



TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT

TRAFFIC STUDY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ELIHU THOMSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
22 MONUMENT AVENUE, SWAMPSCOTT, MA 01907

MEMBERS
GINO CRESTA, DPW
S. PETER KANE, PLANNING
RONALD MENDES, PARKING
JAMES POTTS, FIRE
LT. THOMAS STEPHENS, POLICE

APRIL 26, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

Time: 9:30 – 9:53 am
Location: Swampscott Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room, 22 Monument Avenue
Members Present: J. Potts (Fire), G. Cresta (DPW), T. Stephens (Police), P. Kane (Planning)
Members Absent: R. Mendes (Parking Clerk)
Others Present: Alan Turner (resident), Ivan Sever (resident)

Meeting called to order at 9:31a by P. Kane.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee reviewed the minutes from the March 28 meeting. No comments.

MOTION: by J. Potts to approve the March meeting minutes, seconded by G. Cresta, and unanimously approved.

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATORY REQUESTS

#A – REMOVAL OF HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE ON-STREET PARKING SPACES (42 ROCK AVENUE & 643 HUMPHREY STREET)

P. Kane stated that the Committee had received an email from the chair of the Commission on Disabilities, Trish Malphrus, that a couple of on-street handicap-restricted parking spaces may no longer be needed as the residents at the property may have moved. The two properties identified were 42 Rock Avenue and 643 Humphrey Street.

Alan Turner (42 Rock Avenue) was present. He told the Committee that the parking space was created for his son who's handicapped and still resides at the home. He requested that no change be made. The Committee agreed that the space restriction in front of 42 Rock Avenue should remain in place.

No one was present for 643 Humphrey Street. The Committee discussed if the space should be removed. T. Stephens suggested that as policy it may be a good idea to leave the spaces as is until a new resident requests for it to be removed. G. Cresta suggest the possibility of an annual permit for the handicap parking spaces. He also suggested that it might be worthwhile to have the Commission on Disability review the list and contact residents on an annual basis.

MOTION: by T. Stephens to remove the handicap parking restriction in front of 643 Humphrey Street, seconded by G. Cresta, unanimous.

#B – RECOMMENDATION FOR INTERSECTION CHANGE (HUMPHREY STREET & ATLANTIC AVENUE)

P. Kane opened the next topic by saying the request/note had been submitted through SeeClickFix. He outlined that the message had questioned the legality of the 20mph portion of Humphrey Street near Atlantic Avenue. P. Kane had gone back through the Traffic Regulations Book and confirmed that the 20mph designation was set through Commonwealth oversight/approval back in 1965. The submission also included three options to improve north-bound traffic flow at the intersection with Atlantic Avenue: 1) a sign alerting motorists that Humphrey Street is a left turn, 2) move the existing traffic lights at the intersection of Puritan Road and Humphrey Street to the Humphrey Street and Atlantic Avenue intersection (or place an additional traffic light at the Humphrey/Atlantic intersection), or 3) stripe the road for a Left-Turn Only lane for north-bound Humphrey St traffic.

P. Kane suggested that the third option seemed the most appropriate as well as feasible given the street layout. T. Stephens said the intersection is prone to accidents, but not with the north-bound traffic. The traffic crashes primarily occur with south-bound Humphrey Street traffic merging with the south-bound Atlantic Avenue traffic. T. Stephens said that it would be better to have a stop sign for south-bound Atlantic Avenue traffic.

Ivan Sever was present and said he had been looking at the issue and comments on Facebook. He wondered why the 20mph restriction was there, but understood now given the explanation. T. Stephens also noted it was done due to the number of streets that enter into that intersection vicinity.

The Committee discussed some options and whether there's a need for a change. G. Cresta suggested tabling the item. He's hiring a new Town Engineer with traffic experience very soon who could provide direction on the issue.

MOTION: by G. Cresta to table the item until the next meeting, seconded by J. Potts, unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee then reviewed their schedules to set the next meeting date. After discussion, the members agreed to meet on Thursday, Jun 7 @ 9:30a.

MOTION: by T. Stephens to adjourn the meeting, seconded by G. Cresta, unanimous.

Meeting closed at 9:53a.

S. Peter Kane
Traffic Study Advisory Committee, Chair