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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 Monday, May 2, 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 and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Ashley Miller also from the Engineering Department, Sgt. Ronnie Ney and Officer Andy Larose from the MPD Traffic Services Unit, City Councilor Katie Robey and local resident Maria Rivera.

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 30, 2022:

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

*Chief Giorgi asked to take the New Business Items out of order as Maria Rivera was in attendance for 2b.*

**2 - New Business**

**2b) Request for flashing pedestrian crossing light & Dead-End sign on Gikas Lane.**

Ms. Rivera explained that there are 10 houses on Gikas Lane with 17 children, many of whom are young. Families regularly use the crosswalks at the foot of Gikas Lane and Hudson Street to get their children off the school bus and to access the Rail Trail. She said that it is "a dangerous crossing point without additional safety" She is requesting 1)

repainting the crosswalks 2) a flashing light for pedestrians and 3) a Dead-End Street sign. She feels that a flashing light would be the best bet for safety. When cars are coming down Hudson Street from the hospital, it is a blind turn, and they are often going faster than the speed limit.

Officer Larose pulled up an aerial photo for reference. Tom DiPersio advised that when the subdivision was put in, they were supposed to cut back the vegetation on the turn. It may need to be done again. He also noted that there are no Advance Warning signs for the crosswalk, and there should be at this location. Mr. DiPersio explained that there is not enough volume to trigger the warrant for a flashing pedestrian light.

Ms. Rivera said that the morning bus comes down the hill from the hospital and the afternoon bus is on the other side. The road is divided so people are less likely to realize that they should still be stopping for the school bus. Kids could be running across the street and cars fly past the bus.

There are also protected wetlands on the corner. Mr. DiPersio said that they would work with the Conservation Commission on cutting back the vegetation to clear the corner for safety reasons and they will add the advance warning signs for the crosswalk. Officer Larose asked if there could be two advance warning signs coming from the hospital, one at the turn and one further down closer to Gikas. The crosswalk will also be repainted.

Ms. Rivera is also requesting a dead-end sign as people seem to come up Gikas Lane by mistake, maybe thinking it is Hudson Street. They come full speed without realizing it is a cul-de-sac.

Ms. Rivera also asked about the type of crosswalk, if there was a way to make it stand out more. Mr. DiPersio advised that the ladder style crosswalk is used based on volume. They will have to see if it fits here.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to repaint the crosswalks (in the format determined suitable for the area), clear the brush and install advance warning signs. They will also look at the request for the Dead-End sign.

## **2a) Review of Elm Street speed limits.**

Councilor Robey had asked Engineering to look at the speed limits in this area as there are signs for 25 mph and 30 mph across from each other in the area of the 495 bridge and it is confusing. Ashley Miller looked into the regulated speed zones and advised as to the locations and that the signs appear to be correct.

It is 25 mph going up the hill toward Pleasant Street and 30 mph going down the hill. Ms. Miller advised that the speed regulation was created in 1974. It is not clear as to why it was created but the speed limit does go from 25 to 30 and back to 25 toward Boundary Street. The 25-mph section is from Mechanic St. to 367 Elm. Then it goes to 30 mph from 367 to 649 Elm and the remainder of Elm Street is 25 mph.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to accept and place on file. No further action needed.

**2c) Request for On Street Parking Permit @ 194 Chestnut St.**

Chief Giorgi advised that he has spoken to the applicant. She is handicapped and lives on the third floor and parking is in the back of the house. She is requesting a spot in the front of the house. Mr. Kerrigan asked if there is room in the road. Ms. Miller brought up a photo of the area for reference. She also checked the regulation and confirmed that parking is allowed here. Mr. Kerrigan asked what happens during the winter parking ban. Chief Giorgi advised that there is a notice on the application regarding the winter parking ban. This is not an exemption, and the vehicle would have to be moved. Violators may be ticketed and/or towed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to APPROVE the parking spot.

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

**Update:** Ms. Miller advised that she has sent a few emails to MADOT but has not received a reply yet. She will continue to follow up.

**3b) Parking Issues on Cotting Ave.**

**Update:** The Traffic Commission has already voted to remove the 30-minute parking area from Cotting Ave. Chief Giorgi advised that he needs the specific language from Engineering to create the regulation. He will get it from Ms. Miller and create the regulation for the next meeting.

**3c) 30-minute parking regulation review.**

**Update:** Chief Giorgi advised that he needs the specific language from Engineering to create the regulation. He will get it from Ms. Miller and create the regulation for the next meeting.

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

None noted.

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 the Traffic Commission Meeting on Monday, May 2, 2022, including meeting agenda.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, March 30, 2022.
- Email chain between Councilor Robey and the Engineering Department, dated 3/31/22, re: Elm Street Speed Limits.
- Email from Maria Rivera to Chief Giorgi, dated 4/11/22, re: Traffic Requests (Flashing pedestrian crossing light & Dead-End sign on Gikas Lane.
- On-Street Parking Permit Application for 194 Chestnut Street.

**Additional Handouts**

- None