

# CITY OF MARLBOROUGH MEETING POSTING

Meeting Name: Traffic Commission

Date: Monday, May 2, 2022

Time: 10:00 am

Location: 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Hall – Memorial Hall

Agenda Items to be addressed:

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CITY OF MARLBOROUGH

2022 APR 26 A 8:26

**1) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

- a) Review draft from 3-30-22

**2) NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Review of Elm Street speed limits
- b) Request for flashing pedestrian crossing light & Dead-End sign on Gikas Lane
- c) Request for On Street Parking Permit @ 194 Chestnut St.

**3) OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Issues with the turn movement at intersection of Boston Post Road West & Ames Street
- b) Parking issues on Cotting Ave.
- c) 30-minute parking regulation review

THE LISTING OF TOPICS THAT THE CHAIR REASONABLY ANTICIPATES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE TOPICS THAT WILL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. NOT ALL TOPICS LISTED MAY IN FACT BE DISCUSSED, AND OTHER TOPICS NOT LISTED MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
140 MAIN STREET  
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

**DRAFT**

**Traffic Commission Minutes**

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10:00 am. (The meeting was also recorded and is available to view online at the City of Marlborough's website [www.marlbrough-ma.gov](http://www.marlbrough-ma.gov)). Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, Fire Chief Kevin Breen, Commissioner of Public Works Sean Divoll and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Ashley Miller also from the Engineering Department, City Councilor Katie Robey and local resident Jim Joubert.

Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

Chief Giorgi started recording the meeting at 10:02 a.m. and began by welcoming everyone and making introductions.

**1- Minutes**

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, March 2, 2022 (February meeting that was postponed from 2/23/22):

TO APPROVE. All in Favor - Accept and Place on File.

**2 - New Business**

**2a) Parking Issues on Cotting Ave.**

Pam Wilderman, Code Enforcement Officer, sent an email to Chief Giorgi. She said they have been "inundated with complaints from the owner of 50 Cotting Avenue regarding

blight, trash, debris and commercial vehicles on the street". She anticipates more complaints as the winter parking ban is lifted. She said that City Code only allows one commercial vehicle to be parked regularly on residential property. She will notify the landlord to contact his tenants and advise them of the regulation. She also noted that the "No Parking" area on Cotting only extends to Maple Terrace. She is asking if this area can be extended to the end of the street. Chief Giorgi pulled up a diagram/map of the area for reference.

Ashley Miller presented a diagram with the area for "No Parking Anytime" marked in pink and the area for "30-Minute Parking" marked in yellow. Currently one side of Cotting Ave. from Maple Terrace toward South Bolton is marked as "No Parking Anytime" and the other side is marked as "30-Minute Parking". It appears that the 30-minute parking was originally created when there was a factory at this location. The factory is now long gone. There doesn't seem to be any purpose for it now and there is no access road at that end. Ms. Miller is proposing that we delete this regulation. Steve Kerrigan noted that people do park between Maple Terrace and the end of the street, and we don't want to take parking spaces away from residents. Chief Giorgi agreed that if we were to make it all no parking on both sides, there would be no resident parking available on the street.

Further discussion followed as to whether we take the 30-minute section out and adjust the no parking section. Ms. Miller thinks that we need to have no parking on both sides heading toward Granger. It is a tight turn for buses coming off Maple Terrace. Fire Chief Breen agreed and said that the no parking area needs to be monitored as the turn is too tight if cars are parked there. Ms. Miller recommends taking out the 30-minute parking area on the other end and making it just regular parking. It was noted that the bldg. marked 236 on the diagram is 50 Cotting Ave. All agreed with Ms. Miller's recommendation. The area can be reevaluated later if Ms. Wilderman is still having issues.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to provide the language to delete the 30-minute parking from Cotting Ave.

## **2b) 30-minute parking regulation review.**

Ashley Miller sent an email to Chief Giorgi asking to review several 30-minute parking regulations within time limit parking and if they are needed.

- 1) **East Main Street** – Ms. Miller read the regulation that currently exists and noted it on a diagram. Yellow = 30-Minute Parking, Pink = No Parking. You can see on the diagram that the two areas overlap. You can't have both in the same place as they contradict each other. She did some research and couldn't find anything specific as to why this 30-minute regulation was created. The wording refers to the "premises owned by Marlborough Industrial Trust". She couldn't find any reference to this specific trust on any deeds. The regulation was created in 1953. It was decided to repeal the 30-minute parking regulation.
- 2) **West Main Street** – Ms. Miller read the regulation that currently exists and noted it on a diagram. Yellow = 15-Minute Parking, Pink = No Parking. You can see on the diagram where two areas overlap. This is the area by St. Mary's Credit

Union. Steve Kerrigan said that there used to be a little store there and people would park in the 15-minute area to grab and go. It was decided to delete the 15-minute parking regulation.

- 3) **Mechanic Street** - Ms. Miller found there is a lot going on with Mechanic Street. She reviewed the regulations and diagram. Yellow = 30-Minute Parking, Pink = No Parking, Blue = 1-Hour Parking (signed but not regulated), Pink with X's = Repealed Regulation from 1997. The diagram shows where they overlap and contradict. The regulation still reads with the old language and needs to be changed. The 30-minute regulation was probably created for something specific that no longer exists. She is recommending that we repeal all temporary parking restrictions and only leave the no parking area marked in pink. Tom DiPersio said that the decision is where to start allowing parking and the other issue is that the 1-hour parking (marked in blue) has signs up by no regulation. This is in front of 103 Mechanic St. No one knows why the signs went up. Commissioner Divoll asked if there was a logistical reason to allow 1-hour parking here. After discussion, it was decided to repeal the 30-minute parking. Remove the 1-hour parking signs (no regulation to repeal). Allow parking on the east side and leave the no parking area from Lincoln Street to Hastings Street. This may all need to be revisited once development happens here.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to provide the language for the revised regulations.

### **3-Old Business**

#### **3a) Issues with the turn movement at intersection of Boston Post Road West & Ames Street**

**Update:** Ms. Miller advised that she received an email back from Lori Shattuck (MA DOT). Traffic counts were completed but she had not yet had a change to analyze the impact of the requested change. Ms. Miller will continue to follow up with her.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for follow up.

#### **3b) Resident concerns at 315 Cook Lane.**

**Update:** Engineering is proposing the installation of a 50 foot of guardrail starting just before the utility pole to protect the property. There is no regulation needed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER back to ENGINEERING to move forward.

#### **3c) Request for 15-minute parking at Sugar Heaven.**

**Update:** Ms. Miller has gone out a few times to look at parking next to the building. She provided a diagram with parking restrictions noted. Pink = No Parking, Blue = 1-Hour Parking, Green = Proposed locations for 15-minute parking. They may be able to

get 1 parking spot further down Lincoln Street but it's probably not a good idea with the turn movement from Mechanic Street. They are trying to determine what makes the most sense. Do they make a spot where there is currently no parking allowed or where there is currently 1-hour parking? Could they make this 15-minute parking? Steve Kerrigan asked how we would monitor 15-minute parking. People tend to not read the sign and park there to go to class at the gym. Is it possible to mark the spot itself rather than using a sign? Mr. Kerrigan asked if there was anywhere else in the city with 15-minute parking. Welly's and Silk Rd. Bistro had 15-minute spaces marked out front for restaurant pick up during Covid. It seemed to work in these spaces, but it could be an issue near Sugar Heaven. Chief Giorgi said that we might get more compliance if the space was on Lincoln Street, near 342 Lincoln. It's the only logical spot for better compliance. Tom DiPersio said that if a truck were making the turn, a parking spot here could be an issue. It's a very tight turn. It was noted that the owner of the bakery always parks next to the bldg. on Lincoln Street. If she moved her car out of the way, it would solve part of the problem for customer pick up.

Mr. DiPersio suggested marking the first spot on Lincoln Street, in front of 342 Lincoln St., with a temporary sign for 15-minute parking and see how it goes. It could be done on a trial basis. It seems too tight to do this right next to Sugar Heaven. The only safer area is further down from the bakery but that is still not a great idea. All agreed to go with the trial basis spot in front of 342 Lincoln Street for now.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to reach out to the Owner of Sugar Heaven and advise of the discussion and to ENGINEERING to create the temporary spot.

***Chief Giorgi asked if anyone had any other issues they would like to discuss.***

Councilor Robey asked about certain areas where it is confusing to know the actual speed limit. She gave an example of Elm Street, near MHQ. One direction says 25 mph and the other direction says 35 mph. Engineering advised that they would look into this.

Engineering added that they have money earmarked for crossing beacons. They mentioned locations at the Rail Trail and Stevens St. @ Lodi Rd. They are also suggesting moving the crosswalk at the intersection of Bolton St. and Washington St. further up on Bolton Street. They provided an aerial photo with the proposed location indicated. The crosswalk regulation would need to be revised. Chief Giorgi said that this new location makes sense. Tom DiPersio said that he had an intern look at all the crosswalk regulations last summer and found there are many issues that should be addressed at some point.

Mr. Joubert, resident of Bigelow Street, said that one of the solar powered speed signs was missing. It seems to have been taken down for some reason and was not put back up. Chief Giorgi thinks it might be being replaced. The one at Flagg Road might belong to the Police Department. If it was one that Officer Larose put up, he may have moved it to another location.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:47 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert  
Records Clerk  
Marlborough Police Department

**List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:**

- City of Marlborough Meeting Posting for Traffic Commission Meeting on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, including meeting agenda.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, March 2, 2022 (February meeting that was postponed from 2-23-22)
- Email from Pam Wilderman to Chief Giorgi, dated 3/17/22, re: Cotting Avenue.
- Email from Ashley Miller to Chief Giorgi, dated 3/24/22, re: 30 Minute Parking Regulation review.

**Additional Handouts**

- Email from Lori Shattuck to Ashley Miller, dated 3/29/22, re: Ames Street / Route 20 "No Right on Red" (including email earlier email chain).
- Email from Ashley Miller to Chief Giorgi, dated 3/29/22, re: Traffic Commission Graphics (Cotting Ave., West Main Street., East Main Street & Mechanic St.)
- Aerial photo of intersection of Bolton Street and Washington Street with proposed crosswalk indicated.
- Diagram of intersection of Lincoln St. & Mechanic St. with parking restrictions noted.

**Karen Lambert**

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**From:** Kathleen Robey  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 4:17 PM  
**To:** Sean Divoll; Thomas DiPersio; Ashley Miller  
**Cc:** David Giorgi; City Council; Patricia Bernard  
**Subject:** Re: Elm Street - Speed Limits

Commissioner,  
 Having this on next Traffic Commission meeting is appreciated.

Katie Robey

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**From:** Sean Divoll  
**Date:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 4:10 PM  
**To:** Kathleen Robey  
 Ashley Miller  
**Cc:** David Giorgi  
 Bernard  
**Subject:** RE: Elm Street - Speed Limits

Thomas DiPersio  
 City Council  
 Patricia

Councilor,  
 I'm afraid we're going to spend a lot of time going back and forth on emails. I think it's best to leave the conversation where it's at for now and let's have the discussion at the next Traffic Commission meeting.

Take care,

**Sean M. Divoll, P.E.**  
 Commissioner  
 Department of Public Works  
 135 Neil Street  
 Marlborough, MA 01752  
 Office: 508-624-6910

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**From:** Kathleen Robey  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 2:46 PM  
**To:** Thomas DiPersio ; Ashley Miller  
**Cc:** Sean Divoll David Giorgi ; City Council  
**Subject:** Re: Elm Street - Speed Limits

Good afternoon Ashley,  
 Thank you for checking the regulations. It's hard to do mileage on a map so I used a plain sheet of paper to lay out the information. See photo #1 with my chart which indicates that speeds are the same on both sides based on the reg. So looking at the other photos, #2 is 377 Elm St. heading east, note the 25 mph sign on the S side of street w/parallel telephone pole; #3 is 367 Elm St. heading west w/30 mph sign on north side-notice the pole on opposite side of street which holds the 25 mph sign. Google maps tells me it is .8 miles from 1 Elm St. (corner of elm/Mechanic) to 377 Elm) So

it seems based on regulations that is where the speed limits change so that for people heading west and down hill, they are switching from a 25mph limit to 30mph while people heading east and going up hill are switching from 30mph to 25mph. I can see giving people a 30 mph going down the hill so they aren't riding brakes to do 25, but why make people doing 30 going up the hill now have to slow down to 25?

Is there a reason why it switches from the 25mph on the lower Westerly part of Elm to 30 near the 4 way intersection of Locke and Elm and then back to 25 after you climb the hill heading east?

If I am wrong on my analysis, please let me know.

Katie Robey  
Councilor at-Large

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**From:** Thomas DiPersio  
**Date:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 12:12 PM  
**To:** Ashley Miller  
**Cc:** Sean Divoll, Kathleen Robey, David Giorgi  
**Subject:** RE: Elm Street - Speed Limits

Thanks Ashley

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**From:** Ashley Miller  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 10:46 AM  
**To:** Kathleen Robey  
**Cc:** Thomas DiPersio  
**Subject:** Elm Street - Speed Limits

Good morning Councilor Robey,

Elm Street does have regulated speed zones they are:

Elm Street – East – Beginning at Boundary Street, thence easterly on Elm Street: 1.18 miles at 25 miles per hour, 0.68 mile at 30 miles per hour, 0.84 mile at 25 miles per hour ending at Mechanic Street; the total distance being 2.70 miles.

Elm Street – West – Beginning at Mechanic Street, thence westerly on Elm Street: 0.84 mile at 25 miles per hour, 0.68 miles at 30 miles per hour, 1.18 miles at 25 miles per hour ending at Boundary Street; the total distance being 2.70 miles.

The speed signs that you asked about in front of 367 Elm Street appear to be correct.

I also went out this morning to watch the traffic on Bolton Street at Poirier Drive from 7:30am-8:00 am and traffic seemed to flow well with the change to the signal timing. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Ashley Miller**  
 Assistant Civil Engineer  
 Department of Public Works  
 Engineering Division  
 135 Neil Street  
 Marlborough, MA 01752  
 P: 508.624.6910 Ext. 33205

**Karen Lambert**

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**From:** Maria Rivera  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 6:07 PM  
**To:** David Giorgi  
**Subject:** Traffic requests

Good evening:

Today I contacted Amy at the Marlborough DPW about the crosswalks at the foot of Gikas Lane, crossing Gikas Lane and Hudson Street, for repainting, getting a flashing light for pedestrians, and a Dead End street sign. She informed me that I need to contact you regarding the flashing light and street sign to get these items on the Traffic Commission's agenda. Could you please inform me how we need to proceed?

Our neighborhood on Gikas Lane uses this Hudson Street crossing to get our children off the school bus in the afternoon and to access the Rail Trail. Unfortunately, it seems to be a dangerous crossing point without additional safety measures.

Thank you.

Kind regards,  
Maria Rivera

Sent from my iPhone



CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
*Traffic Commission*

**ON-STREET PARKING PERMIT APPLICATION**  
**(Including Handicap Parking)**  
**City of Marlborough Code C.586 S. 73**

Contact Information:

Requested by:

Dorothy M. Rizzi

Address:

194 Chestnut Street #3

Marlborough, MA 01752

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Plate Number

R 17RM U

Handicap Plate

☒ Yes ☐ No

**\*Copy of Handicap Vehicle Registration and/or Placard must accompany this application\***

Location of Parking (or Handicap) Sign:

in front of the house

194 Chestnut Street #3

Approved by Marlborough Traffic Commission:

Location of Parking (or Handicap) Space: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marlborough Traffic Commission – Chair

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE:** Approval for an On-Street Parking space is not an exemption from the Winter Parking Ban\* during a snow plowing operations. Violators may be ticketed and/or towed.

**\*(11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. from December 1<sup>st</sup> to March 15<sup>th</sup>.)**

This permit must be renewed every January, with the Marlborough Traffic Commission or the sign will be removed.



**Expires:**

**08-10-26**

**Disabled Persons  
Parking Identification Placard**





**RIZZI  
DOROTHY  
MACHELE**

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts**