

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF GARDEN CITY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF OCTOBER 15, 2015**

The following members were present:

Trustee Robert Bolebruch - Chairman
Trustee Richard Silver
Trustee John Delaney
Commissioner Kenneth Jackson
Christopher Markin, P.E. - Village Engineer

Absent:

Trustee John DeMaro
Robert J. Mangan, P.E. Director of Public Works

1. Approve Minutes of September 17, 2015. - Approved
2. Formal Agenda
- A. NEW BUSINESS

1.LETTER FROM KENNETH AND MELANIE GRAHAM OF 21 CHESTNUT STREET.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham are requesting the placement of two-hour parking restriction signs in front of their home at 21 Chestnut Street as well as at the side of their home, which is on the northeast corner of Chestnut Street and Magnolia Avenue. They request these signs to stop LIRR commuter parking. There have been several cars parking daily on this corner, particularly on Magnolia Avenue by their driveway for the past year. A copy of this letter has been sent to the Police Department and the Eastern Property Owners' Association.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 approved the installation of Two Hour Parking Signs in front of 21 Chestnut St. and on the east side of Magnolia Ave.

2.LETTER FROM ROBERT AND CLAIRE CARLSON OF 19 GREENRIDGE AVENUE.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlson are requesting two-hour limited parking signs in front of their home. A survey shows that Greenridge is the only street in that area near the LIRR station that doesn't have the two-hour parking between 8am-6pm signs. They have been placed on Hathaway, Colvin, Clinch, Lincoln and Jackson. Considering this fact, as well as the narrow width of Greenridge, the Western Property Owners' Association Board approves this request and asks that it be put on the Agenda.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its October 15, 2015 meeting approved the request to install Two Hour Parking Signs in front of # 19 Greenridge Ave.

3.LETTER FROM MATTHEW AND JEANNE LUTTINGER OF 11 MERILLON AVENUE.

Mr. and Mrs. Luttinger are requesting the installation of "NO RIGHT ON RED WHEN PEDESTRIANS ARE PRESENT" signs at the Merillon Avenue and Nassau Boulevard intersection. They commute to work from the LIRR station at Merillon Ave. They have consistently noticed an increase in traffic at the intersection of Merillon Avenue and Nassau Blvd. These signs would attempt to bring back into the proper balance the rights of Village residents walking to the LIRR at Merillon Avenue. A copy of this letter was sent to the Police Department and the Estates Property Owners' Association and the POA requested that it be put on the Agenda.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its October 15, 2015 meeting approved the request to install a "No Right on Red When Pedestrians are Present" sign. Formal request must be made to Nassau County for approval and installation.

B. DEFERRED AGENDA

1.LETTER FROM GARY AND AIMEE KURDT OF 17 LYDIA LANE.

Mr. and Mrs. Kurdt are requesting that new stop signs be placed at the intersection of Lydia Lane and Woodoak Place. They have lived at 17 Lydia Lane for one year. During this time they have observed many cars travelling at excessive speeds. They have neighbors that have young children. The speeding cars have a hard time seeing around the curve at the beginning of Lydia Lane. They are concerned for the safety of the residents on their street as well as the joggers, bicyclists and parents with baby strollers trying to cross the street.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 approved the installation of a Stop sign eastbound on Lydia Lane at the intersection of Woodoak Place.

2.LETTER FROM PAUL MALVESE OF 211 BRIXTON ROAD.

Mr. Malvese states that during the past year, people who use the train have been parking from their corner east on Merillon Avenue. The problem is that when trying to pull out of our street, especially turning left, their vision is totally impeded by the row of parked cars, and they cannot see if there is any oncoming traffic without pulling out into the intersection. They noticed that there are "No Parking" signs on Merillon west of our corner, but there are none east of their block. This has become a very dangerous situation. He feels this problem could be alleviated by placing more "No Parking" signs from their corner further up the block on Merillon.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 approved the installation of No Parking Signs along the south side of Merillon Ave. between Brixton Rd. and Kensington Rd.

3.LETTER AND PETITION FROM BRENDAN TRILLHAASE OF 100 SOMERSET AVENUE.

Mr. Trillhaase surveyed his neighborhood with a petition for a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Roxbury Road and Somerset Avenue. These interactions provided new insight as to why residents would like to see another stop sign on Somerset, for example the intersection of Roxbury Road and Somerset Avenue is a school bus stop. Two families he met with shared his concern for young children playing in the front yards of houses, that they don't really use their property along the busy road for fear of the high speed traffic.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, approved the installation of a 4-way Stop Sign at the intersection of Roxbury Rd. and Somerset Ave.

4. LETTER FROM TIM RYAN OF 17 CLINTON ROAD.

Mr. Ryan requests that the Village install “permanent” radar-based speed feedback signs on Clinton Road. Mr. Ryan states that according to the County Department of Public Works, they have two or more speed feedback signs available for Clinton Road, and he also states that the Village is either preventing, delaying or opposing the installation of the signs. The Police Department added a speed limit sign in each direction at a central location on Clinton Road between Brook and Meadow Streets. This does not require Traffic Commission approval.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 suggested that a letter be written to Mr. Ryan indicating that the Traffic Commission is not in favor of the large signs and would consider installing smaller solar signs and deferred this item until a definitive decision is made as to the locations where these solar signs will operate.

5. LETTER FROM WILLIAM BELLMER OF 156 POPLAR STREET.

Mr. Bellmer states that on Sixth Street west of Franklin Avenue, westbound vehicles frequently want to turn left into Parking Field 5 at the Medical Center. These vehicles block those that intend to continue straight on Sixth Street, causing congestion between that point and the Franklin Avenue intersection and sometimes affecting the intersection itself. At present Sixth Street has a dedicated eastbound left turn lane at Franklin which can accommodate five vehicles. It is proposed to add a one-vehicle westbound left turn lane just to the west of and in line with the existing eastbound lane. This will enable a vehicle waiting to enter the Parking Field to move out of the way of westbound through traffic. It may also be worthwhile to add a “Do Not Block Driveway” sign with a pavement crosshatch for eastbound traffic to prevent vehicles stacking for the signal at Franklin from interfering with those turning into the field.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 approved the installation of a one-vehicle westbound left turn lane on Sixth St. with the installation of a “Do Not Block Driveway” to prevent interference.

6. E-MAIL FROM TRUSTEE ROBERT BOLEBRUCH.

Mr. Bolebruch states that he would like that we look to add a left turn light at the corner of Stewart Ave. and Nassau Blvd. going South on Nassau Blvd. At present there is a left turn lane with a left turning arrow but no left turning light. What happens is the traffic going North on Nassau Blvd. get to travel first and then go north and then turn left in their left turning lane with a left turning arrow. Then, the south direction of Nassau Blvd. gets to move and the cars in the left turning lane must wait for the traffic to end going North on Nassau Blvd. At times, it is impossible to see the cars going North, causing a dangerous situation. Trustee Bolebruch would request that after the left turning light is installed going south on Nassau Blvd, that the lights would be changed, allowed both directions to first turn left and then to allow the rest of the traffic to flow in both directions.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 deferred this item until Nassau County completes their study.

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

LETTERS TO SHILA SHAH-GAVNOUDIAS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR NASSAU COUNTY.

On May 19, 2014 and April 21, 2015, the Village sent letters to Ms. Shila Shah-Gavnoudias requesting to modify the existing traffic signals at Stewart Avenue and Nassau Blvd. We have yet to get a response.

LETTER TO LAURA SCHAEFER, NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE, COUNTY LEGISLATOR.

On August 26, 2015, Trustee Robert Bolebruch sent a letter to Ms. Laura Schaefer asking for the status of the request to modify the traffic signals at Stewart Avenue and Nassau Blvd.

7. PARKING ON MEADOW STREET.

Engineering provided layout, "No Parking Without Permit" sign in front of Townhouses for 12 spaces from corner of Meadow Place to #29 Meadow St. will be installed.

8. LETTER AND PETITION FROM 222 SEVENTH STREET CONDO FOR PERMIT PARKING.

Ms. Hedy Oleschuk submitted a letter and petition on June 8, 2015 requesting permit parking for the residents of 222 Seventh Street condo. They claim that the parking situation has become impossible. Giving tickets has become a norm to residents who are already burdened with high taxes. Running out in rain, sleet, snow and 90 degrees is not healthy especially for seniors. Parking across the tracks is not a solution. They claim there should be permits for a cost higher to businesses. At \$150.00 a year for residents would coincide with permits for commuter parking. As a note, we received an additional signature for the petition.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 voted to add 7 unrestricted spaces to provide a total of 13 unrestricted and 13 2 Hr spaces in PF 6E along the north side of the Rail Road.

9. LETTER AND PETITION FROM KEITH HOCHHEISER OF 32 CATHEDRAL AVENUE.

Mr. Hochheiser requests a No Trucking sign on Cathedral Avenue to significantly reduce the truck traffic on that road. He states that the quiet enjoyment for homes on Cathedral Avenue has been severely impacted by truck traffic. There are at least 20-30 eighteen wheel tractor trailers that drive down Cathedral Avenue every day; which is the heart of the residential central section. This situation also creates a serious safety issue as there are many young children that ride their bikes and play in the area.

UPDATE: Mr. Hochheiser submitted a petition at the September 17, 2015 Traffic Commission Meeting requesting a No Trucking sign on each end of Cathedral Avenue and each end of Rockaway Avenue.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its meeting of October 15, 2015 deferred this item until the next meeting and asked the PD to provide accident history for Cathedral Ave, Hilton Ave, Rockaway Ave, Franklin Ave, Washington Ave and Clinton Rd.

10. MAKING PLATTSDALE ROAD A DEAD-END STREET.

UPDATE: TRAFFIC STUDY TO BE DONE ON AREA IN FALL DURING OCTOBER, 2015. WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED ON AGENDA AS STUDY PROGRESSES.



Christopher Markin, P.E.
Village Engineer