

**JAMESTOWN TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, February 18, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Traffic Committee was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, Council Chambers, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 6:00 PM by Chairman Thomas P. Tighe.

The following members were present:

Thomas Tighe, Chairman  
Mary E. Meagher, Vice-Chairman  
David Cain  
William Munger  
Timothy Yentsch

Also present:

Police Chief Edward Mello  
Kim Devlin, Clerk

Absent:

Melissa Mastrostefano, Member  
Vincent Moretti, Member

**READING AND APPROVAL OF MIUNTES**

**A) January 21, 2016 (regular meeting)**

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Meagher, seconded by Chairman Tighe to accept the January 21, 2016 minutes. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

**OPEN FORUM**

**A) Scheduled to Address**

- 1) Christian Infantolino: Amendment to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 Traffic and Vehicles Sec. 70-55 Restrictions on Certain Streets - Columbia Avenue**

Mr. Infantolino was unavailable so the committee will revisit the item when he is available.

- 2) Elena McCarthy: Amendment to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 Traffic and Vehicles Sec. 70-55 Restrictions on Certain Streets -**

### **Narragansett Avenue in front of the "Theatre"**

Ms. McCarthy explained to the committee that she is requesting fifteen (15) minute parking spaces in front of her property due to new tenants leasing space for a painting and framing shop. There will be a number of people going in and out carrying awkward and heavy items that would necessitate available parking spots close by.

The item will be added to the agenda under New Business for the next meeting.

#### **1) Christian Infantolino: Amendment to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 Traffic and Vehicles Sec. 70-55 Restrictions on Certain Streets - Columbia Avenue**

Mr. Infantolino stated he is representing McQuades Marketplace and would like the opportunity to be heard by the committee on how the traffic ordinance creates hardships for his client.

The item will be added to the agenda under New Business for the next meeting.

#### **3) Susan Sherwood: Posted speed limit on North Road - 25 mph**

Ms. Sherwood is not in attendance. Chief Mello requested the item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, and also stated that he would like to wait until the construction project planned for North Road is completed to make any decisions.

### **B) Non-Scheduled to Address**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **A) Parking Restrictions in the Jamestown Shores area north of Spirketing Street**

Chief Mello stated that these are the final recommendations we are moving forward on and the changes will be detailed and voted on individually.

Member Yentsch mentioned that there are certain areas of the shores where the lots are small and have very little frontage to accommodate a driveway that will satisfy parking needs for some families.

A discussion on the challenges of parking in the shores ensued.

Chief Mello reminded the committee of the comments made by Fire Chief Jim Bryer at the last meeting.

Chairman Tighe reminded the committee that they have to be consistent with the restrictions the committee sets.

**1) No parking on either side of Seaside Drive north from Spirketing Street to Capstan Street**

Vice-Chairman Meagher moved that there be no parking on either side of Seaside Drive north from Spirketing Street to Capstan Street; Member Cain seconded. So voted; (4 ayes, 1 nays (Yentsch)).

**2) No parking on either side of Beacon Avenue from Route 138 North to Neptune Street to Frigate Street**

Vice-Chairman Meagher moved that there be no parking on either side of Beacon Avenue from Route 138 North to Neptune Street; Member Cain seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

**3) No parking on either side of Frigate Street from Seaside Drive east to North Road**

Member Cain moved that there be no parking on either side of Frigate Street from Seaside Drive east to North Road; Vice-Chairman Meagher seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

**4) No parking on Capstan Street from Seaside Drive east to North Road**

Vice-Chairman Meagher moved that there be no parking on Capstan Street to North Road; Member Cain seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

**5) No parking on either side of Bark Street north to dead end**

Vice-Chairman Meagher moved that there be no parking on either side of Bark Street (Avenue) north to the dead end; Member Cain seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

**6) No parking on either side of Brigg Street north to dead end**

Member Cain moved that there be no parking on Brigg Street north to the dead end; Vice-Chairman Meagher seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

**7) No parking on the even number side of all other streets from Nautilus Street north to Capstan Street and no overnight parking without a resident permit**

Vice-Chairman Meagher moved that there be no parking on the even numbered side of all other streets from Nautilus Street north to Capstan Street and no overnight parking without a resident permit; Member Munger seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

**8) No parking on either side of the Boat Ramp at Head's Beach except in the designated parking space in the Boat Ramp area**

Chief Mello explained the intention is to have no parking on either side of the access road to the boat ramp at Head's Beach (the dirt road) and no parking in the parking area except in spots designated by signage.

Mm, moved for language as Chief Mello described, Member Cain seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

Mr. Jack Hawkins stated he would like the chance to address the committee under Open Forum, but the item was skipped.

### OPEN FORUM

#### **B) Non-scheduled Requests to Address**

Mr. Jack Hawkins, from the Conanicut Yacht Club, is requesting a crosswalk be placed across Bayview Avenue. Mr. Hawkins is asking to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### **B) Review of Parking in West Ferry area**

Vice-Chairman Meagher stated there have been complaints about parking on the south side of Narragansett Avenue (leading to West Ferry) because there is not a sidewalk. There have also been concerns regarding parking at the pier.

Chief Mello stated that Dutch Harbor Boat Yard was just approved for ten (10) additional moorings.

Vice-Chairman Meagher suggested going through another summer season and seeing how it goes. There may or may not be a need to reevaluate.

Member Cain mentioned that the increase in moorings at Dutch Harbor are intended for use as transient moorings, which would be via sea and not require parking.

#### **C) Conanicus Avenue Crosswalk**

Member Munger stated that he thought at last meeting the committee would discuss a common sense approach to help with pedestrian traffic. Member Munger stated that he does not favor more signs directing people to the crosswalk and he will work with dot to correct the situation. Member Munger stated he had hoped the commission (Traffic Committee) would see the larger picture as to how the crosswalk could work better for the community.

Vice-Chairman Meagher asked Member Munger if the "common sense" way is to move it (the crosswalk).

Member Munger stated yes, that every day he watches people use the crosswalk and they take the natural path.

Member Cain questioned why the crosswalk was moved and stated that he grew up with crosswalk going from the recreation center to the corner. As a community we could make a request to DOT (Department of Transportation).

Vice-Chairman Meagher asked if we hadn't already made the request.

Chairman Tighe stated that when DOT reviewed the location, according to their criteria, there is a bad line of sight so they are saying that the crosswalk should be moved. We can ask DOT to revisit, but he is not sure the town wants responsibility if something happens.

Discussion of sending letter to DOT.

Chief Mello stated that basically the town would be requesting a study. DOT would look at pedestrian traffic, line of sight, etc. and he would remind them to do so during an appropriate season.

Vice-Chairman Meagher moved to request the Chief ask the state to re-study the crosswalk at Conanicus Avenue; Member Cain seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

### NEW BUSINESS

**A) Speed limit on North Road from Sloop Street north to Summit Avenue**

Chief Mello stated the way speed limits are set is by the 85% Rule. Traffic flow in the area is studied and the speed limits are set based on the speed 85% of drivers abide by.

This item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**B) Concerns at Stop at Narragansett Avenue and Southwest Avenue and speed limit enforcement on Southwest Avenue**

Chief Mello stated that there are four signs for the length of the road (Southwest Avenue) and is appropriate and clearly marked.

Chief Mello stated he has asked DOT to install crosswalk at High Street and Southwest Avenue. The crosswalk is on list of DOT projects for the town and has been approved and this will impact and slow traffic down.

Chief Mello stated that there were 122 traffic stops on that road (Southwest Avenue) for speeding for the last year. It will be up to the committee to decide

how to proceed. If we request that DOT conduct a study, they will use the 85% rule and they would raise the speed limit. From an engineering standpoint the speed is low.

A discussion on options to reduce speeding on Southwest Avenue ensued.

Chairman Tighe requested that Chief Mello get a price for a blinking speed limit sign.

Vice-Chairman Meagher moved that Traffic Committee recommends to the Town Council to purchase electric signs for Southwest Avenue. Member Yentsch seconded. So voted; (5 ayes, 0 nays).

Chief Mello stated the committee already made that motion at the last meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Committee, motion was made by Committee Member Munger and seconded by Committee Member Meagher to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Kim Devlin  
Clerk