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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, June 28, 2023, 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). Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, Fire Chief Kevin Breen, Commissioner of Works Sean Divoll and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Assistant Civil Engineer Ashley Miller, Sgt, Ronald Ney from the MPD Traffic Services Unit and City Councilor Christian Dumais.

Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD - Public Safety Administrative Assistant.

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

1- Minutes

Review of the minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, May 31, 2023.

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

2 - New Business

2a) Mt. Pleasant Street Traffic Concerns

Councilor Oram sent an email to Chief Giorgi and Councilor Dumais on this issue. Councilor Dumais was in attendance for the discussion. Councilor Oram said that he has received complaints from constituents about traffic on Mt. Pleasant Street. This road is used as a bypass with some of this bypass traffic speeding. The main problem time is between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm on weekdays. He is asking what can be done to address this concern. The mayor's office also forwarded a similar complaint from Ed Silva, a resident of Mt. Pleasant. Mr. Silva said in his email that he witnessed a young person

crossing the street between two parked cars almost get hit by a speeding car. He included a photo and video with his email showing the traffic all backed up. He asked about the possibility of making a No Left Turn off South Street between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm.

Sgt. Ney said that Officer Connors has been out there and said he didn't see it as a speed issue when he was there, but definitely a volume issue. Officer Larose was going to put the electronic speed sign out to collect data. Chief Giorgi said that he has also heard from the City Council on this issue as it also exists in other areas like on Chandler Street and State Street. We did add signage to Steven's Street for No Left Turn during a specific time.

We would not be able to do No Left Turn – Residents Only, as there would be no way for the police department to enforce this. "No thru traffic" was also discussed but directional apps send you this way. The app would need to be notified if there was no left turn allowed here.

All agreed that the best first step was to get the data from the speed signs, but a No Left Turn during a specific timeframe seems to make sense. Sgt. Ney also commented that the video Mr. Silva forwarded does not appear to be a normal day. He said that there must have been a specific issue on South Street or West Main Street that was causing a problem. The speed sign data will help to determine the impacted timeframe, whether that is 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm or 3:00 to 6:00 pm etc. Fire Chief Breen asked if anyone knows how to notify the directional apps. Engineering (Tom DiPersio and Ashley Miller) said that the city has a contact for Waze. They need to be notified so that the app won't suggest this specific route if it is no longer an option.

Sgt. Ney said that many people probably aren't even following directions anymore. They just know that this is the way they always go. Councilor Dumais asked if we could take a look at the timing of the lights on South Street. He lives in this area and can see the traffic. People are waiting for the light to turn green, and they can't move. Ashley Miller said that this would mean taking time away from traffic traveling on South Street. They can't take time away from the East/West movement. Steve Kerrigan asked if there was a dedicated arrow for a left turn when traveling up South Street toward West Main Street. Most people seem to be turning left onto West Main Street. Ashley Miller said that the timing is very limited and that maybe three cars can turn with the arrow. Councilor Dumais said that he doesn't think the signs will be enforced and that a timing change would be a better solution. Chief Giorgi suggested that we hold the discussion until we have the data from the speed signs. All agreed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the Police Department to put out the speed signs and collect data and to Engineering to get more information on the timing of the lights.

3-Old Business

3a) Review of unwarranted stop sign locations

Update: Engineering sent an update this morning, but no one had the opportunity to review it yet. Hold for the next meeting for further discussion.

3b) Parking/bus stop concerns at Upland Road and Stevens Street

Update: Chief Giorgi advised that he had reached out to Doug Dias regarding the concerns discussed at the last meeting. Upon further review, the school department determined that the current bus stop is located in the safest spot given the other available options. Mr. Dias asked for the contact information for the reporter so they could contact her directly regarding the concerns. Chief Giorgi gave them her email address. It was noted that they occasionally receive bus stop complaints from nearby residents and generally have success in resolving the matter.

Officer Larose had provided the Speed Summary Reports for Upland Road. The Chief reviewed the basic data:

Upland Road NB, Speed Limit – 30 mph, Min Speed – 5, Max Speed – 35, Average Speed - 17.21, 85th Percentile – 21.81, Average Volume per Day – 242.3 Vehicles.

Upland Road SB – Speed Limit – 30 mph, Min Speed – 5, Max Speed – 36, Average Speed – 20.61, 85th Percentile – 25.08, Average Daily Volume 195.2 Vehicles.

Similar findings in both directions. Speed does not appear to be a problem.

Update on a previous agenda item (from the May meeting):

The Chief also reviewed the Speed Summary Reports for **Cullinane Drive**.

Cullinane Drive SB – Speed Limit – 30 mph, Max Speed – 22, Min Speed – 8, Average Speed – 11.28, 85th Percentile – 12.9, Average Daily Volume – 63 Vehicles

Cullinane Drive ND – Speed Limit – 30 mph, Max Speed – 29, Min Speed – 8, Average Speed – 16.69, 85th Percentile – 20.19, Average Daily Volume – 66.8 Vehicles

Again, similar findings, the data does not show that speed is an issue.

The Chief asked if there were any additional questions or concerns. 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 June 28, 2023, including meeting agenda.

-Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, May 31, 2023.

-Email from Councilor Oram to Chief Giorgi, dated 6/7/23, re: Mt. Pleasant Street traffic, bypass, and speeding.

-Email chain between Chief Giorgi and Doug Dias, dated 5/31/23 to 6/2/23, re: Stevens St./Upland Rd. bus stop.

Additional Handouts

-Email from Ed Silva (forwarded to Chief Giorgi by Jailyn Bratica), dated 6/26/23, re: Traffic Concern on Mt. Pleasant

-Speed Summary Reports from Upland Road, NB & SB

-Speed Summary Reports from Cullinane Drive, NB & SB