



Michael P. Lawn  
Chief of Police

# CITY OF WATERTOWN

## TRAFFIC COMMISSION



David Sampson  
Sergeant  
Tel: 617-972-6547

Michael P. Lawn, Chair  
Robert Quinn, Fire Chief  
Gregory St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works  
Steven Magoon, Community Development and Planning  
Ms. Kelly Gallagher

April 28, 2022

### April 27, 2022 Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Michael Lawn, Robert Quinn, Gregory St. Louis, Steven Magoon, Kelly Gallagher

Chief Lawn announced that Chief Quinn is retiring and that this would be Chief Quinn's last Traffic Commission meeting. Chief Lawn thanked Chief Quinn for his 35 years of service to the Fire Department, and for his work with the Traffic Commission.

Traffic Commission members then addressed the following items:

**Item 1** – Chief Quinn made a motion to approve the January, 2022 Traffic Commission meeting minutes; Mr. Magoon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

**Item 2** – The Commission reviewed a request by Mr. Stephen Boudreau of Vanasse and Associates on behalf of their client Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc to:

- a. Restrict parking on Walnut Street at School Street and,
- b. To install "Do Not Block Intersection" signs and pavement markings on School Street at the intersection with Walnut Street.

Senior Engineer Mr. Ted O'Hagan of Vanasse and Associates presented to the Commission. Mr. O'Hagan explained that the proposed modifications at this intersection are part of the Arsenal on the Charles mitigation packet. The improvements noted in this plan aim to enhance pedestrian safety and help maintain traffic flow through the intersection of School Street and Walnut Street. After a brief presentation, Mr. O'Hagan requested the following:

- a. Restrict parking on the south side (eastbound direction) of Walnut Street from a point 65' west of School Street to School Street.
- b. Restrict parking on the north side (westbound direction) of Walnut Street from School Street to a point 35' west
- c. Restrict parking on the east side of School Street from a point 30' south of Dexter Avenue to Dexter Avenue.
- d. Post "Do Not Block Intersection" signage and apply pavement markings to School Street

Mr. St. Louis instructed Mr. O'Hagan to work with City Engineering to ensure that any drainage concerns were addressed.

Mr. Magoon made a motion to approve the parking restrictions and "Do Not Block Intersection" pavement markings and postings presented by Mr. O'Hagan; Ms. Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 3** – The Commission reviewed a request by Chief Quinn of the Watertown Fire Department to restrict parking on Aldrich Road from a point 286’ west of the 43 Aldrich Road driveway, to a point 319’ west of the 43 Aldrich Road driveway.

Chief Quinn reported that Fire Department access point to the rear of 50 Watertown Street is on Aldrich Road. In the past, this area was overgrown, and the management company often obstructed the lane with snow. These issues have been addressed and the area is clear for fire apparatus access. In order to ensure that no vehicles block the access area, Chief Quinn requested the above parking restriction. This area was assessed by City Engineer Mr. Shuman and Sgt. Sampson.

Ms. Gallagher made a motion to restrict parking on Aldrich Road from a point 286’ west of the 43 Aldrich Road driveway, to a point 319’ west of the 43 Aldrich Road driveway; Mr. St. Louis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 4** – The Commission reviewed a request by Ms. Mary Avedisian of 504 Mt. Auburn Street to restrict one parking space on the west side of Hillside Road adjacent to 504 Mt. Auburn Street to Handicap Only Parking.

Sgt. Sampson reported that he met with Ms. Avedisian and learned that she has health issues that make walking, etc. a challenge. It is difficult for Ms. Avedisian to carry items up several flights of stairs from her garage. Ms. Avedisian possesses a valid HP placard and would find it helpful to have an HP Only space on Hillside Road near her side walkway. In addition to the potential benefits to Ms. Avedisian, her brother and sister in-law possess HP placards and would be able to park close to Ms. Avedisian’s home.

Mr. Magoon made a motion to restrict one parking space on the west side of Hillside Road adjacent to 504 Mt. Auburn Street to Handicap Only Parking; Ms. Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 5** – The Commission reviewed a request by Sgt. Sampson of the Watertown Police Department to add an isolated stop sign on Olcott Street for northbound traffic at Highland Avenue to Schedule IV of the Traffic Rules and Orders.

Sgt. Sampson explained that the City is planning to reconstruct Highland Avenue. During a review of the area, Olcott Street was found to be the only intersecting street that lacked a stop sign at Highland Avenue. To create consistency and enhance safety, Sgt. Sampson requested that an isolated stop be placed at this location.

Ms. Gallagher made a motion to add an isolated stop sign on Olcott Street for northbound traffic at Highland Avenue to Schedule IV of the Traffic Rules and Orders; Mr. St. Louis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 6** – New Business

No other new business was brought before the Commission.

Mr. Magoon made a motion to adjourn; Chief Quinn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sgt. David Sampson  
Assistant to the Traffic Commission