 100 percent design is being submitted on April 15, 2011 and Commissioner Thoreson will see if he can get a copy of the design for that intersection and see exactly what the plan indicates. Ken Galligan stated that he did not feel this would require any funding at all; it is just a change in the timing of the light.

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

**VOTED: To continue this matter to the next meeting.**

### **BELMONT AND WEST STREETS**

Two lanes, one needs to be left turn only. Captain McCabe stated that he believes Councilor Stewart was talking about the intersection near the new CVS and that a major intersection design would most likely be needed. Ken Galligan indicated that the lights are the City's but the State road starts right at that location. He believes that what was requested was a dedicated left turn arrow heading west on Belmont Street to take left onto West Street and a dedicated arrow heading east on Belmont Street to take a left into West Street. There are two travel lanes going west and two travel lanes going east, and both of those could have a green arrow to go left at the same time, but it would mean adding another cycle to the light. It would require an engineering survey and changing the timer and the light cabinet and would be expensive to accomplish. Ken Galligan further stated that through traffic would always have to be in the right lane and that could back traffic up in both directions and there could be serious ramifications. Captain McCabe indicated that when the original intersection was put in place there must have been a study done and the results of the study must have shown that the current design was the best way to do it; to go looking for another study would be expensive and might result in the same conclusion.

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

**VOTED: To take no action on this matter.**

Ken Galligan also noted that the Traffic Commission has not had any complaints on this intersection at all until this one, so it does not appear to be an ongoing, recurring problem.

### **BELMONT AND MAIN STREETS**

Place hanging traffic sign showing that there are three lanes.

Captain McCabe stated that we are scheduled to start painting in April and when the painting is re-done there are 3 distinct lanes with arrows giving the directional on which way to go, and he believes that should cover this issue. Ken Galligan noted that there is also currently a sign which indicates that the right lane must turn right, and there is a dedicated right turn arrow light. He believes that one of the concerns is with the center lane and the left lane. If you know that area of Brockton, you know which lane to be in, but if you are unfamiliar with the area, you might be in the wrong lane, but there is no sign that could accomplish what the arrows in the road don't accomplish.

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

**VOTED: To take no action on this matter.**

### **389 and 418 BELMONT STREET**

Need crosswalks.

Captain McCabe said that this area is in the vicinity of Ash Street, but there are already crosswalks there; they just need to be repainted, which will be done in the springtime.

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

**VOTED: To take no action on this matter.**

### **BELMONT ST. COMING FROM EASTON**

Speed limit is 45 but area becomes populated very quickly and speed limit decreases suddenly. Captain McCabe indicated that there are no 45mph signs in Brockton; the first speed limit sign in Brockton is 40mph on the south side of Belmont Street just west of Michael's Plaza. This is a State road and we cannot change the speed limit. Ken Galligan also indicated that we are not having any problems there at this time with the 40mph signs; we might have problems in the future when the new businesses open up. If complaints are received at that time, then maybe the Traffic Commission could approach the State to see what might be done.

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

**VOTED: To take no action on this matter.**

### **1 NORTH MAIN STREET to 31 NORTH MAIN STREET**

Request from Captain McCabe to restrict parking in the area between 1 North Main Street and 31 North Main Street to one (1) hour parking.

Captain McCabe said he received a complaint from the cable company on the corner of Court and North Main Street. With the enforcement of parking in the downtown area, people are now moving up the street and the businesses are being affected. Councilor DeNapoli said that there are no parking meters on Main Street and he believes they should be put back. Captain McCabe stated that the Subcommittee viewed the area and it would not restrict the fire engines coming out of the Pleasant Street station and heading north. Ken Galligan said that the street right now is marked for 4 parking spaces and from Court Street northerly to the where the first car would park is all striped out so that trucks could make the turn. Once they mark the street and put up signs for one hour parking, it should work fine. Councilor DeNapoli asked who would enforce the one hour parking and Captain McCabe indicated that he spoke with Bob Malley from the Parking Authority and right now his enforcement officers end their territory at Court Street but he will have them go up to this area and enforce the parking there also.

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

**VOTED: That the east side of North Main Street from One North Main Street to 31 North Main Street be restricted to one (1) hour parking.**

### **CONNECTICUT PLACE**

Request from Captain McCabe to have the Traffic Commission review this area and restrict the parking to one side of the street. Captain McCabe indicated that a state trooper who is a resident of Connecticut Place requested that the Traffic Commission consider restricting parking to one side of the street. The Subcommittee viewed the area and determined that it is a narrow street and recommended that the odd numbered side of the street, which is the east side, be restricted with no parking. Captain McCabe further indicated that Chief Francis also viewed the area and he recommended that the odd side of the street be restricted in this case because there is a fire hydrant on that side.

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

**VOTED: To add “No Parking” signs on the odd-numbered side, being the east side, of Connecticut Place at telephone poles #1 and #2 and add a free-standing pole on Connecticut Place near Winthrop Street.**

## **LARCH STREET, SUDBURY STREET, MONTROSE STREET and WASHBURN STREET**

Captain McCabe indicated that the Subcommittee recommended that the following “Caution Children” signs be added: on Montrose Street at pole #3, on Washburn Street on pole #1 and on Larch Street on pole #2.

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

**VOTED: To add “Caution Children” signs on Montrose Street at pole #3; on Washburn Street on pole #1; and on Larch Street on pole #2.**

## **LEACH AVENUE**

Request from Councilor Eaniri that Leach Avenue from Warren Avenue be made one way headed west (toward South Middle School). Captain McCabe indicated that he viewed Leach Avenue and it is a very narrow street and he would agree that it should be made one way from Warren Avenue west to the South Middle School. Ken Galligan stated that there was a problem there years ago when Peter Crone was Traffic Commissioner and there was restricted parking on the street. There are two houses on the street and his only concern is that Councilor Eaniri has spoken with those residents and they are in agreement to make the street one way. Commissioner Thoreson commented that the Vote of the Traffic Commission should be contingent upon Councilor Eaniri speaking with the residents. The Commission members do not recall whether Councilor Eaniri stated that he had discussed the issue with those residents. Ken Galligan suggested that the matter be continued to next month to make sure that everyone is agreement on this issue. Councilor DeNapoli stated that he would speak with Councilor Eaniri at the City Council meeting.

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

**VOTED: To continue the matter to the next meeting and make the request contingent upon confirmation that Councilor Eaniri has discussed the issue with the residents on this street.**

## **FIRST FIRE DISTRICT**

Request from Captain McCabe that the Traffic Commission review the First Fire District to determine whether the area should be updated and revised to meet current needs.

Captain McCabe stated that if the First Fire District can possibly be streamlined that it would clarify the issue for parking ticket purposes. It may take a couple of months to go through the streets and make a determination. Ken Galligan said that it is really simpler than the way the ordinance reads: it is basically from the railroad tracks to Warren Avenue

and Allen Street up to Charles Street. The second First Fire District is in Campello, west of Main Street to the railroad tracks and the Campello Fire Station down to Market Street. Captain McCabe felt that viewing the streets would be the best method for updating the district and assist the residents in gaining parking spaces on some of the wider streets that would not be impacted by the change. Commissioner Thoreson indicated to Captain McCabe that if the ordinance is changed that the portion dealing with everyone in the First Fire District being responsible for cleaning and clearing their sidewalks remains in the ordinance.

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

**VOTED: To continue this matter to the next meeting.**

### **L STREET**

Captain McCabe stated that on L Street there is “No Parking on either Side of the Street” as you enter L Street and then there are 3 signs that say “15 Minute Parking Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.” There is confusion as to what the signs mean and they are old and have been there for a long time. The Subcommittee viewed that area and recommended to change that area to one (1) hour parking. The church is used during the week for certain meetings and the Commission would like to work with them on the parking issue.

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

**VOTED: To remove the three “15 Minute Parking” signs on the south side of L Street, just east of #42 L Street, and install three “One Hour Parking” signs.**

### **BATTLES STREET**

Ken Galligan stated that on the north side of Battles Street from North Main Street going west up to Richmond Street is posted “No Parking” and it looks like a sign is missing on Battles Street on the first telephone pole on the right. Captain McCabe reported that the missing signs have been replaced. No further action is needed on this issue.

## **CHURCH STREET**

Todd Petti stated that people from W. B. Mason have asked him if Church Street can be painted with two arrows at the end of the street, one for left turn and one for right turn onto Montello Street. Ken Galligan stated that you can also go straight there. Councilor Petti then asked if a sign could be placed at the end of the street. Ken Galligan asked what the problem was, and Councilor Petti said that one of the salesmen mentioned to him that when they are leaving W.B. Mason and come down Church Street, it is a narrow street and if someone is turning left it can hold up someone turning right. Captain McCabe asked whether it should be made two lanes if it is a narrow street, and Ken Galligan felt that it would create a problem to put the arrows. He said that it is a narrow street and if you are going to take a left you can get over to the left-hand side and leave room for another car to take a right, but if you are not familiar with the area and end up in the middle of the street then you may create a backup.

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.**

NOTE: Ken Galligan requested that it be noted that on Pleasant Street on pole # 5291, which is opposite the central Fire Station, there is a “No Parking Fire Zone” sign missing. The brackets are on the pole but the sign is missing.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, upon motion made by Paul Sullivan, seconded by Ken Goldblatt, and a unanimous vote of the members present, it was

**VOTED: To adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Florio  
Secretary to the Traffic Commission