



Justin M. Hanrahan
Chief of Police

CITY OF WATERTOWN

TRAFFIC COMMISSION



David Sampson
Sergeant
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Justin Hanrahan, Chair
Ryan Nicholson, Provisional Fire Chief
Gregory St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works
Steven Magoon, Community Development and Planning
Tyler Glode, City Engineer
Ms. Kelly Gallagher
Mr. Robert Airasian

March 22, 2024

February 28, 2024 Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Justin Hanrahan, Steven Magoon, Kelly Gallagher, Robert Airasian

Traffic Commission members addressed the following items:

Item 1 – Ms. Gallagher made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2023 Commission meeting; Mr. Airasian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 2 – The Commission reviewed a request by Ms. Sarah Surrette of 15 Berkeley Street to restrict one parking space in front of 15 Berkeley Street to Handicap Only Parking. Ms. Surrette reported that her husband is 89 years old and is a veteran of the Korean War. Mr. Surrette has mobility issues, and it is becoming increasingly more difficult for him to walk to the parking area at the end of Berkeley Street. The Surrette's do not have their own off-street parking.

Mr. Magoon reminded Ms. Surrette that if a restricted space is approved, it would be a public space that any handicapped person could use.

Mr. Airasian reported that these types of requests have been approved by the Commission – Mr. Airasian is familiar with the area and the parking difficulties at the end of Berkeley Street.

Mr. Magoon noted that the Commission is careful not to approve these types of spaces because residents want to reserve space in front of their homes. The Commission would base this decision on Mr. Surrette's limited mobility and the distance from the residence to the parking area.

Ms. Gallagher noted that in the past, the Commission has approved requests in cases where a driveway is present, but the distance from the driveway to the home's entrances were challenging. Given Mr. Surrette's challenges, Ms. Gallagher was in support of the request.

Chief Hanrahan supported the request.

Mr. Airasian made a motion to restrict one parking space in front of 15 Berkeley Street to Handicap Only Parking; Mr. Magoon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- a. Sgt. Sampson reported that he received an email from a Marcia Road resident concerning safety issues on Bellevue Road at Bailey Road. The resident was concerned about the increase in traffic due to construction on Common Street, and the speeds of vehicles turning to and from Bailey Road. In September 2022, the Traffic Commission approved curve warning signage in both directions in this area.

Mr. Airasian is familiar with the area and believed it made sense to assess the area.

Ms. Gallagher asked whether speed studies were conducted at the time signage was installed in the area. Sgt. Sampson reported that although past studies were conducted, none were conducted in the area in 2022. Prior studies revealed that speeds were reasonable.

Mr. Airasian believes that the current conditions are temporary; perhaps something could be done temporarily and then see what the conditions are after all construction is completed in the area.

The issue will be placed on the March, 2024 Traffic Commission agenda.

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