

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF GARDEN CITY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2016

The following members were present:
Trustee Robert Bolebruch – Chairman
Trustee Richard Silver
Trustee John Delany
Trustee John DeMaro
Commissioner Kenneth Jackson
Robert J. Mangan, P.E. – Director of Public Works

1. Approve Minutes of December 17, 2015 – Approved.

2. Formal Agenda

A. DEFERRED AGENDA

1. 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.

NOTE: Nassau County Department of Public Works was sent a letter dated October 20, 2015 requesting this sign and we are awaiting their response.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its November 19, 2015 meeting voted to defer this item as we are awaiting Nassau County’s response to the letter that we sent them regarding this issue.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its December 17, 2015 meeting voted to defer this item. Engineering will follow up with Nassau County.

DECISION: Mayor to call Community Outreach Person for Mr. Mangano according to Doug Singer of Estates Property Owners’ Association as per Mr. Luttinger in order to expedite this item.

2. 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.

NOTE: We sent a letter to Mr. Ryan dated October 30, 2015 referring to the above decision.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its November 19, 2015 meeting voted to defer this item for Engineering to get cost estimate for solar signs for both sides of Clinton Road at Locust Street.

NOTE: Attached please find the cost estimate for solar signs for both sides of Clinton Road at Locust Street.

DECISION: The Eastern Property Owners' Association requested deferment until January and is considering a location to the south. Engineering to obtain a price for a hard-wired unit and better location at Garden or Pine.

DECISION: Engineering and Police in favor of Garden Street. Traffic Commission voted at the January 14, 2016 meeting to approve pending EPOA approval.

3.LETTER #1 FROM WILLIAM BELLMER AT 156 POPLAR STREET.

Mr. Bellmer states that the LIRR Bridge on Cherry Valley Avenue continues to get hit by unobservant over-height trucks. The bridge is marked for 10-foot, 4-inch clearance, which means that the actual bridge height is 11-foot, 4-inches. A prior proposal to install tell-tales in advance of the bridge was not approved. Warning chevrons attached to the edge of the bridge and flashing bridge-height signs at the sides of the roadway have not eliminated the problem, as evidenced by the damage to the chevrons. Each time an accident occurs, multiple Garden City Police are required to direct traffic and oversee debris clearance. The LIRR is also involved in determining that the bridge has not been damaged. If the actual bridge clearance were to be 14-feet, the Federal Highway Administration standard, no signs would be necessary, and no accidents would occur. Cherry Valley Avenue is a County Road. He states it should be worthwhile to ask the County to investigate whether this proposal is feasible, and if so, to implement it to finally solve this long-term problem. In addition, Mr. Bellmer states that trucks might then be able to be diverted from using Cathedral Avenue. This letter was sent to the Police Department and Central Property Owners' Association. This letter was approved to be put on the Agenda by the Central Property Owners' Association.

DECISION: Chairman Robert Bolebruch is to discuss this issue with Legislator Laura Schaefer.

NOTE: Letter was sent to Mr. Kevin Davitt of LIRR from Trustee Bolebruch stating that this matter was discussed with Legislator Laura Schaefer who referred it to the LIRR to coordinate this issue with Nassau County Department of Public Works.

DECISION: At the Traffic Commission meeting of December 17, 2015 this item was deferred, awaiting response.

DECISION: Trustee Bolebruch indicated that Kevin Davitt/LIRR letter indicated that LIRR Engineering reviewed the letter and indicated that this would be a major project and not

budgeted. Mr. Bellmer to write a new letter to the Traffic Commission, which the Village will forward to the LIRR and Nassau County.

4.REQUEST FROM MR. RALPH SUOZZI, VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR.

Mr. Suozzi requests that we install a pedestrian crossing sign in front of the Garden City Senior Center on Golf Club Lane.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its November 19, 2015 meeting deferred this item at the request of the Central Property Owners' Association.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its December 17, 2015 meeting deferred this item to get the Central Property Owners' Association response.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission voted to approve pending CPOA approval.

5.LETTER FROM PETER SAMAAAN, ESQ. ABOUT ROCKAWAY AVENUE.

Mr. Samaan writes to ask for an opportunity to discuss the deplorable conditions on Rockaway Avenue, which are added to by the Garden City School buses and students at the High School, who like virtually everyone else, ignore stop signs and the posted Village speed limit and the school zone speed limit. He requests that the school corridor between the Middle School and High School and St. Paul's be made safer. This letter was forwarded to the Police Department and the Central Property Owners' Association. Trustee Bolebruch approved it to be put on the Agenda for discussion at this meeting.

DECISION: The Traffic Commission at its November 19, 2015 meeting voted to defer this item.

DECISION: Legislator Laura Schaefer indicated to Chairman Bolebruch that Nassau County will not begin traffic study until February, 2016. At the Traffic Commission meeting of December 17, 2015 this item was voted to be deferred.

DECISION: At the Traffic Commission Meeting of January 14, 2016 this item was voted to be deferred.

The following were in attendance:

Doug Singer – Estates Property Owners' Association

Pat DiMattia – Central Property Owners' Association

Jack Byrnes – Chamber of Commerce

Christine Mullavey – Eastern Property Owners' Association



Robert J. Mangan, P.E.
Director of Public Works

RJM:lh