

PORTSMOUTH
TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
8:00 a.m. – Thursday, March 8, 2007
City Hall – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Councilor Ken Smith, Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00a.m.

II. ROLL CALL: Members Present:

Councilor Ken Smith, Chairman	Ted Gray, Member
Steve Parkinson, P.E. Public Works Director	John Howe, Member
Deputy Police Chief Len DiSesa	John Connors, Member
Asst. Fire Chief Steve Achilles	Eric Spear, Member
Deborah Finnigan, P.E., Traffic Engineer	Christina Westfall, Member

Jonathan Bailey excused absence

III. NEW BUSINESS:

- (A) **110 Fleet Street – Farah’s Bridal** – Request for a “No Parking” Zone (Memo dated 2/13/07 attached) – Debbie Finnigan reported receiving a request from Farah’s Bridal that trucks park in front of her business to load and unload blocking the view of her business as well as traffic traveling on Fleet St. towards Congress St. it is necessary for them to travel over the double yellow centerline to get around the truck and would like “no parking” to alleviate this.

Steve Parkinson stated the issue is that it is not so much her deliveries, but deliveries to other people in the building and is cross hatched off as a “No Parking” area but has been utilized for deliveries, prior to creation of loading zone on Congress St. It may be appropriate at this time since we do have the option on Congress that we do put up “No Parking” signs and enforce it. His concern is not so much of blocking her store front as he is with traffic going over the yellow line and meeting on-coming traffic.

MOTION made by Steve Parkinson to place “No Parking” signs on Fleet St. and enforce it. Refer to the Parking Committee. Seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Achilles. Motion passed.

Steve Parkinson will check the Ordinance and believes it is just a matter of putting up “No Parking” signs and at the beginning have our enforcement people notify the trucks they see there that they can no longer use this.

The Chair stated if it is not in the Ordinance it will be brought to the Parking Committee for change of Ordinance.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- (A) **Pevery Hill Road/Middle St.** – Improvement to right turn from Middle to Pevery Hill (Report back) – Debbie Finnigan reported this is part of the design to be completed by the November advertising date with construction in the

spring. Recommended to leave this intersection as is until the construction is started.

MOTION made by Ted Gray to table until construction is done and address this in the spring. Seconded by John Connors. Motion passed.

- (B) **Pevery Hill/Route 1 – Signage** – (Letter to NHDOT attached) – Debbie Finnigan reported that she followed up with a letter to Mr. Lambert concerning pedestrian signage at Pevery Hill/Elwyn Rd at Rte.1 and has not yet received a response.

MOTION made by Steve Parkinson to accept the report and place on file. Seconded by Ted Gray. Motion passed.

- (C) **Woodbury Ave/Durgin Lane – Christmas Tree Shop/Bed, Bath & Beyond** – Resident concerns (letter dated February 14, 2007 attached – Debbie Finnigan stated there is a meeting with all parties on March 22nd. The Chair recommended tabling this until next month.

MOTION made by Asst. Fire Chief Achilles to take this off the table. Seconded by Ted Gray. Motion passed.

David Palumbo 181 Echo Avenue since 1971 was present together with Carlos Castro. Mr. Palumbo showed a map to the Committee of the Frank Jones Neighborhood Assoc. Mr. Palumbo stated the Neighborhood consists of approximately 250 families extending from Market St. ext. up to Rte.95 at the overpass, covers the southwesterly direction down to the Spaulding Turnpike and all of Maplewood Ave. encumbering approximately 19 streets. Their concern is the traffic on Woodbury Ave. He commended the Police Department for their presence there which is very helpful.

Mr. Palumbo suggested, if possible, to have a sign off of 95 coming from the South, cars will be coming off exit 6 and come onto Woodbury Ave. Possible to place signage onto Market St. ext.? Feels this would help.

Mr. Palumbo referred to traffic coming from the South not taking the Rotary, they will bypass Brady Dr. If they take the sign that says White Mountains/16 will go right past Brady Dr. and will have to go to Gosling Rd. if they know to take a right there.

Requested a sign prior to Brady Drive for “Christmas Tree/Home Depot, straight ahead”, would also be helpful.

Mr. Palumbo gave a history of Echo Ave and the area and Mr. Brady placed an access road that allowed vehicles through the parking lot onto Brady Dr.

He reported speaking with The Manager at Ford who is concerned about traffic and possible accidents and may place a “no thru” sign on Brady Dr. area and possibly a gate. Mr. Palumbo is concerned with a sign on Brady Dr. “Ford/Echo Ave.” and asked if this could be removed.

Suggested considering a speed bump on Woodbury Ave. and commented on Rite-Aid coming to the area.

Mr. Palumbo thanked the Committee and stated Portsmouth was fortunate to have a Traffic & Safety Committee.

MOTION made by Ted Gray to table until the April meeting. Seconded by John Connors. Motion passed.

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

- (A) **Summit Avenue** - Ted Gray referred to the sign that is suppose to say the gate is either open or closed, the flap is gone and constantly says "closed".

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted

Elaine E. Boucas, Secretary