

**MEETING OF THE  
CITY OF WOBURN  
TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 17, 2016 – 4:00 P.M.  
COMMITTEE ROOM  
WOBURN CITY HALL**

Attending: Comm. Joanne Campbell, Comm. Tina Cassidy, Comm. John Duran, Comm.-designee Brett Gonsalves, Comm. Raymond Mooney, Comm. Lindsay Higgins.

Absent: Comm. Myles Collins, Comm. Timothy Ring, Comm. Peter Socorelis.

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Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to accept, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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**No. 2016-16**

On the petition relative to resident traffic and through traffic only restrictions. Comm. Mooney stated that all the streets with these signs have been identified including those that are posted resident traffic only and those with time restrictions on both ends, and that there should be communication with the residents of the streets as to which direction of travel is preferred when time restrictions on travel are in effect. Comm. Higgins stated that input would be required from residents of the streets relative to the preferred direction of travel. Comm. Campbell stated that where a street is affected by proposed changes the Ward Alderman should also be notified. Comm. Higgins stated that the issue could be addressed by ward and have the Aldermen work with the residents of those streets. Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> that the matter be tabled to the next meeting of the Traffic Commission, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> that the following matter be taken out of order, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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**No. 2016-21**

On the petition relative to no commercial trucking signs on Green Street. Appearing was David Fallon, 40 Green Street and he stated that there is an ongoing issue of trucks traveling on Green Street, that the noise, vibration and dust associated with the trucks are unacceptable for residential, school and park use, that the no trucking restriction has been in place for many years, that contractors for the city use the street for making deliveries by truck, that commercial delivery trucks use Green Street when there are no businesses on Green Street to make the deliveries, that the companies state that the GPS directs them to the street, they have used the street before, their use is exempt or they have permission to use the street, that a number of trucks have no identification on the truck, that the fines should be increased from \$20.00 to \$200.00 per violation, and that addition signs or LED signs may raise awareness of the no trucking restriction. Mr. Fallon offered a document entitled "Trucking sign recommendations for

Green St. area” for the Traffic Commission to review. Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> that the document be received and made part of the record, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent). Mr. Fallon stated that drivers from Dole and Bailey are the only ones of the businesses in that vicinity that do not use Green Street for their trucks, that trucks from Fowle Street attempt to turn onto Green Street with difficulty, that Green Street and Fowle Street are used by trucks to avoid traffic in Woburn center, that some of the violators are repeat violators, and that he understands that the Police Department has limited resources for enforcement. Comm. Mooney stated that traveling on a restricted way has a fine of \$105.00 under the statute, that the fines are written under M.G.L. Chapter 90 and not the local ordinances, that he agrees that the no trucking signs could be improved, that there is one sign with a truck and a circle with red line drawn through it posted at both ends of the street, that the Police Department performs school zone and trucking enforcement often on the street, and that the truck traffic does occur despite the enforcement efforts. Mr. Fallon stated that he contacts the trucking companies when there is an issue to inform them about the no trucking restriction, that he does not represent himself as a public official when doing so, and that he has compiled a list of three hundred companies that have trucks travel on Green Street. Comm. Gonsalves stated that the signs have to conform to the Uniform Traffic Control standards, that the city is currently taking an inventory of signs and will be changing the signs to meet the current code relative to reflectivity, and that the lighted signs need a source of power. Comm. Duran stated that there are a combination of signs and that he will have better information once the sign inventory is completed, and that there should be a site visit to determine what might be more appropriate signs. Comm. Mooney stated that updated signs with increased enforcement may mitigate the issue, and that police resources are generally deployed to public safety issues such as the location of high frequency crash sites. Comm. Campbell stated that it may be that the Police Department would be able to contact the trucking companies about the issue. Comm. Mooney stated that the Police Department would not have the resources to contact all of these trucking companies, that signs would have to be erected before any strict enforcement could be taken, and that care must be taken to avoid notifying companies of violations if there were no actual violations. Mr. Fallon stated that he can provide a list of the twenty top violators of the ordinance to the Traffic Commission. Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> that the matter be tabled to the next meeting of the Traffic Commission, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to return to the regular order of business, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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### **No. 2016-22**

On the petition relative to time limited parking near 312 Main Street. Comm. Cassidy stated that she has been told by some merchants that there are one and two hour parking spaces in the area, and that she can take an inventory of the posted signs. Comm. Gonsalves stated that he can prepared a map showing the locations and the signs. Clerk Campbell stated that the traffic code indicates a one hour parking restriction on both sides of the street in that area. Comm. Duran stated that if the ordinance restriction parking to one hour then the signs can be changed. Comm. Mooney stated that he agrees that the Department of Public Works should replace the signs to conform to the ordinances. Comm. Campbell stated that she is concerned that customers of the particular businesses will not be able to utilize the on-street parking. Comm. Mooney stated that the Police Department can look at Church Street for additional flex parking. Comm. Duran stated

that the city is looking at a redesign of the City Hall parking lot. Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> that Department of Public Works change parking signs in the area of 312 Main Street to meet the restrictions in the Traffic Code, 5 in favor, 1 opposed (Campbell opposed), 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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**No. 2016-23**

Relative to the petition for traffic calming Middlesex Street. Comm. Campbell stated that the issues raised in the petition are common throughout the city, and that resident traffic only signs are no longer an option although time restricted access signs are permitted. Comm. Cassidy stated that the petitioner is seeking children warning signs and flashing speed signs. Comm. Mooney stated that the resident only signs are not enforceable, and that a time restriction on direction of travel are enforceable. Comm. Duran stated that he will visit the street, that he is hesitant to install additional signs which are non-compliant, and that he can work with the Police Department to determine appropriate signs to be installed. Comm. Mooney stated that vehicle speed often appears to be greater than 30 m.p.h. although the speed is not. Comm. Gonsalves stated that it is unlikely that vehicles are exceeding 30 m.p.h. due to the roadway configuration. Comm. Duran stated that the ultimate answer is to see how the signage issue relative to the resident traffic only and time restrictions on direction of travel is resolved, and that this would give clarity to this issue. Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> that the matter be placed on file, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> that the December 15, 2016 Traffic Commission meeting be canceled, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent (Collins, Ring, Socorelis absent).

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Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn, 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (Duran absent). Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

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William C. Campbell, City Clerk  
and Clerk of Traffic Commission