

# BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:00 P.M.

### **MINUTES**

The Traffic held its monthly meeting at the Arnone School Little Theater, 135 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA 02301, at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Present were Traffic Commission Members: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro, Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, Director Stephan Hooke, Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, Councilor John Lally, Councilor-at-Large David Teixiera and James Sweeney.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Traffic Commissioner Captain Porcaro at 6:05 p.m. Upon motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, to waive and approve the reading of the January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Meeting Minutes.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

## 1. ASHFIELD DRIVE, DONNA STREET & THOMAS STREET

Requested by: ward 5 Councilor Jeffrey Thompson Request/issue: To invite the residents of Ashfield Drive, Donna Road & Thomas Street to discuss traffic and speeding mitigation related to newly paved road as well as requesting the installation of battery operated speed radar signs on Ashfield Drive.

# **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

A. Install two 30 mph signs, one sign at Pole #5 by 77 Thomas Street (westbound), and another sign at Pole #7 by 115 Ashfield Drive (westbound); and B. traffic enforcement.

### **VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 2. RT 27- PLEASANT STREET

Requested by: Willie Roberts

Request/Issue: Pleasant Street vehicles are traveling sometimes in excess of 45-50 MPH which is causing pedestrian to be at risk. Requesting speed limits signs be placed anywhere between the Irving Gas Station on the corner of Pleasant Street & Route 27 and Christy's Drive.

### SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Install a 30 MPH sign on Pole #107-84 on Pleasant St. for the eastbound traffic; and

B. Install a 30 MPH sign on Pole #83 on Pleasant St. for westbound traffic.

### **VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 3. N. QUINCY STREET AND HOVENDEN AVENUE

Requested by: Councilor John Lally

Request/Issue: Would like Solar Powered Speed signs on both N .Quincy Street and Hovenden Avenue.

### SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Based on the speed studies, take no action at this time. The councilor may refile these requests in the future.

### **VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 4. FOREST AVENUE AND MANOMET STREET

Requested by: Councilor-at-Large Winthrop Farwell on behalf of Jaramillo (Billy) Guillermo

Issue/Request: Would like to discuss any/all mitigation options to reduce accidents in this area. Perhaps the subcommittee can evaluate whether bollards or a guardrail could be installed to prevent injuries if a vehicle ends up off the road and onto the sidewalk.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A. Increase the red/green traffic signal lag time in both directions.
- B. Fix the SIGNAL AHEAD sign on Pole #3-94 in front of 20 Bouve Ave.
- C. Traffic enforcement

### **VOTED: ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 5. EAST STREET AT PLAIN STREET

Requested by: DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill

Request/Issue: There was another accident at this location over the weekend of (12/8/12/10/23) and it should be looked at by the Subcommittee. Requesting either a guardrail or stop sign at this intersection.

### SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Reposition one of the STOP signs on East Street at Plain Street from the utility pole to its own post with red reflective striping;
- B. Replace the CURVE AHEAD sign for northbound traffic by 592 Plain Street with a new CURVE AHEAD sign with hi-vis yellow/green color; and
- C. Install a new CURVE AHEAD sign near the grassy area just south of 551 Plain Street for southbound traffic.

VOTED: TO ADD SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION "D" TO SEND THIS ITEM FOR A ENGINEERING STUDY AND TO ACCEPT ALL OTHER SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

#### 6. 39 SYLVESTER STREET

Requested by: James Johnson

Request/Issue: I would like to request 2 stop signs to be added at the corner of Sylvester Street and Manchester Street. There are only stop signs on the Manchester Street sides. There are some cars that know there is no stop sign on Sylvester Street and they will speed.

### SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Continue to monitor and take no action at this time.

### **VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 7. MUPAC DRIVE AT KNAPP CENTER

Requested by: Lauren Johnson (Concord Foods)

Request/Issue: Over the past year there have been several near-miss incidents involving vehicles existing Mupac Drive onto Knapp Center. There should be a stop sign at the intersection of Mupac Drive and Knapp Center to prevent vehicular accidents.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

A. Install an oversized CAUTION WATCH FOR EXITTING VEHICLES oversized sign (18"x24") on Mupac Drive @ Knapp Ctr.

B. Install an oversized CAUTION WATCH FOR EXITTING VEHICLES oversized sign (18"x24") on Minuteman Way @ Knapp Ctr.

# VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AS AMENDED.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 8. 333 NORTH MONTELLO STREET

Requested by: Matt Hurley(City Redemption Center)

Request/Issue: Illegal on street parking continues to create a safety hazard and makes it difficult for our employees and customers to leave our business. Blocks the parking lot to avoid trash and broken glass which ends up in our lot. Requesting No Parking on both sides of the area of 333 North Montello Street.

### SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Subcommittee did not see any issues.

Discussion: Present was Matt Hurley. He stated that he is not the owner of the Redemption Center that he owns the business next to the Redemption Center. Councilor Lally stated that he wouldn't be opposed to going back out to this location again on Subcommittee Review. Retired Fire Chief Galligan asked Mr.

Hurley which building he owned and Mr. Hurley stated that he owns 325 North Montello Street which is connected to the Redemption Center. Mr. Hurley stated that we have deliveries and pickups from our customers that come during business hours. We also have 18 wheelers that come and deliver product on a daily basis and with the problematic parking the cars to the redemption center are always blocking the driveway. Also when the drivers are trying to enter or exit our parking lot they can not see oncoming traffic. Our delivery drivers have called and complained and they have also called and stated that they are trying to make a delivery and/or pick up at the shop and they've had to circle around the block twice because cars are blocking our entrance and they can't get in. Mr. Hurley stated that he has gone next store to the Redemption Center to ask who cars they are and has had to ask multiple times before someone will own up to owning the car(s) that are blocking the driveway. He also stated that when he goes over to the Redemption Center he is meet with hostility and has had to call 911 twice in the last couple of months. He stated that it has become a quality of life issue that has impacted my business. We have been here for over 30 years and over the last two years, he's never seen anything like this. The Redemption Center blocks their parking lot with pallets and pallets of bottles and the cargo truck that they have and they don't allow their customers to use their parking lot. It has become an absolute disaster. We own the vacant lot across the street and I've offered to let them buy it and they have said no. Mr. Hurley stated hat he has tried to implement his own sort of traffic control and has placed some cones in the area to try to deter vehicles from parking there. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated the bottom line is that this business is negatively impacting your business and Mr. Hurley stated yes, it occurs Monday through Saturday. DPW Commissioner Hill questioned if they were obligated to provide parking with their license. Mr. Sweeney stated that he himself has seen 18 wheelers on North Montello Street and has seen them try to turn around and they jam up the traffic.

# VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW AND TO THE LICENSING BOARD RELATIVE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE REDEMPTION CENTER'S PARKING LOT OBLIGATIONS.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 9. MILL STREET (149 MILL STREET-DEAD END EXTENSION)

Requested by: Gary Epstein & Rob Cohen of Timeless Antiques Watch & Jewelry Co.

Request/Issue: On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 someone plowed through the carrier at the end of Mill Street. Several times a day people are speeding straight through the turn to the end of the dead end. Requesting that a stop sign at the turn of Liberty Street and Mill Street.(Traffic Commission members please see attached photos)

### **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A. Replace the guardrail;
- B. Install two STOP signs approximately 5 feet high directly behind the guardrail;
- C. Install an ALL TRAFFIC sign under the existing arrow sign at the end of the guardrail;
- D. Reposition the THRU TRAFFIC MUST TURN LEFT to one of the NO PARKING (remove this sign) sign posts on Mill St.;
- E. Replace the faded NO PARKING sign.
- F. Add two (2) Route 123 Signs.

# VOTED: TO ADD "F" AND TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

### **10. HUNTINGTON PLACE**

Requested by: Ernest Bethoney, DPW Refuse Department and resident, Shirlee Ross

Request/Issue: There are issues every trash pickup day with cars parked on Huntington Place that is making it difficult for make turns onto the street to pick up the trash. Requesting No Parking signs.

# SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Install a NO PARKING THIS SIDE sign on Pole #11 on the east side of Huntington Place;
- B. Install a NO PARKING CORNER TO HERE sign on the westside of Huntington Place approximately 20 feet in (south) from Huntington Street;
- C. Install a NO PARKING THIS SIDE and a DEAD END sign on the unknown numbered utility pole in front of #3 Huntington Place;
- D. Install a NO PARKING sign on the fence post by the fire hydrant at the end of the street.

### VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 11. NYE SQUARE

Requested by: Requested by: Ernest Bethoney, DPW Refuse Department Request/Issue: There are issues every trash pickup day with cars parked on Nye Square that is making it difficult for make turns onto the street to pick up the trash. Requesting No Parking signs.

### SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Install two NO PARKING EITHER SIDE signs on Poles #1, 2, and 3;

B. Add a post behind the fire hydrant and place a hydrant logo sign on it.

# VOTED: ADD SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION "B" AND ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 12. HAMPDEN AVENUE

Requested by: Francisco Aguiar

Request/Issue: The last couple of months the cars pass by 35/40 MPH. I am worried about it because on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 I lost my dog because a car hit killed my dog, they never stopped. I have children that sometime play on the street. Requesting a speed sign.

## SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Install a battery-operated speed sign and a 20 MPH sign.
- B. Traffic enforcement

# VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AS AMENDED.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 13.150 FIELD STREET

Requested by: Councilor John Lally

Request/Issue: Blind Driveway sign requested for the westbound.

## SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Install a BLIND DRIVEWAY sign on Pole #20 on Field Street for westbound traffic;

B. Replace the NO PARKING sign on Pole #18 on Field Street;

C. Reposition the STOP sign on Pole #1 for southbound traffic on Dyer @ Field Street to its own post with red reflective striping.

# VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AS AMENDED.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

### 14. MARKET STREET

Requested by: Prior Request by Kimberly Langford and now being requested by Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro

Request/Issue: The wrong way driving continues and would like to install two (2) DO NOT ENTER and two (2) WRONG WAY signs on Market Street at the Keith Avenue intersection.

### SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Install two (2) red WRONG WAY signs on either side of Market Street at Keith Avenue; and
- B. Clean up the existing NO LEFT TURN and ONE WAY signs on Market Street opposite Keith Avenue.

### **VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

### 15. BELMONT AVENUE AT WEST ELM STREET

Requested by: Wayde Francis

Request/Issue: I moved to this address a little under a year ago and I have witnessed over 14 car crashes right at West Elm Street and Belmont Avenue.

Discussion: Resident Wayde Francis was present and stated that he lives at 215 Belmont Avenue and has since last year. He stated that he has seen 8 to 9 accidents at this intersection. His 9 year old child takes the bus to school each day and the bus stop is at this intersection. His wife has also seen multiple accidents at this intersection. Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan stated that we visited this location approximately two (2) years ago and that one of the issues was that the owner of the property on the corner has bushes that block the view of drivers from Belmont Avenue trying to get onto West Elm Street which makes

it a blind intersection. Mr. Francis stated that in the morning the bus stops on Belmont Avenue and in the afternoon the bus stops right on West Elm street. Councilor Lally asked Mr. Francis how many kids are at this us stop and Mr. Francis stated 5 or 6 including my child. Councilor Lally stated that we should ask the School Department to reposition the bus stop at this location.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW, CONTACT THE SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT RELATIVE TO REPOSITIONING THE BUS STOP AT THIS LOCATION AND CONTACT THE PRIOR REQUESTOR.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a hand vote; 8 in the affirmative.

Motion was made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by Councilor Lally, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Yaffe

Michelle Yaffe

Secretary to the Traffic Commission

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 AND ALL REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, MARCH 22nd, 2024.