



City of Chelsea
TRAFFIC & PARKING COMMISSION
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2018 DEC 12 A 8:08

Minutes of the October 30, 2018 meeting.

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. The meeting was opened at 6:10 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Members present were, Assistant Director of Planning and Development Alex Train, Acting Deputy Fire Chief Richard Perisie and resident member Carolyn Boumila-Vega. Absent were members: Director of Public Works Bertram Taverna and resident members, Jorge Pazos and Brian Wagner.

Public Hearings:

Agenda Item #1 - Public Hearing regarding four thirty minute parking spaces at 369-373 Broadway.
Councilor Roy Avellaneda stated that the purpose of the request is to create short term parking similar to the parking restriction located in front of the Post Office. He believes by doing so, it will create turnover for businesses. He also stated that it would address the double parking issue on Broadway. Councilor Avellaneda stated that when the MBTA buses pull into the bus stop across the street that they are not fully able to pull into the space and with vehicles double parked it is obstructing traffic and causing problems with vehicles that are trying to make the left-hand turn. He believes that with the thirty (30) minute spaces will create more turnover for people just running into the businesses and will alleviate the double parking situations. Richard Perisie stated that he did not see any issues with the request. Richard Perisie made a motion to approve the request. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #2 - Public Hearing regarding Chestnut Street, from Fourth Street to Everett Avenue, to remain a one-way permanently Southbound as currently configured with the Tobin Bridge construction project.

Fire Chief Len Albanese stated that was the direction of the one-way in the past and was not sure why it was changed. He went on to say that the fire department found it much easier for transport and emergency vehicles to get to Everett Avenue. They claim it was a quicker response route in emergency situations. Roman Pucko, of Peabody, stated that he agreed with the request and it would enhance response time for emergency vehicles. Phyllis Nofle, of 5 Boatswains Way, was not in agreement. She stated that she works for the church and has to go all around to get to Everett Avenue in order to get to work. She has observed an increase in traffic and vehicles speeding to Everett Avenue since the change. Len Albanese stated that it is temporary due to the Beacon Street off ramp being closed for construction. Alex Train stated that he had two concerns with making the request permanent because of the temporary barricades with no signage and the increased speeding in area. Roman Pucko stated that they should put arrows on the barricades to show the traffic's direction. He believes that the problem is with outsiders who do not know the area. Alex Train made a motion to table the request pending further investigation into traffic calming measures. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Hearing regarding the recent changes to the Resident Parking Program daytime restrictions on Washington Avenue affecting businesses.

Bharathan Kumaraguru, of 109 Washington Avenue, stated that his business is being affected by the recent daytime parking program restriction on his street. His patients are receiving parking tickets and

are transferring to other dentists, out of the area. He has lost business and needs to have the parking restriction changed in order to regain business. He also stated that was having problems with his staff being able to find parking. Alex Train stated that in the last meeting the Commission was considering the idea of pulling back the daytime zone and implementing a two hour parking limit. Bharathan Kumaraguru stated that would work for him. Alex Train made a motion to rescind the daytime parking restriction on the even side of Washington Avenue, from Blossom Street to Addison Street, and post "Two Hour Parking" signage in its place. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Agenda Item #4 - Minutes of September 25, 2018 meeting

Alex Train made motion to accept the minutes. John Noffle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item # 5 - Communication of September 19, 2018 from Reverend Ellen Rohan Ball of the First Congregational Church, requesting to mark some of the spots, located in front of the church located on County Road, as two hour parking for parishioners attending the church due to the new resident parking permit changes.

Reverend Ellen Rohan Ball, of the Saint Congregational Church, stated that they have church parishioners that come to the church during the week in order to do work and maintenance. Also, they have holidays that fall during the week and have a problem with parking in front of the church. She was not aware of the recent changes that were made in the parking program. She stated that she would like to see if they can make some of the spots in front of the church two hour parking spaces. Alex Train asked how many spots she was looking for. She responded that she would like to have three or four spaces. Councilor Roy Avellaneda stated that if there were two hour parking spots residents could park all day long. Secretary Rosa Santiago Melendez stated that she would have to look into it as it is her understanding that any limited parking spaces would be enforced on all vehicles. Alex Train stated that he was not sure but he would look into it. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing at our next meeting. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion pass unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Communication of September 25, 2018 from Alex Train, requesting that a loading zone be relocation at 184 Broadway.

Alex Train stated the current loading zone is only one parking space due to a fire hydrant and should be two parking spaces for a loading zone so that a truck could fit. He stated that we would need it moved down by two parking spaces in order alleviate the problem. Richard Perisie made a motion to approve the request. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - Communication of September 26, 2018 from Joseph Cooney, requesting to block traffic from on Congress Avenue and Hawthorn Street only allowing bus access to Hawthorn Street from the hours of 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM and 2:00 PM – 2:45 PM; to move a school bus lane from Shurtleff Street to Hawthorn Street; to install a painted 'Buses Only' parking area in front of the school on Hawthorn Street; and change the exiting signage to state 'No Parking 6:00AM to 6:00 PM School Buses Only.'

Frank Henry, of the School Department, stated that it is very difficult for vehicles to try to get around the school due to the traffic congestion from parents dropping of children. He also stated that there is a public safety concern with children crossing in the area. He stated that they would like to have the street blocked off during the morning and afternoon hours to only allow for school buses to enter and the

pickup and drop off of the students. Alex Train made motion to move the item to a public hearing at the next meeting. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Communication of September 27, 2018 from Sergeant John Nofle, requesting 'No Trucks Allowed' signs on Beacon Street, between Broadway and Chestnut Street, and on Marlboro Street, at Broadway and Highland Street.

Alex Train stated that we will need to get the State's approval from MassDOT. He stated that he has been receiving complaints from residents of Beacon Street who have witnessed trucks going down Beacon Street and getting stuck as they make the turn onto Mulberry Street. Alex Train stated that he will reach out to the Department of Public works and MassDOT to get approval. Alex Train made a motion to table the item pending the approval from MassDOT to post signs on Beacon Street between the ramp and Mulberry Street, and additionally on Marlboro Street due to truck concerns there. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #9 - Communication of September 28, 2018 from Councilor Luis Tejada, requesting to look into placing a one-way sign on the corner of Orange and Carmel Street that is more visible
Fidel Maltez, of DPW, stated that the signs have already be completed. No vote taken.

Agenda Item #10 - Communication of October 16, 2018 from Fidel Maltez, requesting the relocation of the bus stops for routes 111, 112, 116 & 117 Broadway and Fourth Street.

Fidel Maltez, of DPW, stated that the request came from the MBTA to move the current bus stop located on Broadway at Fourth Street to the opposite side of Fourth Street. He stated that the MBTA has gotten several complaints from residents that it is hard for handicap people, especially those in wheelchairs, to get on and off the bus. He stated that the bus is not able to fully pull into the space designated as the bus stop which causes a difficulty to lower the ramp for access. He also stated that with the bus only pulling partially into the stop it causes traffic on Broadway because cars are not able to get around the large vehicle. Fidel Maltez went on to say that by leaving it at its current location, they would need to eliminate two more parking spaces so that the bus can pull in completely. He noted that at its current location it is causing a blind spot for vehicles coming from Fourth Street, which is a public safety concern. Alex Train made motion to move the item to a public hearing at the next meeting. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #11 - Communication of October 15, 2018 from Lisa Santagate, requesting to mark an additional parking metered space or that the space be treated as an unmetered parking space in front of 221 Shurtleff Street.

Lisa Santagate, of 221 Shurtleff Street, stated that there was an unmetered parking space that she had parked in and got a parking ticket. Since then, the lines were painted on the parking spaces but causes more issues. She went on to say that all the spaces are not equal in size and the meters are shorter. She stated that the City needs to reconfigure the spaces so that larger vehicles can park without any issues problem. Fidel Maltez, of DPW, stated that they are trying their best to make sure that there is enough space for the fire trucks and emergency vehicles to safely make the turn onto Shurtleff Street from Grove Street. Wenda Kochanowski, of 221 Shurtleff Street, also agreed that the parking spaces were not all the same size causing problems for vehicles to park properly. Alex Train made a motion to table the item until next meeting and will look into the issue with the Department of Public Works. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item # 12 - Communication of October 19, 2018 from Councilor Luis Tejada, requesting to rescind the daytime parking restriction on Franklin Avenue.

Councilor Roy Avellaneda stated that he has been receiving many complaints from the residents on Franklin Avenue regarding the daytime parking restriction. He went on to say that he was not aware of Franklin Avenue as being part of the original plan when they were making the decision on the parking changes. He spoke with Councilor Luis Tejada and suggested that he request from the Traffic and Parking Commission to rescind the daytime restriction for that area. Alex Train made a motion to rescind the daytime resident parking restriction for all of Franklin Avenue. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #13 - Communication of October 22, 2018 from Ramon Mercado-Cruz, requesting to post a handicap sign at 242 Walnut Street.

Ramon Mercado-Cruz, of 242 Walnut Street, stated that there is a handicap parking space in the area but he is having issues with someone keying his car. He stated that he is trying to avoid issues with his neighbor by applying for his own sign. He stated that he had a court case pending with this neighbor. Alex Train made a motion to approve the application. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #14 - Communication of October 23, 2018 from Scott Happeny, requesting three Commercial Loading signs from 7am to 4pm at Emily's Inc. 88 Winnisimmet Street.

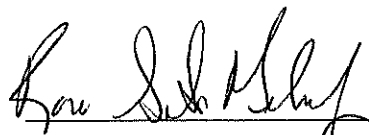
Scott Happeny, of Emily's Incorporated at 88 Winnisimmet Street, stated that his Meals on Wheels and catering business is growing. He stated that he has vehicles arriving to load but are having issues with parking in front of his business. He is also having problems with residents parking to close to his driveway, which is making it harder for tractor trailers to pull in for deliveries. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing at the next meeting. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #15 - Communication of October 23, 2018 from Scott Happeny, requesting signage at his business's curb-cut for delivery trucks and a thirty minute parking space at the rear entrance located on School Street

Scott Happeny, of Emily's Incorporated at 88 Winnisimmet Street, stated that his requests stem from issues with residents on School Street parking and blocking his emergency exit. He went on to say that he has had a fire in the past and has public safety concerns with having to exit his building. He wants ten feet on each side of the driveway for delivery trucks on Winnisimmet Street. And would like to post a thirty minute parking space between his emergency exits on School Street. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing at the next meeting. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Alex Train made a motion to adjourn. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. All in favor,

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.



Rosa Santiago Melendez
Assistant Parking Clerk