



Thomas F. Rocca
Chief of Police

CITY OF WATERTOWN

TRAFFIC COMMISSION



David Sampson
Sergeant
Tel: 617-972-6547

Thomas F. Rocca, Chair
Ryan Nicholson, Provisional Fire Chief
Gregory St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works
Steven Magoon, Community Development and Planning
Ms. Kelly Gallagher
Mr. Robert Airasian

February 3, 2023

January 25, 2023 Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Thomas Rocca, Ryan Nicholson, Steven Magoon, Kelly Gallagher, Robert Airasian

Traffic Commission members addressed the following items:

Item 1 – Mr. Magoon made a motion to approve the November 30, 2022 Traffic Commission meeting minutes; Ms. Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 2 – The Commission reviewed a request by Mr. Michael Gurney of Grove Street for the installation of a crosswalk spanning Kondazian Street at Grove Street, and an isolated stop sign on Kondazian Street for northbound traffic at Grove Street.

Sgt. Sampson reported that there is a public school bus stop at that location which brings a gathering of students to this location. Sgt. Sampson also spoke with DPW Superintendent St. Louis and City Engineer Shuman about these requests - The intersection meets the warrants for an isolated stop sign. A few years ago, sidewalk improvements were made to this area and the crossing on Kondazian was narrowed slightly. Due to drainage and private driveway issues, the pedestrian crossing distance could not be significantly shortened. Currently, there are no plans to conduct more improvements in the area. Mr. St. Louis relayed to Sgt. Sampson that he supported the request for a crosswalk at this location.

Mr. Airasian felt that a crosswalk at this location would also benefit the Atrium School located at 69 Grove Street.

Mr. Magoon made a motion to approve an isolated stop sign on Kondazian Street for northbound traffic at Grove Street and a crosswalk spanning Kondazian Street at Grove Street; Chief Nicholson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 3 – The Commission reviewed a request by Sgt. Sampson of the Watertown Police Department to install an isolated stop sign on Garnet Street for westbound traffic at Irving Street.

Sgt. Sampson reported that Mr. Lessard from the DPW was approached by a resident of the area who reported that the stop sign on Garnet Street was missing. It was discovered that although a sign was posted in this area in 2007, a sign has not been there in many years. It was also learned that an approved isolated stop sign for this location is not listed in the City's Traffic Rules and Orders. City Engineer Shuman reported to Sgt. Sampson that the location meets the warrants for an isolated stop sign.

Mr. Magoon made a motion to approve an isolated stop sign on Garnet Street for westbound traffic at Irving Street; Ms. Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business –

Mr. Magoon reported that perhaps a broader electric vehicle parking policy is needed. There are EV parking spaces in public metered parking areas, as well as in some public school parking lots. The City Manager has asked the Department of Public Buildings and the Department of Community Development and Planning to draft a policy; this will likely be presented to the Traffic Commission at a future meeting.

Mr. Magoon also noted that the City has had issues from time to time with various groups or entities occupying parking at public parks and the City does not have a coherent policy to address these issues. Mr. Magoon believes the Commission should discuss and come to some conclusion about these issues.

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

Meeting adjourned.

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