

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

**A meeting was held on Thursday October 22nd, 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 and Robert Francis; City Councilors Steven LeBlanc and Melissa Cox; Residents Walter Meyer, John Sutera Sr. and Jr. and Richard and Joann Movalli; Kent Circle residents Peter and Jan Grew, George and Jane Johnson, Tricia Gilardi and Cindy Hendrickson.

AGENDA

Approval of minutes from the 9/24/15 meeting

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

Handicap Parking Requests:

Walter Meyer One space at #25 Chestnut Street

*After speaking to the requestor, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **APPROVE** the request. **The sign will need to be placed across from #25** as the odd numbers are the no parking side of the street. There are no other Handicap spaces at this time on Chestnut Street and the landlord has no parking available for his tenants.*

Robert Movalli One space at #9 Sadler Street

*After speaking to the requestor, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **APPROVE** the request. There are no other handicapped parking spaces at this time on Sadler Street. There is no off street parking available at the address.*

John Sutera One space at #10 Riggs Street

*After speaking to the requestor and Councilor LeBlanc, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **APPROVE** the request. There is currently one other handicapped space at #6 Riggs Street. The area has little off street parking.*

All requestors for handicapped parking are informed that the spaces are for anyone with a placard and not just for personal use.

CONTINUED ORDERS

The following were continued from our 9/24 meeting:

ORDER #CC2015-031 (Councilor LeBlanc) **ORDERED** that the City Council request the Traffic Commission to conduct a speed study on Kent Circle and investigate whether Kent Circle should be a one way street; and that the Traffic Commission make a written recommendation to the Ordinance & Administration on the findings of their review including whether any Traffic Ordinance amendments are recommended.

FURTHER ORDERED that the GCO Sec. 22-270.1 “Resident Sticker parking only” be amended by **ADDING** Kent Circle.

(September Meeting) As a result of the traffic speed and volume study not yet complete, the Commission voted to continue the order.

*(October Meeting) After a discussion and speaking to the residents of Kent Circle who were in attendance and Councilor LeBlanc, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **APPROVE the creation of a one-way designation (GCO Sec. 22-267) for Kent Circle, for its entire length, from its intersection with Essex Avenue, in a southwesterly direction, to its intersection of Western Avenue.***

Also;

*A MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED (Vote was 2-1 with member Bertolino in opposition) to **APPROVE Seasonal Resident Sticker Parking Only (GCO 22-270.1) on Kent Circle, for its entire length, on the westerly side (houses) from May first to September fifteenth.***

The results of the Traffic Speed Study (which was conducted in October - not during the summer season) showed less than one percent of the vehicles traveling on Kent Circle were speeding. The residents were concerned about the loss of beach parking revenues from cars parking on Kent Circle all day instead of using the lot at Stage Fort park. Most, but not all, of the residents on the street have some off-street parking. Member Bertolino was opposed as he felt that the one way designation should be given some time before resident only parking was considered.

ORDER #CC2015-033 (Councilor Cox) **ORDERED** that the GCO Sec. 22-269 “Stop Intersections” be amended by **ADDING** a stop sign on Shepherd Street for eastbound drivers on Shepherd Street at its intersection with Pleasant Street and in accordance with Sec. 22-128 with the official stop sign thereon facing traffic proceeding in the direction indicated above.

(September Meeting) After discussion with both Councilor Cox and a resident of Shepherd Street, the Commission voted to continue the order in order to schedule a group site visit and determine the best approach to improve the safety of the subject intersection, and learn the best location and placement of a stop sign if approved.

*(October Meeting) After a discussion and speaking with Councilor Cox, A MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **NOT RECOMMEND the order.***

The TC feels that vehicles traveling east on Shepherd Street have the right of way and there are already Stop signs at the intersection of Shepherd and Pleasant for vehicles traveling west, and on Pleasant and Shepherd for vehicles traveling north. The TC felt there was no reason for an additional Stop sign.

NEW ORDERS

ORDER #CC2015-038 (Councilor Stewart) **ORDERED** that the GCO Chapter 22, Sec. 22-269 “Stop Intersections” be amended by **ADDING** the following location:

Leonard Street. Northbound drivers on Leonard Street at its intersection with River Road.

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

The TC felt that vehicles traveling on Leonard Street have the right of way and there is already a Stop sign on River Road at its intersection of Leonard Street.

ORDER # CC2015-036 (Councilor LeBlanc) **ORDERED** that the GCO Chapter 22, Sec. 22-270 "Parking prohibited at all times" be amended by deleting Emerson Avenue, northerly side from westerly corner of the intersection of Griffin Court and Emerson Avenue, and request that the Traffic Commission review parking in that area as there is no designated area where parents may drop off or pick up their children at Pathways for Children, and report their recommendations to the Ordinance & Administration Standing Committee.

After a discussion and speaking to Councilor LeBlanc, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to recommend the following:

DELETE GCO Sec. 22-279 (Parking prohibited at All Times), Emerson Avenue, northerly side, from its intersection with Griffin Court and Emerson Avenue... (Note: This seems to be an incomplete worded ordinance on the books)

ADDING: GCO Sec. 22-279 (30 Minute Parking) Emerson Avenue, northerly side, from the west corner of the easterly entrance of the Pathways building (entrance to the right when looking at the building) parking area, in a westerly direction to pole #7997

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

ROBERT B. RYAN, Chairman

LARRY INGERSOLL, Secretary