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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, January 26, 2022 at 10:00 am. The meeting was also recorded and is available to view online at the City of Marlborough website (www.marlbrough-ma.gov). Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, Commissioner of Public Works Sean Divoll and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Ashley Miller also from the Engineering Department, Sgt. Zac Attaway and Officer Any Larose from the MPD Traffic Services Unit, City Council President Mike Ossing and City Councilor Katie Robey

Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

Chief Giorgi started recording the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and began by welcoming everyone and making introductions.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, December 26, 2021:

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

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

2 - New Business

2) Resident concerns at 315 Cook Lane

Sgt. Attaway received an email from Lori Priest regarding multiple accidents that have occurred in front of her home at 315 Cook Lane. The most recent was on January 7th, the same day as her follow up email to Sgt. Attaway. A car once again hit her stonewall and

knocked down her mailbox. This is a very bad corner. She is requesting that the City install some sort of barrier in front of her home or some signage indicating the curve ahead.

Sgt. Attaway and Officer Larose reviewed the accident history here. They found 5 reported accidents in the last 10 years. Officer Larose brought up a photo of the area. There is currently a stone wall in front of 315 Cook Lane. Ms. Priest is looking for something in addition to the wall. He said, maybe a guardrail or at least a sign indicating "blind curve ahead". Chief Giorgi asked if the City owned the wall. Tom DiPersio said the right of way may be at the wall, but he will check on this. Officer Larose had the accident narratives and said that there usually was damage to the wall. He noted that a few of the reported accidents were due to ice and one was a roll over, but it was also an OUI. There have been others that weren't reported. Steve Kerrigan said that maybe the advance warning signs were a good idea.

Commissioner Divoll asked if the stone wall has been compromised over the years. He is thinking it could be on its last legs. Officer Larose said there is no mortar and that it is really just flagstone. The wall has prevented cars from hitting the home. Commissioner Divoll said that it seems like a guardrail might be warranted and that the City should do something for safety reasons. If it weren't for the wall, the crashes would have come into her yard. Tom DiPersio said that the accidents here are a frequent enough occurrence to warrant at least looking into it further.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for review and to Sgt. Attaway to advise the homeowner of the discussion.

2b) Time Limit Parking at 240 Main Street

Chief Giorgi advised that this issue began with an email from Officer Wicks on 1/20/22. He has received multiple complaints from a resident of 240 Main Street regarding violations of the 2-hour parking limit directly in front of the building. The resident said that the 2-hour parking limit signs were removed from the light pole adjacent to the 4 parking spots. Officer Wicks said that the signs were actually knocked down during snow removal several years ago and never reinstalled. The resident says that people park in these spots all day and this ties up spaces for other people who then resort to blocking the crosswalks and illegal parking for pick ups and drop offs.

Ashly Miller investigated this issue and sent an email to Chief Giorgi with her findings. According to Google street view the signs seem to have come down sometime between 2017 and 2019. She also checked the regulations to see what was currently in effect. She found a regulation for a 30-minute time limit parking between Windsor Street and Newton Street on the south side of Main Street. The signs that were previously posted were for 2-hour parking, however, under the same article there is no regulation for 2-hour parking. Another section of the regulations shows 2-hour parking on both sides from East Main Street to West Main Street and includes the 30-minute parking for 4 spaces in front of 240 Main Street.

She is asking if there is a need for 30-minute parking in front of 240 Main Street or should it be changed to 2-hour parking to be consistent with the rest of Main Street? If the Traffic Commission keeps the 30-minute time limit, should it be extended for all the

spaces between Newton Street and Windsor Street (10 spaces)? The regulations need to be clarified as there appears to be an overlap and confusion.

Tom DiPersio said that his first reaction was to put the signs up but now that Ashley has found these discrepancies it should all be clarified. It was discussed that the 30-minute time frame was probably established to allow residents to drop off groceries etc., however, this is difficult to enforce. There needs to be a balance. Tom DiPersio asked if it would make sense to get some input from the CDA. Chief Giorgi said that in his opinion, some type of shorter time limit parking for a few spots is necessary. Keeping 4 spots at 30 minutes may be enough, as the other six are more for the downtown businesses where the 2 hour time limit is applicable. Maybe the signs were never put back up because of the conflicting regulations. It needs to be clarified that downtown parking is 2 hours, all day, from 6:00 am to 1:00 am, with the 4 spaces in front of 240 Main Street limited to 30-minute parking. So it looks like the Downtown street parking regulation should stay the way it is currently written under "Ch. 586-28 – Municipal Parking Areas – Designation; regulations for use" and the specific reference to Main Street under "Ch. 586-56 – Time Limit Parking" should be deleted.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to amend the regulation for the next meeting.

3-Old Business

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

Update: No update yet from MA DOT. Commissioner Divoll will follow up with them.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE for the next meeting.

3b) Request for 2 handicapped parking spaces on Laviolette Street.

Update: Completed application received. DPW can now install proper signage.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REMOVE from the Agenda.

3c) Prospect Street – Request for Handicapped Parking Space & One Way Arrow

Update: Completed application received. DPW can now install proper signage. Chief Giorgi said that the resident's car was parked there when he went by recently. However, he asked Officer Larose to speak to the neighbor as they sometimes park a truck here. This will not be an issue once the proper signage is installed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REMOVE from the Agenda.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:21 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, January 26, 2022, including meeting agenda.

-Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, December 29, 2021.

-Email from Lori Priest to Sgt. Attaway, dated 1/7/22, Re: Accidents on Cook Lane (including photo).

-Email from Ashley Miller to Chief Giorgi, dated 2/21/22, Re: 240 Main Street, 2-hour signage.

-Copy of Chapter 586, Article V – Municipal Parking Areas, Section 28 – Designation; regulations for use.

-Copy of Chapter 586, Article VII – Schedules, Section 56, Schedule XII: Time Limit Parking.

-Copy of completed application for on-street parking at 68 Prospect Street.

-Copy of completed application for on-street parking at Laviolette Street close to side door of Academy Knoll Apts.

Additional Handouts

-Copies of narrative from previous accidents at 315 Cook Lane.