



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Thursday, September 22nd, 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, September 22nd, 2022.

Present were Traffic Commissioners: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro, Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, Director Stephan Hooke and Councilor-at-large Rita Mendes.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Commissioner Captain Porcaro at 6:02 p.m. Upon motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, to waive and approve the reading of the August 25th, 2022 Minutes. Motion carried by a roll call 5-0 in the affirmative

OLD BUSINESS

1. MARKET STREET AT MAIN STREET

Requested by: Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan

Issue/Request: For Subcommittee to go out and look at this intersection and see if 2 lanes of traffic need to be created for left turn only and a right/straight lane of traffic as well to avoid traffic congestion at this intersection.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
TO TAKE NO ACTION AT THIS TIME.**

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

2. COLLEEN DRIVE AT LINWOOD STREET

Requested by: James Sweeney

Issue/Request: For Subcommittee to go out and look at this area as there is a tree located at the pavement of this road which obstructs your view when attempting to make a left hand turn.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
TO REMOVE THE TREE. DPW HAS BEEN CONTACTED TO FOLLOW UP ON
THE TREE OWNERSHIP AND REMOVAL.**

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by Councilor-at-large Rita Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

3. PEARL STREET- SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN BELMONT ST. AND TORREY ST.

Requested by: Councilor Mark D'Agostino

Issue/Request: Councilor D'Agostino has heard from many constituents relative to the speeding in this area.

Discussion: Present were Councilor Mark D'Agostino and residents Debbie and William Chaplic of 671 Pearl Street. Debbie Chaplic stated that it was her understanding that years ago the speed limit on Pearl Street was 30 MPH and the state overturned it and made it 40 MPH. She would like to know if it could be adjusted to 35 MPH because people are going 50/60 MPH. It is frightening because if you are going the speed limit of 40 MPH you are beeped and honked at as if you are going to slow. She stated that she is hoping that the Traffic Commission can revisit the speed limit on Pearl Street. Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan confirmed that the speed limit was in fact 30 MPH at one point and the state determined that it should be made 40 MPH besides the section by the Hancock Elementary which is 30MPH. Resident Debbie Chaplic stated that the speeding mainly occurs on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights along with racing on the street on those nights as well, anytime from 6pm on. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that the digital speed signs that are located on Pearl Street, that is all the city has right now and they are battery operated. These small speed signs are met for side streets not main roads, such as Pearl Street. The traffic commission now has ownership of some solar power speed signs and the traffic commission plans on putting one on Pearl Street where the older one is now. If the traffic commission purchases more next year we would like to put one southbound closer to Torrey Street. Councilor D'Agostino stated when Pearl Street gets jammed with traffic they start going through the neighborhood trying to avoid the traffic on Pearl Street and the speeding doesn't get any better when they are cutting through the back part of the neighborhood. He stated anything that the Traffic Commission can do to help with the speeding in this location would be appreciated. Maybe we can get the Mass DOT to look at the speed limit at this location again.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: PLACE ONE OF THE SOLAR POWERED SPEED LIMIT RADAR BETWEEN TORREY STREET AND BELMONT STREET, TO SEND A LETTER TO THE MASS DOT TO REVISIT THIS LOCATION RELATIVE TO THE SPEEDING IN THIS AREA AND TO ALSO HAVE POLICE ENFORCEMENT AT THIS LOCATION.

4. 128 PROSPECT STREET

Requested by: Bernardina Lopes

Issue/Request- Looking for a guardrail - Lots of accidents.

Discussion: Councilor-at-large Rita Mendes spoke on behalf of the resident stating there is a lot of accidents at this location. Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan mentioned that they looked at this location back in August 2022 the day after they looked at it there was a major accident at this location.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO INSTALL A 20-25 FOOT GUARDRAIL SOUTHEAST OF PROSPECT AND WARREN AVENUE ON THE BACKSIDE OF THE SIDEWALK, WHICH WOULD BE LOCATED ON THE PROPERTY OF 128 PROSPECT STREET.

5. PARKING OF CERTAIN VEHICLES ON STREETS

Requested by: Deputy Fire Chief Edward Williams

Issue/Request: Specifically, to look at trailers and semitrailers parking on city streets. (Board Members please see attached Fall River ordinances hereto for reference).

Discussion: Present was Deputy Fire Chief Edward Williams. There was a lengthy discussion with the Traffic Commission relative to the parking of trailers, semi-trailers and buses on city streets. Deputy Fire Chief Williams stated that there are a lot of complaints relative to the parking of trailers on city streets, however, there is nothing that the police department can do as there is no regulation against it. He also noted that there are buses that also park overnight on street and that it makes for a lot of congestion on the streets. Individuals are also parking vehicles for sale on city streets a lot of the times with Florida plates. DPW Commissioner Hill wanted to know if there could be an exemption for city construction workers that park their trucks at constructions sites overnight. Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan stated that he has noticed lately that there are school buses that are parked in individuals' yards overnight. He also stated that there are box trucks as well that are parking overnight in their yards. Deputy Fire Chief Edward Williams mentioned that once it's in the yard it becomes a

zoning issue. There was also discussion amongst the Traffic Commission and Deputy Fire Chief Edward Williams as to whether or not the Traffic Commission had the authority to make a regulation and that this would not be an ordinance but a regulation of the traffic commission and enforceable by a parking ticket. DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill read into record the Traffic Commission powers. There was discussion that this should be sent to the City's Law Department to review and make any recommendations to the suggested traffic regulations that the Commission would like to create.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND A LETTER TO THE CITY OF BROCKTON LAW DEPARTMENT RELATIVE TO CREATING A TRAFFIC COMMISSION REGULATION SUCH AS THE ORDIDANCES OF FALL RIVER THAT WERE PRESENTED IN ORDER FOR THEM TO ASSIST IN CREATING SUCH REGULATIONS AND TO CONTINUE TO THE OCTOBER MEETING.

6. PEARL AND DARTMOUTH STREET

Requested by: Deputy Fire Chief Edward Williams o/b/o the Quality of Life Task Force

Issue/Request: Requesting No parking in this area. (Board Members please see attached Petition).

Discussion: Present was Deputy Fire Chief Edward Williams, Mark Pocius and David Johnson both of 106 Pearl Street. There was a lengthy discussion with the Traffic Commission relative to parties that have occurred at 100 Pearl Street and all of the parking that takes place during these parties specifically on Pearl Street and at the Hancock Elementary School. The City attempted to shut down the parties at 100 Pearl Street on many occasions. The School Department has issued a no trespassing order to the owners of 100 Pearl Street and when needed they have blocked access to the parking lot of the Hancock School. The Zoning Board has issued a cease and desist order to the property owners. The Police Department has issued two summonses to the property owner for unruly household violations. Deputy Fire Chief Williams noted that there are hundreds of cars that would saw up at this property location on a Friday or Saturday night for these parties. Resident Mark Pocius spoke in length about the disturbance of the cars parking on Pearl Street when these parties have taking place. He stated that the parking is on both sides of Pearl Street. They make it impossible to back out of your driveway. They drive up onto our properties to make U Turns on Pearl Street. They leave all kinds of trash all over the place. They trespass onto the properties surrounding the area. He would like to eliminate the parties and parking at this location and on the surrounding streets. The past two years that they have had these parties more frequently not only on Friday and Saturday nights but they have also had them on Sunday nights. We would like to see this issue taken care of. Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan noted that about 30 years ago they posted a No Parking Sign on Pearl Street from Pleasant southerly

to about 70 Pearl Street. Dartmouth Street is a very narrow street to get in and out of and that would be a very easy location to place No Parking signs on. Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan stated what the residents are looking for is No Parking on both sides from Pleasant Street southerly to Pearl Way and all of Dartmouth Street. It was also mentioned that the parents picking up children from the Hancock School line up on Pearl Street and that maybe the No Parking signs should state from 7pm through 7 am to avoid any issues with allowing the parents to park there to pick up their children from the Hancock School in the afternoon.

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

7. PLEASANT STREET

Requested by: Chanese Pearson

Issue/Request: Public safety issues. Would like to request a speed bump, street light and/or more signage in this area.

Discussion: Present was Chanese Pearson. She explained to the Traffic Commission that there was an awful accident on Pleasant Street on September 1st, 2022. Pleasant Street is drag street from 8pm through 3- 4 in the morning. She mentioned that she has to take her daughter to the dentist across the street and that she is scared to cross that section of Pleasant Street because there is no street light and no crosswalk at this particular section of Pleasant Street. It's very dangerous from Belmont Avenue to North Warren Avenue. Individuals speed at 60-70 MPH in this section of Pleasant Street. She's not sure what can be done, however, stated that something needs to be done in this section of Pleasant Street. There are accidents all the time. Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan noted that she's between Weston and Ellis Streets. There was discussion with the Traffic Commission about how dark it is at this location.

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by Councilor-at-large Rita Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

8. CHAMPION REHABILITATION AND NURSING HOME- 2 BEAUMONT AVENUE

Requested by: E.J. Richards

Issue/Request: Request is for a speed bump at this location as motorists fly down the street with total disregard for the crosswalk at this location.

Discussion: Present was E.J. Richards. There was a length discussion with the Traffic Commission relative to motorists not stopping at the crosswalk located at

this location. Richards stated that it's more concerning for the visitors that are attempting to cross on the crosswalk to get to the Nursing Home. Retired Fire Chief Galligan mentioned maybe installing warning signs at this location that the property owner would install. E.J. Richards noted that the crosswalk is located right at the end of the ramp of the building. The staff is knowledgeable enough to stop and look and make sure nothing is coming before crossing on the crosswalk. There was also discussion about laddering the crosswalk at this location.

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by Councilor-at-large Rita Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

9. SUMPTER STREET

Requested by: Tayla Bennett

Issue/Request: People are using this neighborhood as a cut through, especially now with the construction on Route 123. There are autistic and small children that play in the neighborhood. People are flying through the neighborhood trying to avoid the traffic. Even without the construction cars are constantly turning around in the driveway. A Dead End Sign is requested.

Discussion: The Traffic Commission discussed that there are now 2 newly installed Dead End signs at this location.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO APPROVE.

Motion was made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Yaffe

Michelle Yaffe

Secretary to the Traffic Commission

**** THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27TH, 2022. DEADLINE TO ADD ITEMS TO THE MEETING AGENDA IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21ST, 2022****