

## ***TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES***

September 12, 2018

2:00pm

### **Attendance**

Russell Timmons, Police Captain & Chairman of Traffic Safety Committee

Kenneth Vincent, City Council Representative

Robert Belmore, City Manager

Shanna Saunders, Director of Planning & Community Development

Jenne Holmes, Member at Large

Mike Bobinsky, Public Works Director

Keith Hoyle, Fire Chief

Gary Lemay, City Engineer

Mayor Dana S Hilliard

Trish Harris, City Clerk

Robert Gadomski, School Superintendent

Paul Robidas, Member at large

### **Also in attendance:**

David Kretschmar, Police Chief

Brenda Breda, Executive Assistant

George Poulin

Richard Michaud

The Chairman called the Meeting to order at 2:06 pm.

### **Review and Accept August Meeting Minutes**

Paul Robidas motioned to approve meeting minutes of August 15, 2018, second by Ken Vincent. Meeting minutes approved. Bob Gadomski and Ken Vincent abstained.

**OLD BUSINESS - Grove Street 15 Minute Parking - Recommended by the City Council to reconsider the parking on Grove St.** Chairman Timmons stated that the Council had taken action to change the 15 minutes parking zone to 2-hours.

George Poulin of 12 Grove Street stated that he is part of a group of retired residents who were discussing the parking on the hill. The area on Grand Street was 15 minute parking for drop off at the school. It is harder parking in that area in the winter and hard to turn the corner. The residents think it should be no parking. Most of the streets on the hill have no parking on one side.

Captain said the current Ordinance that is on the table, is not what they previously suggested. Width of the travel portion of the road is just over 23'. Parking area is about 90' long and 4 feet wide. On a clear day, cars can get off the travel portion of the road.

But in the winter, snow banks make that parking area smaller. With cars parked on either side, driving through there can be problematic.

Councilor Vincent stated that the Council voted for 2 hour parking. He didn't realize that Grand Street is now a 2 way street. The most important thing is safety. He does not live on the hill. Those who do live there, their opinion weighs on him. They feel it is a safety issue. Councilor Vincent stated that he is now in favor of no parking.

Chief Hoyle reported that he recently parked in the indicated parking spaces. At this time, a fire truck could get through, but would not be able to in the winter months.

***Jenne Holmes, seconded by Councilor Vincent, made a motion to continue with their recommendation of no parking on Grand Street (original recommendation).***

Paul Robidas stated that he agrees with no parking on one side.

***The motion passed, 8-0. All in favor.***

Director Bobinsky offer to connect with Lydia's House of Hope regarding parking in the area to state that the committee is willing to meet and discuss any needs they might have.

**NEW BUSINESS - Request to Adjust Time Parking on Washington Street from 3 to 4/5 Hours** The Committee received a letter from Debbie Evans requesting that the parking along Washington Street be increased from 3 hours to 4 or 5 hours. Filion Terrace, a SHA social event building, is expanding their use, and the additional parking time is needed. Three hour parking on Washington Street is not an adequate of the length of time for bingo, or other social gatherings.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to have a test period and temporarily cover the 3 hour parking signs, pending Council approval.

***Councilor Vincent, seconded by Chief Hoyle, made a motion to recommend to the Council that the parking restriction be lifted for a period of 30 days. The motion passed, 8-0.***

**NEW BUSINESS - Discuss Memorial Drive concerns from a Resident (Speeders and Traffic Volume).** The Mayor received an email from Bruce Dumais, resident on Memorial Drive, stating that the speeding on the street is "much too much."

Captain Timmons stated that there is a police presence on Memorial Drive. There is a regular patrol during the school day. School hadn't started when the letter was received.

There was discussion about the different options to control the speed on that road; speed bumps, speed platforms/tables, recording devices, speed limit signs, possible one-way, and pavement markings.

Mayor Hilliard stated that this concern is directly from a citizen who resides on this street. It is a unique situation. It is a City road, and a high school, a middle school and a football field. There is a lot of activity on this road. It is a short cut between High Street and Maple Street. The street is also occupied by 2 residents. He is always looking at “what could happen.” He is most fearful of the possible innocent accident. There is a need to add some more safety into this road. He is sure this Committee will do their due diligence to continue to examine the traffic safety along Memorial Drive.

There was discussion about cost and placement of speed tables, and about the possibility of making Memorial Drive a one-way street.

Director Bobinsky and Engineer Lemay will report at the next meeting on costs of speed tables, and any potential grants.

**NEW BUSINESS - Malley Farm Road Speed Signage** Director Bobinsky said he is looking into speed signs. He will report on the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS - Coast Bus Stop Rte. 108** Director Saunders stated that City staff is working with Coast and the Works. The Second Street stop will remain a Coast bus stop.

Councilor Vincent, seconded by Jenne Holmes, made a motion to adjourn at 3:15pm, Motion passed 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Trish Harris, City Clerk