



City of Chelsea
TRAFFIC & PARKING COMMISSION
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Minutes of the August 29, 2017 meeting.

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held in the Third Floor City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Members present were Fire Chief Leonard Albanese, Alex Train of Planning and Development, Director of Public Works Bertram Taverna and resident members Carolyn P. Boumila-Vega, Jorge Pazos, and Brian Wagner. Also present: City Clerk Jeannette Cintron White, Steven Laferriere and Alex Garcia-Mendoza of Neighborhood Developers, Mimi Graney of Planning and Development, and resident Mary Maloney.

New Business:

Agenda Item #1 – Minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting.

Len Albanese made motion to approve the minutes. Alex Train second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #2 – Communication of July 31, 2017 from Ricardo Valle of Iglesia La Luz De Cristo, requesting special parking permits for use of members during monthly vigils.

Len Albanese made a motion to table as the requestor did not attend the meeting. Alex Train seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 – Communication of August 17, 2017 from Marjorie Coello, requesting to restore parking on both sides of Maple Street by petition.

Marjorie Coello was not present at the meeting. Alex Train stated when the city installed the new sidewalks for the One North apartments, they restricted parking on one side due to the width of the street. Len Albanese stated that he drove by the area and parked his vehicle on the opposite side to view the width of the street. He noted that it would not be enough room to accommodate emergency vehicle passing or turning corners. Bert Taverna agreed as his plow trucks have great difficulty maneuvering through the area in the winter. Len Albanese stated it would not be practical to change. Alex Train made a motion to deny. Bert Taverna second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 – Communication of August 15, 2017 from Aaron Wasserman of The Neighborhood Developers, requesting the approval of a traffic management plan for the construction of thirty-four new homes at 242 Spencer Avenue.

Steven Laferriere, of The Neighborhood Developers, stated that they received special permits to build on 242 Spencer Avenue and were thinking of the best way to protect access through Spencer Avenue. Alex Garcia, of The Neighborhood Developers, will have a superintendent at sight at all times and will maintain the best and safe way to build. They would like to close off sidewalk to safely protect pedestrians and parking on Spencer Avenue. They will allow five spaces in the triangle across from the property and eliminate parking around the building. The remaining spaces will be used for materials and staging. They spoke with the school department in regards to setting up a fence until the work is completed to maintain pedestrian safety. Alex Train made a motion to approve. Jorge Pazos seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 – Communications of August 2, 2017 from Elijah Romulus of Planning & Development, requesting the approval of a Definitive Subdivision Plan for parcels at the premise known as 284 Everett Avenue & 200 Vale Street.

Alex Train said that Elijah Romulus is unable to attend the meeting. The city does not normally deal with subdivisions. Fairfield will provide access to turn in and out of the parking lot on Vale Street which is not a heavy traffic area. Bert Taverna asked who is responsible for maintaining the area. Alex Train stated that in Section 7 of a dead end, that the owners will maintain all snow plowing, landscaping and sidewalks. They must retain all equipment on their site. It will be a private way at the dead end portion that Fairfield will maintain and plow in the winter. The plan will also include the condition that all and any future owners are obligated to maintain the private way. Alex Train noted that the land, if ever sold, the conditions involved will follow in perpetuity for Vale Court. Alex Train made a motion to approve the application. Bert Taverna seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 – Communication of August 2, 2017 from City Clerk/Parking Clerk Jeannette Cintron White, requesting to implement a new Move-In parking permit.

Rosa Santiago explained the need of the new permit for moving vehicles and pods on public way. The fee will be \$50 for the permit. The resident will need to fill out an application, and then, the Parking Department will give them signs to post 48 hours prior to the application date. Jorge Pazos made a motion approve the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 – Communication of August 8, 2017 from Alex Train of Planning & Development, requesting the relocation of two bus stops on Broadway at 975 and 936 Broadway for MBTA routes 116/117.

Jorge Pazos asked if it was approved by the MBTA. Alex Train responded yes. Bert Taverna made a motion to accept. Len Albanese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 – Communication of August 8, 2017 from Alex Train of Planning & Development, requesting the roadway closures for Summer Nights in Chelsea Square series of events on Winnisimmet Street on September 29, 2107.

Mimi Graney spoke about an activity where they will have a movie screening presented by Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. There will be candy and the Police will bring an Ice Cream truck. There are good sightlines on Winnisimmet and Second Street for this event as it can be easily closed off for activities. Jorge Pazos made a motion to approve. Len Albanese second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #9 – Communication of August 8, 2017 from Alex Train of Planning & Development, requesting a one day parking restriction to facilitate a local, City sponsored celebration of International Parking Day on Broadway, Hawthorne and Winnisimmet Street on September 15, 2017.

Mimi Graney spoke about the Parking Day plan by taking one metered parking space on Broadway, Hawthorn Street and Winnisimmet Street to show it can be utilized in different ways. Bert Taverna would like to see the design on how to protect the public since they will be on active public way. He has a public safety concern. He asked who will bears the liability if there were an accident. He would need to check with Ned on insurance liability issues. He has difficulty with this request as it is inviting an accident to happen. Carolyn Boumila-Vega asked how it was done last year as she observed the Chamber of Commerce use caution tape around the space. Alex Train stated that this has been done in other cities by delineating the space. Bert Taverna is opposed to someone sitting in an active roadway.

Len Albanese understands Bert Taverna's concerns but asked what precautions can be taken. Bert Taverna needs Cheryl Watson's approval on the liability issues. Jorge Pazos asked if they could approve the request with the provision to move forward when Ned Keefe receives the okay regarding the liability issues. Mimi Graney stated that the event took place last year. Alex Train noted that the item did not go before the Commission. Brian Wagner asked if they would consider placing all the vendors at one location instead as an alternative plan by blocking off one street. Mimi Graney stated that it would defeat the purpose of the celebration but could come up with another idea. Len Albanese asked if the barriers could be put up. Bert Taverna is concerned with vehicles pulling in and out of the parking spaces around each spot. Len Albanese stated it would be easier to control if we chose just one area and blocked off the street as Brian Wagner mentioned. John Nofle shared the concern of vehicles pulling into spaces at each end of the spaces and suggested barricades to protect pedestrians. At minimum, John Nofle would like to see sawhorses or cones posted to block the spaces for safety. Len Albanese would like to see a modified plan with a street closure of Winnisimmet Street on both sides. Mimi Graney understood their concerns and will further review the plan. Len Albanese made a motion to approve the request by modifying the event from park-lets at multiple locations to relocating all vendors to both sides of Winnisimmet Street with a road closure. Bert Taverna seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #10 – Communication of June 28, 2017 from Mary Mahoney, requesting to post a "No Parking Here to Corner" sign at 948 Broadway.

Mary Mahoney detailed her troubles with vehicles parking passed the curb-cut and blocking access to their property's parking lot. She went on to stress their difficulty pulling in and out of the lot, along with visibility issues, onto Broadway. John Nofle informed them that they would need to call the police and the vehicles would be ticketed and towed, if necessary. He will instruct the Traffic Unit to monitor the area. Len Albanese made motion to deny. Jorge Pazos second the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #11 – Communication of June 28, 2017 from Noe Gonzalez, requesting the Commission rescind the new City Ordinance on scooters.

No Vote taken. The communication will be forwarded to City Council.

Agenda Item #12 – Communication of June 9, 2017 from Jerry Sneirson, requesting to post signage for restricting trucks exiting off the Tobin Bridge at the Fourth Street exit.

Alex Train stated this is an ongoing issue that the Commission has been negotiating with MassDOT. The Commission cannot take action as only MassDot has the authority to move forward with the request. Len Albanese noted that the signs were now back in place. Jerry Sneirson spoke about how the signs were removed when painting on the bridge was being done and he would receive calls through night with tenants complaining about the noise and traffic. Alex Train stated that the Police Chief and City Manager are working with MassDOT on this. No vote taken.

Agenda Item #13 – Communication of June 9, 2017 from Kathleen Kelly, requesting to post a handicapped sign in front of 59 Washington Avenue as a patient of business at the dental office.

Alex Train stated that dental office should provide parking for its patients. Jeannette Cintron White noted that she is allowed to park at all meters with her handicapped placard without cost. Jorge Pazos denied the motion. Len Albanese second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #14 – Communication of June 20, 2017 from Allen Jackson, requesting (1) to post signage and road markings to restrict blocking the intersection Central and Eastern Avenue and to enforce by regulation with applicable fines; and (2) to post “No Parking Here to Corner” signage on Shawmut and Congress Avenue.

Allen Jackson did not attend the meeting. Alex Train stated that the area is the works of a redesign for the Silver Line Project. John Nofle stated that it is common practice not to block an intersection. Alex Train noted that there is no parking twenty (20) feet from the corner according to Mass General Law and we need to enforce it. Len Albanese made a motion to table the request until the next meeting so that Allen Jackson may attend. Jorge Pazos second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #15– Handicapped sign removal request of June 13, 2017 of Virginia Beane, of 37 Annese Road, as the applicant has passed away.

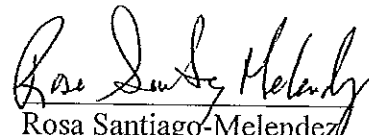
Rosa Santiago stated that she is currently updating the handicapped sign database and verifying that the resident is still in need of the handicapped space. She spoke with Virginia’s husband who stated that she had passed away and the sign was no longer needed. Len Albanese made a motion to approve the request. Jorge Pazos second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #16– Handicapped sign removal request of June 13, 2017 of Helen Kloss, of 30 Gillooly Road as the applicant has passed away.

Rosa Santiago stated that she is currently updating the handicapped sign database and verifying that the resident is still in need of the handicapped space. She spoke with Helen’s daughter who stated that her mom had passed away and the space was no longer needed. Len Albanese made a motion to approve the request. Jorge Pazos second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Bert Taverna made a motion to adjourn. Alex Train seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.


Rosa Santiago-Melendez
Assistant Parking Clerk

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