



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Thursday, March 24, 2022
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Traffic held its monthly meeting at the Arnone School Cafetorium, Little Theater, 135 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA 02301, at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2022.

Present were Traffic Commissioners: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro, Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, DPW Commissioner Pat Hill, Director Stephen Hooke, Councilor at Large Rita Mendes and James Sweeney.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Commissioner Captain Porcaro at 6:07 p.m. Upon motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Director Hooke, to waive and approve the reading of the February 24, 2022 Minutes. Motion carried by a roll call 7-0 in the affirmative.

OLD BUSINESS*

1. NORTH CARY STREET BETWEEN MOODY STREET AND BOYDEN STREET

Requested by: Ward 5 Councilor Jeff Thompson

Issue/ Request: Guardrail

Discussion: Councilor Thompson reached out to Councilor at Large Mendes to ask her to inform the Board that he would like to withdraw his request.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor at Large Mendes, seconded by Director Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO WITHDRAW.

2. EAST STREET

Requested by: Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro o/b/o Tony and Janelyn Sostre of 12 Cappy's Way

Issue/Request: Review by the Traffic Commission of the stretch of East Street located near its intersection with Hopkins Road, for the trimming of trees overshadowing existing lighting, the addition of street lighting, signage marking curves, etc. and painted crosswalks, and such other actions as the Commission may deem appropriate to keep drivers and pedestrians safe by adequately illuminating the street at night and to encourage drivers to reduce speed.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- A. REPLACE STREET LIGHTS THAT ARE OUT AT:
10 EAST ST. (HPS)
EAST @ BACKLUND PLUS 1 SOUTH**
- B. ADD STREET LIGHTS TO CERTAIN AREAS:
POLE 56
572 EAST STREET
784 EAST POLE 81
768 EAST POLE 79
546 EAST POLE 56
POLE 36**
- C. ADD A SIDEWALK TO ONE SIDE OF THE ROAD**
- D. CUT DOWN TREES THAT ARE TOO CLOSE TO THE ROAD AT:
EAST @SOUTHFIELD DR.
537 EAST ST
589 EAST ST
645 EAST ST
677 EAST ST
697 EAST ST
749 EAST ST
ACROSS FROM 778 EAST ST
546 EAST ST
452 EAST ST
451 EAST ST
459 EAST ST
465 EAST ST**
- E. REPAINT THE FOG LINE**
- F. ADD "30 MPH" SPEED SIGNS ALONG THE ENTIRE ROAD**
- G. ADD "SLOW" SIGNS ALONG THE ENTIRE ROAD**
- H. ADD "CURVE AHEAD" SIGNS UPON APPROACHING THE CURVE (BOTH DIRECTIONS).**
- I. ADD REFLECTIVE CHEVRON SIGNS UPON APPROACHING THE CURVE (BOTH DIRECTIONS).**
- J. LOOK INTO A 4-WAY STOP AT EAST STREET AND SOUTHFIELD DRIVE**
- *K. REQUEST AN ENGINEERING STUDY FOR THE ENTIRE ROAD TO SEE WHAT OTHER IMPROVEMENTS CAN BE MADE**
- L. DIGITAL RADAR SPEED FEEDBACK SIGN (ALREADY MOUNTED).**

M. POLICE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT (ALREADY BEING DONE AND WILL CONTINUE).

Discussion: Mr. Sostre was present and wanted to thank the Board for coming out and showing support. Councilor Nicaastro stated it was great being present and seeing the amount of support at the last meeting. Commissioner Captain Porcaro addressed the sidewalk stating it will get sent out for study to engineering. DPW Commissioner Hill will coordinate with engineering to have the study done the same day as the Summer Street study. DPW Commissioner Hill stated as for the sidewalk, it will take sometime but as for the lights, they will address as soon as possible. As for the trees, it will take 1 month to 2 months to take down the trees addressed. Commissioner Captain Porcaro confirmed speeding on East Street from the report he received back from the patrol officers.

Questions and/or comments were taken from the residents. It was stated that one of the digital speed radar signs is broken. Commissioner Captain Porcaro stated he will have that checked out. A constituent wanted to know how stops for speeding were made while the patrol officers were on East Street. Commissioner Captain Porcaro didn't have numbers present but he stated he will have them at the next Traffic meeting.

Upon duly motion made by Director Hooke, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

NEW BUSINESS

3. WEST ELM & BELMONT AVENUE

Requested by: Councilor at Large Rita Mendes o/b/o Ibrahim Momoh of 34 Glenwood Street

Issue/Request: States that a lot of accidents happen there.

Discussion: present was Ibrahim. He stated how crazy it was at the intersection of West Elm and Belmont Avenue involving traffic and accidents. With it being a 4-way intersection, no one wants to wait their turn. There are at least 2 to 3 accidents a week. Mr. Ibrahim stated he has lived in Brockton for about 7 years and has 4 children. He would like to be able to ride bikes and take walks but it's very dangerous. Mr. Ibrahim would like to be a part of the City and doesn't plan on moving anytime soon. Retired Fire Chief Galligan asked Mr. Ibrahim about his shrubs and addressed the difficulty of being able to see to the left when coming up the hill. Mr. Ibrahim responded with saying he will remove the shrubs if that will help.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor at Large Mendes, seconded by Director Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

4. WESTON STREET & PROSPECT AVENUE

Requested by: Councilor at Large Rita Mendes o/b/o Nick Palantzas of 80 Weston Street

Issue/Request: Is complaining about speeding and is asking for a Stop sign at the corner of Weston Street and Prospect Street

Discussion: present was Nick Palantzas. He stated at particular 49 and 50, there are many kids playing in the street. Some motorists are speeding at almost 45/50 mph. Mr. Palantzas calculated the speed on Weston Street and determined at the total distance of 220 yds, it takes 15 seconds traveling at 30mph to get from one end of Weston to the other end. If a motorist is traveling any faster then that and a child is playing in the street, there isn't enough time for the motorist to react to avoid hitting the child. Mr. Palantzas states having a 4 way Stop sign will help to reduce the speeding and stated that Longwood and Hillberg Ave have a 4 way Stop sign after years of it being brought up. Retired Fire Chief Galligan recalls this request being brought up in the past with Retired Police Captain DaBari. The request was denied due to regulations.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE (LOOK INTO REQUEST OF 4 WAY STOP SIGN IN THE PAST.

5. NORTH MAIN STREET & HERROD AVENUE

Requested by: Councilor at Large Rita Mendes o/b/o Kenneth Robinson of 40 Herrod Avenue

Issue/Request: Cars are parked at the corner of N. Main and Herrod Ave and is looking for a No Parking sign and enforcement.

Discussion: Councilor at Large Mendes asked for a continuance.

Upon duly motion made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO CONTINUE TO THE APRIL MEETING AS NEW BUSINESS.

6. MAIN STREET & LEGION PARKWAY

Requested by: Councilor at Large Rita Mendes o/b/o Councilor Tavares

Issue/Request: a guardrail for the Brockton Neighborhood at the corner of Main St. and Legion Parkway. At least 12 cars/ accidents that have hit the building over the years.

Discussion: present was Councilor Tavares. She has asked for this request now for a couple of years. The Neighborhood Health Center has lost some employees especially the ones on the lower level because they do not feel safe. This is what they determined in speaking to the employees regarding their safety concerns. There have been 12 accidents in a year which is a lot. DPW Commissioner stated that engineering had reached out about installing 6 to 7 bollards. Galligan added there is a history there and there were discussions about extending the bollards

but supposedly there was utilities running underground that would prevent that. A call will be made to Retired DPW Commissioner Larry to discuss.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

7. DOROTHY ROAD

Requested by: Council President John Lally

Issue/Request: A Dead-End sign at Dorothy Road off Boundary Street

Discussion: present was Council President Jack Lally. He received correspondence from constituents regarding the conditions of the road and status of making it a private road. He addressed the concerns of too many motorists coming down looking for a cut through. Councilor President Lally to add that it is a small dead-end Street with 8 houses. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated it easy to take care of.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, seconded by Director Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO PUT UP A DEAD-END SIGN.

8. 609-627 PLEASANT STREET

Requested by: Brad Cartwright, President of Gillon Associates, Traffic & Parking Specialist

Issue/Request: Traffic Access and Impact Comparison Brockton, MA-609-627 Pleasant Street.

Discussion: present is Chris Vale representing Mr. Brad Cartwright. They have been in front of the board in the past when a commercial property was presented and fell through. They are now considering a residential property. Attorney McClusky met with the residents in the surrounding area to ask them what they would prefer. The majority stated a residential property would be more beneficial over a commercial. Mr. Sweeney brought up the concern of exiting the parking lot. Retired Fire Chief stated that there would be possible traffic backed up on Pleasant Street exiting and entering the parking lot. Pennsylvania is brought up as a possible option to use and talks about adjusting the timing of the traffic light. Unfortunately, the traffic light control will not be an option as the State controls the signals. Mr. Vale is looking for approval from the Traffic Commission to bring to the ZBA. If approved, this building will hold 78 rental units.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

9. 596 SUMMER STREET

Requested by: Dr. James Cobbs, Executive Director of Operations, Brockton Public Schools

Issue/Request: School Zone designation for the former May Center, 596 Summer Street, in anticipation of the new school being relocated there.

Discussion: present was Dr. Cobbs. The school plans on opening September of 2022. It will be moving from its previous location at Warren Avenue and West Elm Street. The school will need flashing lights and designated school zones. There is plenty of space for drop offs and plenty of space for buses to enter and exit out on the other side. DPW Commissioner asked where will the lights be placed. Dr. Cobbs responded with that he will be relying on the Traffic Commission's expertise on where they should be placed. Deputy Fire Chief DePasquale stated that study of where placement should be would be sent to engineering. Retired Fire Chief Galligan asked about who would pay and Dr. Cobbs responded, they would pay if need be. There is an issue of lack of sidewalks and one is needed especially in front of the school. Commissioner Captain Porcaro stated it is the State that regulates the schools. Councilor Nicastro of Ward 4 was present and wanted to add that she was involved when the property was taken by eminent domain and at first was going to be a sober house but have decided on a high school. She would like the Board to know they have her full support on this.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO COORDINATE A MEETING WITH DR. COBBS AND THE ENGINEER.

10. ELLIOT STREET

Requested by: Council President John Lally and Councilor Thompson

Issue/Request: new speed limit signs on Elliot Street. Problems with speeding and issues with people going around stopped school buses.

Discussion: present was Councilor President Lally to share this request with Ward 5 Councilor Thompson. Councilor Lally stated from the constituents that have reached out to him have had concerns of traffic and speeding. A constituent on Elliot street that lives with her grandchildren expressed that she has seen cars go around school buses that have come to a complete stop. Enforcement will be needed because if some motorists are going around school buses, they will surely not stop at the Stop sign.

Upon duly motion made by Director Hooke, seconded by DPW Commissioner Hill, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 7 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Motion was made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Traffic Commission Minutes
March 24, 2022

Respectfully submitted,
Synthia Olivier
Synthia Olivier
Administrative Assistant III
to Traffic Commission

***THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, May 5, 2022. DEADLINE TO
ADD ITEMS TO THE MEETING AGENDA IS FRIDAY, April 29, 2022.**