



CITY OF CHELSEA, MA
Traffic and Parking Commission

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Director of Public Works
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Resident Member
Carolyn P. Boumila-Vega
Resident Member
Brian Wagner
Resident Member

January 7, 2020

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held in the City Council Conference Room, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Members present were Assistant Director of Planning and Development Alex Train, Department of Public Works Commissioner Fidel Maltez, Deputy Fire Chief Richard Perisie and resident members: Carolyn Boumila-Vega, Brian Wagner and Aaron Kraemer.

Item #1 - Approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2019 meeting.

Alex Train made a motion to accept the minutes of November 12, 2019. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #2 - Communication of February 13, 2019, from Mughees Ahmad, of the Kebabish Food Truck, regarding a route plan for Kebabish Food truck.

Alex Train stated that Mr. Ahmad has not come back with a new list of locations. Alex Train made a motion to deny the request. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #3 - Communication of August 2, 2019, from Sergio Jaramillo of the Chamber of Commerce, requesting additional parking spaces on Cherry Street at Luther Place.

Alex Train state that he would like to table the request until the next meeting so Mr. Jaramillo could be present. Alex Train made a motion to table item until the next meeting. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #4 - Handicap sign application of October 10, 2019, from Manuel Murillo Caceres of 76 Highland Street.

Manuel Murillo stated that parking is very difficult in that area and is not able to walk long distances. Richard Perisie made a motion to approve the request. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #5 - Handicap sign application of October 10, 2019, from Ana DaCruz of 21 Cook Avenue.

Ana DaCruz stated that she has difficulty walking long distances. Alex Train made a motion to approve the request. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #6 - Communication of October 31, 2019, from Manny Ortiz of 47 Congress Avenue, requesting to have a discussion to repeal the decision made to make Ellsworth Street a one-way. NOT TO BE HEARD - ITEM HAS BEEN RESOLVED.

John Nofle stated that the issue has already been resolved. No vote taken.

Item #7 - Handicap sign removal request of October 23, 2019, of 145 Spencer Avenue due to inactivity.

Rosa Santiago Melendez stated that this resident's mail was returned while updating the handicap files. Alex Train made a motion to approve the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.



Item #8 - Public Hearing to receive comment on altering parking on Grove Street, between the Highland Street intersections to Marlboro Street, from the odd side to the even side of the street.

Bert Taverna, of 148 Grove Street, stated that the change was made several years ago due to safety concerns. Santos Leon, of Grove Street, stated he is in favor of the change as it would increase parking spaces. Councilor Enio Lopez stated that he is in favor of the change as it would increase parking spaces. Tito Vaquerano, of 132 Grove Street, stated that he is not in favor of the change and would like it kept the same. Fidel Maltez stated that Ben Cares, of Planning and Development, had done a study on the area and the difference in parking spaces was not significant. He stated that the fire apparatus needs to be able to make the turns safely. He went on to say that he was not in favor of the change. Alex Train stated that the current layout was done to slow down vehicles on the street. Richard Perisie stated that the response route for the ladder truck would not be able to make the turn on to Grove Street. He stated he was not in favor of the change. Fidel Maltez made a motion to deny the request. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #9 - Communication of June 20, 2019, from Councilor Enio Lopez, requesting the Commission to look into the feasibility of installing two removable rubber speed bumps during the summer at 125 Marlborough Street and at 70 Shawmut Street to avoid cars driving fast at these two areas where there are many children playing.

Councilor Enio Lopez stated that this was a pilot program on Shawmut Street and it was very helpful. He would like it to continue to help with vehicles speeding in the area. Fidel Maltez stated a speed bump was installed on Shawmut Street but that they had to remove it during the winter months for plowing. Richard Perisie stated that the fire department is not in favor of speed bumps because it damages the fire trucks. He stated he may be in agreement to allowing it for the summer. Alex Train stated that we could look at other measures. Fidel Maltez made a motion to table the item until the spring. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #10 - Communication of November 7, 2019, from Peter Buonasaro of Buonasaro Corp., requesting a Commercial Loading Zone at 44 Fourth Street.

Rosa Santiago Melendez stated that Mr. Buonasaro called and was not able to make the meeting. He asked if we could table until next meeting. Alex Train made a motion to table until the next meeting. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #11 - Handicap sign application of November 13, 2019, from Gladys Aviles of 89 Beacon Street.

Gladys Aviles stated that she does not drive and that her son is the one who takes her to appointments. She went on to say that there is a handicap sign in the area but it is too far away. She is not able to walk long distances. Richard Perisie made a motion to approve the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #12 - Communication of November 15, 2019, from Bernabe Rodriguez of 91 Chestnut Street, requesting the removal of two metered spaces located at Fernandez Liquors, 79 Williams Street.

Bernabe Rodriguez stated that he is requesting that the two meters to be removed at Fernandez Liquors. He stated that the area is not daytime resident parking enforced. He went on to say that there are many curb-cuts and a daycare pickup spot in that area making parking for residents difficult. Councilor Roy Avellaneda stated that he was against the removal. He stated that they were needed for the businesses in the area. He stated that Williams Street has no parking and the two spaces were needed. He stated that if they were to make the area daytime resident parking only it would open up some more spaces. Fidel Maltez stated that the meters were installed per the owner's request. Alex Train stated that the business owner likes the turn-around time for their business. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing to get feedback from business owners. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #13 - Communication of November 15, 2019, from Assistant City Engineer Rebecca Wright, requesting the Commission to impose a fine of fifty dollars (\$50) to non-electric vehicles parked in the charging station spaces located at 212 Chestnut Street parking lot in effort to ensure that the parking spaces are available for electric vehicles.



Rebecca Wright stated that Massachusetts law allows for cities to fine for this offense. She stated that we can start small by issuing warning notices at these spaces for electric vehicles. Richard Perisie asked why the of fifty dollars (\$50). In his opinion, it is a bit excessive. Rebecca Wright stated that it is more than a resident permit. Brian Wagner stated that he agrees that it is within state law. Alex Train suggested we lower it to twenty-five dollars (\$25). Alex Train made a motion to approve the request amending the amount to twenty-five dollars (\$25). Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #14 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Luis Tejada, requesting the Commission to look into potentially installing a speed bump, or some other concept, that will force people to minimize their speed on Summit Avenue.

Alex Train stated that Councilor Luis Tejada was not present. Alex Train made a motion to table the item until the next meeting in order to get more information on the need for the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #15 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Joseph Perlatonda, requesting the Commission to consider installing thirty (30) minute meters on Eastern Avenue, starting at 467-471 Eastern Avenue, for the local businesses.

Fidel Maltez stated that he reached out to Councilor Joe Perlatonda and he was not able to attend. Fidel Maltez made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #16 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Joseph Perlatonda, requesting the Commission to look into installing a Loading Zone on the corner of Eastern Avenue and Carroll Street.

Fidel Maltez stated that he reached out to Councilor Perlatonda and he was not able to attend. Fidel Maltez made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #17 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Luis Tejada, requesting the Commission to look into improving public safety at the corner of Franklin and Jefferson Avenue, on the Franklin Avenue side, by removing some parking spaces that will allow for free flowing traffic with minimal congestion.

Alex Train stated that eliminating the parking spaces would not alleviate traffic. Brian Wagner made a motion to deny the request. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #18 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Giovanni Recuperero, requesting that the Commission recommend that the one-way sign between Essex Street, Shurtleff Street, and Congress Avenue be removed, as well as the one-way sign on Ellsworth Street.

Councilor Giovanni Recuperero stated that people are not able to get to their houses in that area quickly. He stated that they need to go all the way around to get access to that area. He stated it was to accommodate school buses but it is punishing residents. Fidel Maltez stated that the street is not wide enough to make it a two-way street. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing to receive further comment in regards to two-way street conversion. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #19 - Communication of November 27, 2019, from the City Solicitor Cheryl Watson Fisher, requesting a discussion in regards to an internal conflict between the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Regulations and the Chelsea Ordinances and state law regarding as to how long a vehicle may be allowed to sit abandoned before towing.

Councilor Giovanni Recuperero stated that he became aware of the issue after a resident called him asking for information. When he looked into it, he found that the state law states that it is seventy-two (72) hours. Alex Train agreed that there is a discrepancy in the parking regulations. Richard Perisie made a motion to approve the request to amend the Traffic and Parking Regulations Article 5 Section 5-1 to 72 hours as well as the Chelsea City Ordinances. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #20 - Handicap sign removal request of November 6, 2019, of 30 Carroll Street as the applicant has moved.



Rosa Santiago Melendez stated while updating the handicap files, she spoke with the applicant who informed the Parking Department that they moved. Alex Train made a motion to approve the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #21 - Handicap sign application of December 10, 2019, from Daniel Vaquerano of 118 Franklin Avenue.
Richard Perisie made a motion to approve the request. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #22 - Communication of December 12, 2019, from Chelsea High School Principal Mark Martineau, requesting to have the Parking Department not enforce the meters being installed on Everett Avenue until construction at the Carter Street lot is complete.

Joseph Cooney stated that due to the construction around the Chelsea High School, they have no access to the school parking lot. He stated that it is very difficult for the staff to find parking in the area. He went on to say that he would like to see if the Commission could grant them some parking relief by allowing them to park on Everett Avenue without having to pay for the meters. Fidel Maltez stated that the parking meters will not be installed until the construction on Everett Avenue has been completed. Alex Train made a motion to postpone reinstalling the parking meters until the construction is complete at the school parking lot and post a "Parking for School Personnel Only" sign on Everett Avenue at these spaces. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #23 - Communication of January 3, 2020, from the City Clerk Jeannette Cintron White, regarding proposed changes to Article 13 of the Traffic and Parking Regulations to increase on-street parking per the request of the City Council following an internal evaluation.

Jeannette Cintron White stated that she met with the City Council after a request to evaluate the current parking regulations in order to increase on-street parking. She stated that after taking a hard look at the residential parking program she is presenting changes to the weekly parking pass, eliminating the Non-Residential Parking Sticker, modifying the Business Parking Sticker and implementing a Residential Commercial Parking Sticker. She explained what loopholes and abuses have been witnessed by staff of the Parking Department on a daily basis. She believes that the proposed changes will ensure proper excise taxes and increase the availability of on-street parking for the residents while creating new limitations on visitor passes. Alex Train made a motion to move the request to a public hearing. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Rosa Santiago Melendez
Assistant Parking Clerk