

TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1045
Minutes
Planning Conference Room, 4th Floor, City Hall
Thursday, November 8, 2018

Call to Order. Called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

Traffic Board Members Present: Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; DPW; Giovanni Scaringi, Councilman; William Yeager, Assistant Chief-BPD; Bernice St. Clair, DPW

Traffic Board Members Absent: Ray Standish, Engineering

Also Present: Dan Correll, Retired BPD-Traffic; Katherine Hendrickson, BPD; William Lescault, BPD

Approval of Minutes. Request to approve the minutes from Traffic Board Meeting 1044, held on **Thursday, October 11, 2018**

Moved by: G. Scaringi, W. Yeager

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-1)

Ayes J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, W. Yeager, B. St. Clair

Nays: None

Absent: R. Standish

Items Considered

No Parking Overnight Parking on Washington St. Councilman Taylor is requesting that the No Overnight Parking be removed from Washington Street. He stated that several business owners are complaining that their clients have having difficulty in parking early in the morning due to the overnight parking rules. He also stated that it would benefit the students. Mr. Correll and Mr. Kraham indicated that the reason it was set up this way was because of the students. They were constantly leaving their cars there overnight and into the day. Traffic will look into this further and report back in January 2018. Mr. Wandall suggested that this should not be allowed because students will leave their cars over the weekend and no parking spaces will be available for the customers going into the shops on the street. Both Traffic and Mr. Kraham thinks there perhaps the 2am to 6am No Parking rule may work. There are some concerns about new business coming into the area. Traffic feels that any changes should be on hold until the completion of the Hawley Street project. Mr. Kraham reported that Broome County took the traffic count at Tompkins and Webster. Ms. Paddick will report the results at the next traffic board meeting at which time she will also be able to report back on if the signal meets warrants. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, Thursday, December 13, 2018.**

Signal at Tompkins Street and Webster Street. Mr. Standish will request BMTS to perform warrant checks on this signal. If warranted, he will submit an IPP to BMTS for TIP funding for signal upgrade. Ms. Paddick is waiting for the accident reports on this intersection. She also reported that this was not originally on the list for removal but she will look into it again. Mr. Standish suggested upgrading the light at this intersection. Ms. Paddick reported that there aren't a lot of problems at this intersection. There are some bikes lanes but at the end just south of Webster Street. Ms. Paddick does not have any more to report at this point. Broome County will take counts once school starts in September. Ms. Paddick will report back. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, Thursday, December 13, 2018.**

Road Study for streets near Ben Franklin. Ms. Paddick reported that the Southside Group wants a road study done near Ben Franklin school. Ms. Paddick reported that they visited the site for about an hour. She will report more by the end of the summer. Ms. Paddick will look into this matter further and report back in September. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, Thursday, December 13, 2018.**

130 Front Street. The Traffic Division received an inquiry concerning a possible violation of the City Traffic Code with a Handicapped Parking Zone abutting the fifteen foot prohibited parking area adjacent to a fire hydrant in front of 130 Front Street. The current time limit for parking is 6 hours and traffic board decided to keep it at 6 rather than change it to 2 hours. Traffic recommends the following:

The Traffic Division received an inquiry concerning a possible violation of the City Traffic Code with a Handicapped Parking Zone abutting the fifteen foot prohibited parking area adjacent to a fire hydrant in front

of 130 Front Street. The Traffic Division, upon responding to that area, found the situation to be accurate (photo attached). It appears that the hydrant may have been recently installed and, when done, conflicted with the required restricted regulations for its placement. The Handicapped Parking Zone was established at Traffic Board Meeting #905 held on July 5th, 2006.

In reviewing the above situation the Traffic Division also found several other conflicts or errors in the Traffic Code Book that may not have been, and/or probably never were, updated when passed by the Traffic Board. The Traffic Division therefore recommends that the Traffic Code Book be updated for Front Street, east side of the street, from Main Street to East Clinton Street:

DELETE:

§22.2. Loading zones 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM Weekdays and 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturdays

Front Street East Side From 264 feet north of Main Street to 333 feet north.

§22.3. Parking for handicapped persons

Front Street East Side From 156 feet north of Main Street to 177 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 198 feet north of Main Street to 218 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 114 feet north of Main Street to 137 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 140 feet north of Main Street to 177 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 333 feet north of Main Street to 353 feet north.

§22.5. Bus/Taxi Zones No Parking

Front Street East Side From 106 feet north of Main Street to 156 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 81 feet north of Main Street to 153 feet north.

§23 No Parking Anytime Zone

Front Street East Side From 594' north of Main Street to 225' south of East Clinton Street. (Twice)

Front Street East Side From 177 feet north of Main Street to 198 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 280 feet north of Main Street to 333 feet north

Front Street East Side From 440 feet north of Main Street to 495 feet north

Front Street East Side From 438 feet north of Main Street to 491 feet north.

§23.1 No standing at any time.

Front Street East Side From Main Street to 106 feet north.

§23.2. No stopping at any time.

Front Street East Side From Main Street to 80 feet north.

§45. Two hour parking meter zone.

Front Street East Side From 80 feet north of Main Street to 140 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 198 feet north of Main Street to 218 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 218 feet north of Main Street to 280 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 333 feet north of Main Street to 156 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 348 feet north of Main Street to 438 feet north.

Front Street East Side From 491 feet north of Main Street to 594 feet north.

INSERT:

§22.3. Parking for handicapped persons

Front Street East Side From 345 north of Main Street to 367 feet north.

§23 No Parking Anytime Zone

Front Street East Side From 280 feet north of Main Street to 345 feet north

Front Street East Side From 449 feet north of Main Street to 493 feet north.

§23.1 No standing at any time.

Front Street East Side From Main Street to 95 feet north.

The above action, besides correcting the Traffic Code, would also bring the above designated handicapped parking zone into compliance with the required fifteen foot parking restriction abutting a fire hydrant.

Motion to make all of the changes recommended above by Traffic.

Moved by: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-1)

Ayes J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, W. Yeager, B. St. Clair

Nays: None

Absent: R. Standish

Robinson and Bigelow Streets Intersection. The Traffic Division received a written request through the Bureau Dispatch, from a James Zimmer, to insert crosswalk signs at the intersection of Robinson Street and Bigelow Streets. Mr. Zimmer reports that he has an adult daughter who was almost hit there twice, but does not indicate her route of travel when crossing or the time of day. He further states that even though it is posted as a 15 mile per hour speed zone motorist just don't slow down. Traffic recommends the following:

The Traffic Division responded to that location to review the traffic control at that location. Robinson Street is an east - west through street at its intersection with Bigelow Street. It is posted with Pedestrian Crossing signs, east and west bound, at that intersection. Bigelow Street is a north – south street controlled by stop signs before entering that intersection. A Flashing School Speed Limit signs for reduce speed during school hours are posted on Robinson Street and crosswalks are painted across the roadway at all four crossings. During designated school hours a school guard is detailed to that intersection to assist with crossing students. (Photos attached)

Upon reviewing the Traffic Incidents Reports for the previous three years there are five reports:

2016 – 3 reports (1 vehicle backing from Robinson Street to Bigelow Street and two incidents involving parked cars being sideswiped.

2017 – 1 report of a vehicle parked on Robinson Street being rear-ended by a distracted motorist.

2018 – 1 report of a distracted motorist running a stop sign, north bound, and striking an east bound vehicle on Robinson Street.

The Traffic Division finds the intersection to be secure as is and needs no further traffic control.

Eventually the crosswalk should be painted as a ladder crosswalk. **Item Complete.**

49 Howard Avenue. Ms. Szymaniak is requesting that a handicapped parking space be placed in front of 49 Howard Avenue.

The Traffic Division received the attached correspondence from a Ms. Cynthia Szymanski, 49 Howard Avenue, requesting a handicapped parking space in front of her residence. She indicates that the request is for health and safety issue, not for convenience sake. She reports that she has multiple medical conditions that prevent normal mobility and the worst of them is Osteoporotic Bone (Brittle Bone Disease).

The Traffic Division responded to the area of 49 Howard Avenue to review the parking status in that area. Ms. Szymaniak's residence is a two family home on the west side of the street, north of Robinson Street. It is in an area of six homes that share two common entrance and exit ramps. Those ramps lead to parking area at the rear of the homes and to a basement level parking garage for each apartment. Street level parking is unrestricted on both sides of Howard Avenue. It would appear that adequate on street and off street parking would be available to the neighborhood.

The Traffic Division then responded to 49 Howard Avenue to discuss our findings. Upon contact, Ms. Szymaniak was in possession of two walking canes to answer the door. She then described her inability to use stairs and to walk a great distance. She stated that due to her condition she was unable to park in the rear parking lot and to walk from her vehicle up the graded driveway to the sidewalk and then down the street to her residence. She also stated that she was unable to access the garage and park her vehicle inside as she was unable to open the garage door, and even if she had an automatic car door opener, she would still not be able to climb ten to twelve stairs. She indicated that other residence in adjacent or neighboring homes take advantage of the on street parking, and if they chose to park in front of her home when she was not there, she would then be forced to walk a greater distance.

The Traffic Division then confirmed that Ms Szymaniak was in possession of a valid Handicapped Placard (#4452182).

The Traffic Division, after reviewing the area and discussing the need, recommends that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:

NSERT: Section 22.3A(2) Parking for Handicapped Persons

Howard Avenue - West Side - From 431 feet north of Robinson Street to 453 feet north.

Motion to insert a parking space in front of 40 Howard Avenue.

Moved by: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi,

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-1)

Ayes J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, W. Yeager, B. St. Clair

Nays: None

Absent: R. Standish

Motion to Adjourn at 9:22 am

Moved by: G. Scaringi, W. Yeager

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-1)

Ayes J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, W. Yeager, B. St. Clair

Nays: None

Absent: R. Standish