

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

**A meeting was held on Thursday May 31, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
in the third floor conference room at Gloucester City Hall.**

The meeting was opened by Chairman Robert B. Ryan at 6:00 p.m. Also attending were members Larry Ingersoll, Anthony Bertolino, Michael Mulcahey and Robert Francis. Also present were City Councilors Paul McGeary and Joseph Ciolino, East Gloucester School Principal Greg Bach, School Transportation Director Kathy Verga, Atty. Michael Faherty, Robert Marshall Jr., Mary Ann Boucher, Virginia Bergmann, Ann Ouelette, Bill Kirk, Frank DeVillis and several other residents.

Order #CC2012-024 (Councilor McGeary) Ordered that the GCO Ch 22 (Traffic & Motor Vehicles) sec. 22-159 (Parking prohibited between certain hours and on certain days) be amended by ADDING a new subsection (3) as follows:

(3) Davis Street Extension beginning at the northwest corner of #3 Davis Street Extension and continuing southeasterly on the southerly side for a distance of 60 feet, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. when school is in session; and further

Ordered that sec. 22-267 (One Way Streets) be amended by ADDING:

Chapel Street, in an easterly direction, from the intersection of East Main Street to Davis Street Extension, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. when school is in session. AND Chapel Street, in a westerly direction, from Mt. Pleasant Avenue to Davis Street Extension, in a southerly direction, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. when school is in session; AND Davis Street, in a southerly direction, from its intersection with Davis Street Extension to Highland Street, , during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. when school is in session; and further:

Ordered that sec 22-165 (Turning Movements) be amended by ADDING:

Chapel Street, at its intersection with Davis Street Extension, ascending from East Main Street, RIGHT TURN ONLY, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. when school is in session, and Chapel Street at its intersection with Davis Street Extension, descending from Mt. Pleasant Avenue, LEFT TURN ONLY, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. when school is in session; and further:

Ordered that sec 22-267 (One Way Streets) be amended by DELETING: Chapel Street, from Davis Street Extension to the intersection of East Main Street, during the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on school days when school is in session.

*A discussion was held concerning the order. East Gloucester Principal Greg Bach said an ongoing test of the orders has been a success. Traffic has flowed much smoother and the children's safety has been better. Transportation Director Kathy Verga said that the bus drivers have had better access to the children and are wholly in favor of the changes. Mary Ann Boucher said she spoke to the other residents of the Davis Street (and extension) area and they are good with the plan. A parent, Ann Ouelette, who drives her kids to school, said the plan has made it better, easier for parents and safer for the children. A letter was read into the record from a Mt. Pleasant Avenue resident commenting on the increased safety with the new system. All present, and the TC, agreed that the system works well and should be adopted. A MOTION was MADE, SECONDED and PASSED to **APPROVE** the recommendations as written. Following the vote, Boucher said that it has been about 15 years of trying to solve this issue and now everything appears successful.*

Order #CC2012-025 (Councilor McGeary) Ordered that the GCO Ch. 22 (Traffic & Motor Vehicles) sec. 22-270.1 (Resident Sticker Parking Only) be amended by ADDING:

Farrington Avenue, southerly side, from its intersection with Eastern Point Boulevard to its intersection with St. Louis Avenue, from May 15 to September 15 each year.

*A discussion was held concerning the order. Atty. Michael Faherty spoke and said that the ordinance seems to be for the benefit of area neighbors. He said that Niles Beach is privately owned and leased to the City and he is against the changes. Councilor McGeary said the change would result in approximately 23 more resident cars to be parked on Farrington Avenue. Councilor Ciolino was concerned that non-residents would now park further down on Farrington Avenue, creating a problem in that area. An email from Steve Winslow touched on the lack of proper sidewalks in the area. An email from Ann McKay (who stated she is a part owner of the beach) was opposed to the change. Several other emails were also read into the record. Member Ingersoll said that the beach is looked at as a 'neighborhood' type beach for mothers and children and felt that there is not enough residential parking there now. Member Francis said that the residents of the City deserve to have additional parking at the small neighborhood beach. Member Bertolino was again concerned about moving parking issues further down Farrington Avenue. A MOTION was MADE, SECONDED and PASSED (4-1 vote with Member Bertolino voting 'no') to **APPROVE** the order with the following changes: The dates should be May 1st to September 15th to go with all other seasonal parking restrictions, and the 'Resident Sticker Only' restriction be during the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..*

Order #CC2012-026 (Councilor McGeary) Ordered that the GCO Ch. 22 (Traffic & Motor Vehicles) sec. 22-270 (Parking prohibited at all times) be amended by DELETING:

Eastern Point Road, westerly side, from the beginning of the white fence at Flat Wonson Cove (near pole #2651) to the end of the white fence (near pole #2648) approximately 220 feet in a southerly direction.

A discussion was held concerning the order. No one could understand why this order would have been submitted (Councilor McGeary had to leave previous to this discussion to attend another meeting) The TC said that the area is narrow, uphill and on a curve. Several correspondences were read into the record that were not in favor of the change. Frank DeVillis, who lives in the area, also spoke against the change as did some others A MOTION was MADE, SECONDED and PASSED to NOT RECOMMEND the order..

Order #CC2012-027 (Councilor McGeary) Ordered that the GCO sec. 22-287 (Handicapped Parking) be amended by ADDING:

One handicapped space in front of 19 Eastern Avenue

After speaking to the requestor, a discussion was held and following that, a MOTION was MADE, SECONDED and PASSED to APPROVE the order as written. The sign should be placed in front of #19, closest to the driveway.

Order #CC2012-028 (Councilor Verga) Ordered that the GCO sec. 22-269 (Stop Intersections) be amended by ADDING:

Paws Lane at its intersection with Beechbrook Road

After speaking to Virginia Bergmann and a discussion, a MOTION was MADE, SECONDED and PASSED to APPROVE the order as written.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

ROBERT B. RYAN, Chairman

LARRY INGERSOLL, Secretary