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

Traffic Commission Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 10:00 am in Memorial Hall, 3rd Floor, City Hall. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, Fire Chief Kevin Breen and DPW Commissioner John Ghiloni. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins, Officer Andy Larose – MPD Traffic Services Unit, Officer Nick Lassard, City Solicitor Don Rider and City Councilor Katie Robey. Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, October 31, 2018.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

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

2 - New Business

2a) Intersection of Granger Blvd. & S. Bolton – Crosswalk Concerns

Melissa Walsh sent an email on this issue to Chief Giorgi and Mayor Vigeant. She walks her dog in this area several times a day and uses the crosswalk and cross signal here. She said that cars often look left to take the right on red and then just turn with no consideration for the crosswalk signal. She is extremely cautious when she is walking but is especially concerned for others.

Chief Giorgi said that the Police Department did a “crosswalk sting” here and asked Officer Larose for comments. Officer Larose said that it was actually Sgt. Campbell who monitored this crosswalk, however, he did not specifically witness any issues while he was there. Tim Collins passed out a photo on the intersection showing the northbound approach to the right turn lane. He also included language from the RMV with the

“Rules of the Road” for Turns on Red including a section stating the responsibility of the pedestrian. He highlighted the portion stating, “Before you cross a roadway, stop at the curb, look left, look right, and look left again for traffic. Do this even on a one-way street. Be alert while crossing. Be especially alert at intersections that allow motor vehicles to turn right on red.” He also included an example of MUTCD signs and specific language and highlighted the sign that shows “turning vehicles – yield to pedestrians”. He said that this sign could easily be used at this location. The crosswalk is far back and turning vehicles may not realize there is a crosswalk there. Mr. Collins also noted that the crosswalk bell is not for the benefit of cars, it is for the benefit of the pedestrian to alert them that it is time to cross. He thinks that cars making the turn do not even see that someone is in the crosswalk. It was discussed that the DPW can install the new sign, however, it is still on the pedestrian to be careful when crossing.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for the new sign and to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT to step up enforcement. Chief Giorgi advised that he would follow up with Ms. Walsh.

3-Old Business

3a) Our Future Learning Center - Traffic Concerns.

Update: Tim Collins advised that he did reach out to Joe Frawley of MA DOT with the concerns presented at the last meeting. He passed out an email with his questions and with Mr. Frawley’s responses. A summary is below – Refer to email for specifics. He also included examples of merging signs.

- 1) **Lane Ends Merge Left Sign is missing.** Can it be replaced and relocated to serve as more of an advance warning of the lane shift?
- 2) **Begin Right Turn Lane with arrow Yield to Bikes.** Can it be relocated to the other side of Northboro Rd. West, closer to Boundary Street?

Response: MA DOT is OK with the above changes.

- 3) **Bike Lane** – Can it be extended down to the entrance of the condo complex at Applebriar Lane?

Response: MA DOT is OK with this change but noted that if they are asked to perform the striping modifications, it will most likely not happen until the Spring.

- 4) **Hash marks** – Can these be placed in the shoulder area between the bike lane and curb lane to deter it being used as a travel lane?

Response: MA DOT is OK with this change. Again, if they are asked to perform striping modifications, it will likely not be completed until the Spring.

- 5) **Signage to not block intersection of Boston Post Rd West and Northboro Rd. West.** Email from parent asking if this was possible. TC did not wish to act on this inquiry.

Response: MA DOT can evaluate this if requested by the City.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to Follow up with MA DOT in the Spring.

3b) Crowley Drive – Speed & Parking Issues.

Officer Larose had the portable speed sign out from 11/8/18 to 11/14/18 and passed out the summary report generated by the sign. He noted that the average volume per day is almost 400 vehicles. The sign recorded a maximum speed of 44 and a minimum speed of 4. The 85th percentile was 26.56 mph. Tim Collins advised that the regular rules of the road here would be 30 mph. The sign recorded vehicles coming out of the complex. There was a problem recording the westbound traffic. He has now put the sign back again to record vehicles going in the opposite direction. This information can be shared with the Trustees. No signs have been put up yet but should be done soon. It was reviewed that No Parking signs were to be installed on the development side. The rail trail side was to be left free for parking.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER ENGINEERING to follow up on proper signage and to the POLICE DEPARTMENT to complete the data collection for opposite side of the street.

3c) Order No. 18-1007436 – Review about Veteran’s Space.

Tim Collins passed out copies of an email with specific questions from Councilor Robey and responses from Don Rider, which included an example of a sign. The questions were regarding the specific sign language and the requirements for using the space. All the requirements are specifically spelled out in the statute. See the email handout for specifics.

Officer Larose said that if there was any chance of a vehicle being towed for not meeting the requirements, it would need to be noted on the sign. The Chief asked what would happen if a Veteran parked here but did not have the proper license plate. It was further discussed that the statute is very specific and outlines all the requirements, i.e. the vehicle must be owned by a veteran, driven by a veteran and display a veteran’s license plate. It is now up to the City to determine where they want the specific parking space located and up to the Police Department to handle enforcement. Officer Larose said that as long as the sign says, “subject to tow” and that a veteran’s plate is required, enforcement is all set. There was a question however, as to what type of ticket would be issued, a parking ticket issued by the parking clerk or a Chapter 90 ticket issued by a police officer. The issue is that all Chapter 90 offenses are surchargable, with a \$100 fine, and sent to the registry. An appeal would go to the Courthouse not the parking clerk. Councilor Robey said that this falls under Chapter 175, Section 113B and is not a surchargable offence.

Chief Giorgi suggested that the spot be out front of the parking garage so that it would also fall within the two-hour parking window and Tim Collins suggested that a spot next to the current handicapped spot would be preferable. Another proposal was for the two spots to be right next to each other with the loading zone in the middle with shared access.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to determine the specific spot, draft the wording for the sign and corresponding regulation.

Officer Larose asked to discuss an item not on the Agenda. All in Favor.

Yellow painted curbing at intersection of Lincoln St. and Winthrop St.

Officer Larose has received complaints about the faded paint at this location. Can it be repainted? Councilor Robey said that she has the same issue on Mechanic Street. Tim Collins advised that the City Ordinance states there is no parking allowed within 20 feet on an intersection. This is what is in force throughout the City but we don't paint the curb at every intersection. It is not necessary or required. It will not be repainted by the City but the Police Department can work on enforcement if it continues to be an issue.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 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, November 28, 2018, including meeting agenda.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, October 31, 2018.
- Email from Melissa Walsh to Chief Giorgi, dated 11/5/18, re: Intersection of Granger Blvd. and South Bolton.

Additional Handouts:

- Copy of MADOT response regarding suggested changes to Boston Post Road West along with examples of signage.
- Photo of South Bolton Street – Northbound approach to right turn lane
- Copy of RMV – Rules of the Road relative to “Right on Red”.
- Example of MUTCD signage relative to Right of Red and Yield to Pedestrians along with wording from the manual explaining options.

-Email from Don Rider to Councilor Robey with responses to her questions regarding Veteran's Parking along with an example of language for signage.

-Copy of Extended Speed Summary Report for Crowley Drive.