

**MEETING OF THE
CITY OF WOBURN
TRAFFIC COMMISSION
JANUARY 20, 2022 – 4:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER
WOBURN CITY HALL**

Attending: Comm. Tina Cassidy, Comm. John Corey, Comm. Lou DiMambro, Comm. Joseph Foley, Comm. Peter Socorelis, Comm. Charles Stokes, Comm. Jeffrey Dillon (Chair).

Absent: Comm. John Duran, Comm. Anthony Langone

Motion made and 2nd to elect Comm. Dillon as Chair, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent).

Motion made and 2nd to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to accept, all in favor, 6-0-2-1 (Duran and Langone Absent, Cassidy Abstained).

2021-14

On the request for no truck traffic on Poole Street, Comm. Stokes stated that the time he spent there was limited to four hours, one hour each time, and he did not see an issue. Comm. Stokes stated that he only saw one cement truck and believed the traffic flow was not a big problem. Comm. Corey stated that MassDOT requires there be an alternate route, there is no alternate route, and generally look at if there is an inordinate amount of traffic on street, and his observations he did not see that. Comm. Corey stated that in the early 2000's someone had asked about the same issue, and the analysis stated it was less than what is on a normal street. Motion made and 2nd to open discussion to the public, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent). The petitioner, Fran Fugazzoto, 32 Poole Street, who was in attendance with her husband Walter Fugazzoto, stated that she noticed that the truck traffic after the November 18, 2021 meeting had dropped off over the winter. Ms. Fugazzoto stated that there was a large towing truck down the street pulling a flatbed, and she noticed it again in January, and she was concerned traffic may reappear in the spring. Mr. Fugazzoto stated that he was monitoring the trucks and there was "S & S" and "Viera" trucking, but that in the winter trucking is near minimal, but that it would probably get worse in the spring and summer. Comm. Dillon stated he appreciated that both the Fugazzotos came to both meetings and that it looked like it is resolved and an effort had been made, and asked the Fugazzotos to reach out at a later date. Ms. Fugazzoto stated there are other ways to get to locations, such as using Pearl Street to get to Wilmington. Motion made and 2nd that the matter be placed on file, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent).

2021-15

On the request for crosswalk on Winn Street at intersection with Linden Street, Clerk Higgins stated she spoke with DPW Superintendent and Comm. Jay Duran, and that he marked a potential crosswalk area on the east side of Winn Street approximately 50 feet north of Linden Street, and that the thought this would improve the site distance moving it further away from the more dangerous corner. Comm. Dillon stated that he also spoke with Comm. Duran and that he had been out there a couple of times, and can probably nail this down and make it final at the February 15, 2022 meeting. Comm. Foley stated he looked at the area and see the concern not having it too close to Linden Street, and that he was concerned with the brief elevation for emergency vehicles there is not enough time to stop. Comm. Foley suggested a flashing light. Comm. Dillon stated that Comm. Duran's concern suggested moving the crosswalk 50 feet from Linden Street, and that Comm. Duran and Comm. Corey should meet to decide the location of the crosswalk. Richard Cutts, 15 Linden Street, stated there are only 15 homes on Linden Street and Linden Circle, which is transitioning to new families, with six children ages two to six years old, all of which go to the new Wyman School and will eventually go to the Joyce Middle School. Mr. Cutts stated there were a lot of dog walkers and stated that, as an engineer, he determined that when a posted speed limit is 35 m.p.h., the breaking stopping distance is 136 feet, and on the Burlington side it almost 250 feet, which is twice the distance. Mr. Cutts stated that going towards Woburn center the rise is about 435 feet which is three times the amount and is supposedly enough based on the chart. Mr. Cutts stated it does not have to necessarily move from corner, as long as the crosswalk goes across to Elijah Street and love to have a flashing light. Motion made and 2nd to accept the two documents and make it part of the permanent record, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent). Comm. Corey stated he agreed there needs to be a final position for the crosswalk. Mr. Cutts stated that the 50 feet is just the other side of Elijah Street. Motion made and 2nd that the matter be moved to the next meeting, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent).

2021-16

On the request for No Parking Signs on Pilgrim Road and Lowell Street from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ORDERED That the 2017 Woburn Traffic Code, as amended, be further amended by adding to Schedule 1 Parking Restrictions the following:

PILGRIM ROAD - No parking both sides 20 feet from Lowell Street.

ORDERED That the 2017 Woburn Traffic Code, as amended, be further amended by adding to Schedule 1 Parking Restrictions the following:

LOWELL STREET - No parking on northerly side from Hart Place westerly to Marion Avenue.

Clerk Higgins stated she misspoke the last meeting and wanted to clarify that the no parking from here to corner signs can go up without amending the Traffic Code, and that the commission should probably take a vote to approve the signs in order to clarify for the meeting record. Motion made and 2nd to have the DPW place no parking signs here to corner on Pilgrim Road on the Lowell Street side, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent). Comm. Dillon stated he thought it was just pushing the problem down the road, and thought they would just wait for the spring. Clerk Higgins stated at the last meeting the commission voted to have the first reading on the order no parking on Lowell Street on northerly side from Hart Place westerly to Marion Avenue, and that it is up to the commission to vote on whether they would want that order to go through. Comm. Stokes stated he did not recall what was voted on at the last meeting and that he does not think should be put up on Lowell Street. Comm. Stokes stated when the pandemic is done, more children be on the bus, or use the front of the building, and stated the neighbors should sit down with the School Committee to rectify, as this is just moving the parking problem. Clerk Higgins stated that the only signs voted on for Pilgrim Road were for the no parking here to corner, and no others, and the other order was the no parking on Lowell Street. Comm. Dillon stated he did not want people to confuse the issues that the issue on Pilgrim Road seems to be resolved with the no parking here to corner signs, and now the commission should focus on Lowell Street. Comm. Stokes stated the issue is that only one car can pass through if people are parking on both sides of Pilgrim Road, and if signs go up on Pilgrim Road, they will need to enforce it and other streets will want it. Comm. Foley stated he believed the other issue is that people cannot get out of driveway during those periods. Comm. Corey stated that it sounds like the residents are not getting the support from the school, the school should devise a plan on how parents park. Comm. Dillon stated the principal has been very helpful the three or four times she was out there, but I am not there all the time. Comm. Corey stated perhaps the School Committee could do something. Comm. Dillon stated that he hoped in the spring this issued would go away. Comm. Corey stated a similar thing happened at the softball field, and the neighbors did not realize the restriction was for everyone, including the neighbors. Motion made and 2nd that the matter be placed on file, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent).

2021-18

On the request for a handicapped parking space at 14 Mt. Pleasant Street. Clerk Higgins stated the petitioner could not make it to the meeting due to medical reasons. Comm. Dillon stated he called the petitioner at 3:00 p.m., but understandably had not heard back from him. Comm. Dillon stated the petitioner does qualify for the parking spot, however, there is an issue since he is on the even side of the street, the side with the winter parking ban. Comm. Stokes stated he spoke with Tim Donovan of the Commission on Disability, that there is not a state exception for handicapped spaces when it comes to winter parking bans, so there could be no parking on the even side in the winter, thus the odd could be a better option. Comm. Corey stated the commission should wait to hear from the petitioner. Motion made and 2nd to the continue the matter to the next meeting, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent).

Comm. Dillon thanked Comm. Foley and Comm. DiMambro, stated that they were new to the Traffic Commission and welcomed them, and welcomed back Comm. Cassidy.

Motion made and 2nd to adjourn, all in favor, 7-0-2 (Duran and Langone Absent). Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

Lindsay E. Higgins
City Clerk and Clerk of Traffic Commission