

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER  
TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

**DRAFT**

**A meeting was held on Thursday July 24th, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.  
in the third floor Conference Room  
at Gloucester City Hall**

**The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Robert Ryan. Also attending were members Anthony Bertolino, Larry Ingersoll, Michael Mulcahey and Robert Francis. Also present were City Councilors Melissa Cox, Steven LeBlanc and Paul McGeary, Evan Moses (Speed bumps), Darleen Tait (HP space request), Joe & Renee Nicastro (Yellow Sub owners), Dr. Richard Safier (Supt. of Schools), Telena Imel (WP School Principal), Kathy Verga (School Transportation) and Jonathan Pope (School Committee).**

***AGENDA***

Approval of minutes from meeting of 6/26/14

*A MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to APPROVE the minutes.*

***The following was continued at our previous meeting:***

**Order #CC2014-028 (Councilor Cox)**

1. **ORDERED** that the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Chapter 22 "Traffic" be amended as follows:
2. Amend Sec. 22-265 "Turning movements-Generally" by **ADDING:**
3. "While school is in session, Pleasant Street in a northerly direction, no left turn onto Smith Street between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.;
4. Amend Sec. 22-159 "Same-Between certain hours and on certain days" by **ADDING:**
5. (4) Pleasant Street. While school is in session, Pleasant Street, from a point beginning at its intersection with Prospect Street, westerly side, in a northerly direction to Smith Street, **no parking** between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
6. (5) Smith Street. While school is in session, Smith Street, southerly side, from its intersection with Pleasant Street in a westerly direction to Maplewood Avenue, **no parking** between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Bus pick-up and drop-off only;

7. Amend Sec. 22-270 "Parking prohibited at all times" by **DELETING** Pleasant Street, westerly side, from Smith Street, southerly direction for a distance of 200 feet;
8. Amend Sec. 22-283 "Bus stops and taxi stands" by **DELETING** Pleasant Street, westerly side, beginning at the point 50' north of its intersection with Prospect Street for a distance of 120' in a northerly direction effective from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays, excluding the months of July and August.

*(June Meeting) After a discussion and speaking with Councilor Cox, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to CONTINUE the order until the ward councilor can have a neighborhood ward meeting concerning the changes.*

*The TC has learned that there is already an ordinance in place for item #5 in the order, but no signs are present.. From looking at maps of the area, some on the TC feel that a better traffic flow would be for busses to drop off on Pleasant Street and parents to drop off on Smith Street. There was a big concern in the requested plan with school busses being able to make the left turn from Smith Street onto Pleasant Street. There was also a question concerning parking during church holy days that fall on school days during the week (ie: Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday etc.). Also, the TC was concerned where teachers and other school workers would park.*

*(July Meeting) After a long discussion, questions and viewing maps of the area, the following MOTIONS were made, seconded and PASSED to APPROVE these recommendations: (Note: Each item was voted upon separately and passed unanimously)*

**Amend Sec. 22-265 "Turning movements-Generally" by ADDING:**

**"While school is in session, Pleasant Street in a northerly direction, no left turn onto Smith Street between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.."**

*This allows the busses to travel freely on Smith Street with no vehicles coming towards them, in order to unload children on the correct side of the street. It may delay other traffic, but only for a short period of time. It allows for neighborhood parking to remain in place.*

**Amend Sec. 22-159 "Same-Between certain hours and on certain days" by ADDING:**

**Pleasant Street. While school is in session, Pleasant Street, from a point beginning at its intersection with Prospect Street, westerly side, in a northerly direction to Smith Street, no parking between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**Also added to this order should be a request for a tow zone (22-291) to allow for proper enforcement.**

*This allows parents to drop off their kids on the westerly side of Pleasant Street in the morning while allowing regular parking during the other times.*

Smith Street. While school is in session, Smith Street, southerly side, from its intersection with Pleasant Street in a westerly direction to Maplewood Avenue, **no parking** between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Bus pick-up and drop-off only;

*This part of the order has been withdrawn by Councilor Cox and will allow current neighborhood parking to remain.*

*There is currently an order in place restricting parking on the north side of Smith Street, but there are no signs in place. The TC is requesting that signs be installed prohibiting parking on the northerly side of Smith Street. (Which is also a Tow Zone).*

Amend Sec. 22-270 "Parking prohibited at all times" by **DELETING** Pleasant Street, westerly side, from Smith Street, southerly direction for a distance of 200 feet;

Amend Sec. 22-283 "Bus stops and taxi stands" by **DELETING** Pleasant Street, westerly side, beginning at the point 50' north of its intersection with Prospect Street for a distance of 120' in a northerly direction effective from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays, excluding the months of July and August.

*These current orders are to be deleted and be replaced by the new Pleasant Street parking restrictions above.*

*Current restrictions between the Yellow Sub and the entrance to the small lot owned by Holy Family on Pleasant Street (no parking on crosswalks, driveway entrances etc.), as well as no parking on the corners of Smith Street and Pleasant Street where they intersect, must be strictly enforced as it is necessary for the busses to operate smoothly.*

*The TC is requesting the DPW erect signs to help enforce the 'No Parking' within 20 feet of the intersections on Smith Street and Pleasant Street, and also white stripe the road to ensure cooperation with the restrictions.*

*All agreed that these restrictions may have to be adjusted after school opens and traffic can be observed.*

A request for a handicapped parking space at 1 Flume Road has been received and will be discussed and voted on at this meeting.

*After speaking to the requestor, A MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to APPROVE the request.*

*The home has no driveway and there are no other handicapped spaces on Flume Road. The requestor was reminded that these spaces are for the use of anyone with a handicapped placard.*

**ORDER #CC2014-030 (Councilor LeBlanc)** ORDERED that the GCO ch 22. (Traffic) and Sec. 22-289 (Parking Meter Zones) be amended by ADDING:

Washington Street in front of #8, two 2 hour parking meters; and amend Sec. 22-216 (Hours of Operation) as needed.

*After a discussion and speaking with Councilor LeBlanc, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **NOT RECOMMEND** the order.*

*The request was made by the American Legion and was not supported by the Councilor or the area neighbors due to area congestion. The TC feels that installing meters at this location (In front of the Legion building facing the Joan of Arc statue) is not necessary.*

***The following items not on the agenda were discussed:***

*A communication as received from the city by a resident of Brightside Avenue concerning traffic safety on the street. A speed study will be done and the results given to the ward councilor for review.*

*The TC spoke with **Evan Moses** concerning speed bumps on Friend Street. He will be provided with the results of the previous speed study, and a new study will be done now that the road has been fully paved. Evan was informed of the decision received by the state concerning the legality of speed bumps, (legal), as well as the communication from the DPW director and his feelings about them at this time. (Not in favor). The TC is concerned that if any speed bumps are installed on any street, many other requests will be forthcoming and it will cause problems for the DPW. The TC is also concerned about how a neighborhood will react to the noise created by speed bumps. Evan will meet with Councilor Cox who will discuss this with all parties concerned.*

*The TC made a MOTION that was seconded and **PASSED** to make a formal request to the DPW for a crosswalk to be painted on Main Street opposite Herrick Court (in front of #338) continuing in a southerly direction across to the other side of Main Street.*

*This issue has the support of both Councilors Paul McGeary and Melissa Cox.*

*Also noted by the TC and Councilor Cox was the following order from October 2013 which was approved but never carried out. Recently, the DPW repainted the crosswalk which was to be removed.*

**ORDER #CC2013-049 (Councilor Cox)** Ordered to request the removal of a crosswalk on Railroad Avenue at the intersection of School Street.

*After a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to APPROVE the order. The crosswalk to be removed is from the westerly corner of School Street, crossing to the opposite side of Railroad Avenue in a northerly direction. There is another existing crosswalk from the easterly corner of School Street that crosses into the entrance walkway to Shaw's Market making this other crosswalk unneeded.*

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**

**ROBERT B. RYAN, Chairman**

**LARRY INGERSOLL, Secretary**