

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

**A meeting was held on Thursday January 15th, 2015 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. Attending were members Anthony Bertolino, Larry Ingersoll, Michael Mulcahey and City Councilor Melissa Cox.

AGENDA

Approval of minutes from our 11-20-14 meeting

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

HANDICAP PARKING REQUESTS:

One space at #26 Prospect Street (Andrea Napoli)

Due to circumstances, the requestor has asked us to continue this matter until our next meeting.

A MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to CONTINUE the request.

ORDER #CC2014-050 (Councilor LeBlanc) **ORDERED** that the Ordinances and Administration Standing Committee recommend to the Traffic Commission that:

1) they perform a speed study on Gloucester Avenue from its intersection with Maplewood Avenue to its intersection with Madison Court and report the study results to the Ordinances & Administration to determine whether the Council should request approval of a posted speed limit from MassDOT;

A speed study was conducted that showed 4400 vehicles using this street in a seven day period. The AVERAGE speed of these vehicles was 24 mph with 247 (11.5%) exceeding the current 30 mph speed limit. The conclusion to be drawn from this study is that there is a small speed issue in that that the number of vehicles exceeding the limit is barely over the tolerance level of 10%.

*A **RECOMMENDATION** is to step up enforcement in this area when practical.*

and

2) that they also study whether there should be a crosswalk on Gloucester Avenue in the vicinity of #53 and report their recommendation to the Ordinances & Administration for the Ordinances & Administration to recommend whether the Council should approve a crosswalk for public safety purposes under Code of Ordinances Sec. 21-6 and MGL c.83§25;.

After a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to APPROVE the request for a crosswalk. After speaking to the management of the bowling center, it is requested that the crosswalk be as close to the foot of the left side entrance steps (not the handicap ramp) crossing over into the parking area.

ORDER #CC2015-002 (Councilor Cox) ORDERED that the City Council Ordinances & Administration Committee together with the Traffic Commission review the parking restrictions in Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances for Elm Street in the area between the intersection of Federal Street and Elm and the intersection of Main Street and Elm particularly on the easterly side in the vicinity of #9 Elm Street to determine whether some restrictions should be repealed or deleted.

FURTHER ORDERED that following the review of and based on the recommendation of the Traffic Commission, the O&A amend and delete restrictions in Sec. 22-270 “Parking prohibited at all times”; Sec. 22-273 “Parking prohibited between certain hours on certain days”; and Sec. 22-274 “Two-hour parking-Between certain hours” to the extent that those restrictions apply to the vicinity of #9 Elm Street.

After a discussion and speaking with Councilor Cox, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to CONTINUE the matter until a group site visit can be made. The TC has learned that there are conflicting ordinances already in place and would like to revisit the area.

After a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to reinstitute the rule to allow the Chairman to vote on every issue being brought forth to the TC. This is pending an opinion from the City Clerk

A speed study was conducted on the northern end of Mount Vernon Street (towards Elwell Street). The study showed that nearly 8000 vehicles passed in a one week period with the average speed being 18 mph. Less than 1% (26) were exceeding the current 30 mph limit.

The conclusion to be drawn from this study is that a speeding problem does not exist as the number of vehicles exceeding the 10% tolerance level is extremely small. Mount Vernon Street, due to its physical nature being hilly and narrow shows no problem with a speeding issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

ROBERT B. RYAN, Chairman

LARRY INGERSOLL, Secretary