

**CITY OF NORWALK
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling, Commissioner Kelly Straniti; Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons

STAFF: Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Deputy Chief Susan Zecca; Deputy Chief James Walsh; Michael Yeosock, Asst. Director, TMP; Fred Eshraghi TMP

OTHERS: Jay Le Blanc; David Whitman; Arnold Rowland; David Whitman; Janet Nichols; Diane Stein; Michelle Novak; Tom Novak

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:00PM. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. APPROVE THE MMRF WALK- 5K RACE ON CALF PASTURE BEACH ROAD ON JUNE 13, 2020 STARTING AT 9:00AM.

Mr. Yeosock said the race is similar to last year's race and will begin at Taylor Farm.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MMRF WALK-5K RACE ON CALF PASTURE BEACH ROAD ON JUNE 13, 2020 STARTING AT 9:00AM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF NEW STREET FOR MR. FROSTY’S FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL ON TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020 FROM 5PM TO 7PM.

Mr. LeBlanc of Knot Norms stated that they had done an event with Mr. Frosty’s last year but with the amount of people that had attended they think it will be safer to close the road from First Avenue to New Street. Mayor Rilling asked if any of the residences will be block off. Mr. LeBlanc said “no”. Mayor Rilling requested that emergency services personnel be notified.

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF NEW STREET FOR MR. FROSTY’S FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL ON TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020 FROM 5PM TO 7PM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF “NO PARKING” AROUND THE TRAFFIC CIRCLE ON KELLE COURT

Mr. Eshraghi said they have done traffic counts at different times of the day and there are cars parking around the cul-de-sac making it difficult for cars to pass and are recommending the removal of on street parking around the traffic circle. Mayor Rilling asked who had made the request. Mr. Eshraghi said the resident at 3 Kelle Court but there were also requests made in the past. Mayor Rilling asked if the other residents have been notified. Mr. Eshraghi said “no”. Mayor Rilling recommended tabling the item until next month so that the other residents can be notified prior to approving the no parking.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO TABLE THE INSTALLATION OF “NO PARKING” AROUND THE TRAFFIC CIRCLE ON KELLE COURT**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF A “NO STANDING ZONE” ON NORTH WATER STREET IN FRONT OF SONO COLLECTION.

Mr. Eshraghi said they have received some complaints that the car service drivers are standing when dropping off or picking passengers at the SONO Collection creating an issue with traffic and are requesting the installation of a no standing zone. Chief Kulhawik said they have also received complaints on this issue. Mayor Rilling asked how it will be enforced. Mr. Eshraghi said it will be enforced by the police department.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF A “NO STANDING ZONE” ON NORTH WATER STREET IN FRONT OF SONO COLLECTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF AN ALL-WAY STOP AT HUBELLS LANE AND SMITH STREET

Mr. Eshraghi said there is no control in the intersection and they are recommending an all way stop which will provide a safer environment.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE AN ALL-WAY STOP AT HUBBELLS LANE AND SMITH STREET.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. APPROVE THE PARKING LAYOUT FOR DAY STREET FROM HANFORD PLACE TO ELIZABETH STREET.

Mr. Rowland stated there are five parking spaces on Day Street and the businesses in the SONO Square would like to claim three of the parking spaces for 15 minute parking and two of the parking spaces for two hour parking. He said there are people parking there all day and all night long taking away from the customer base. Mr. Yeosock said there are currently no time restrictions on the parking spaces and they have met with the business owners and understand the situation. He said if approved LAZ Parking will provide the enforcement.

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE PARKING LAYOUT FOR DAY STREET FROM HANFORD PLACE TO ELIZABETH STREET.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. APPROVE THE PARKING LAYOUT PLAN FOR CHAPEL STREET

Mr. Whitman said he owns a building on Chapel Street which is zoned for deliveries within the building and the new parking layout will allow them to take safe deliveries inside of the building. He

said currently the way the parking is there is a very unsafe practice of unloading their trucks on the street and if parking is eliminated as proposed they will be able to take deliveries in a safe manor. Ms. Welfare spoke in support of the proposed parking layout and said the street has become narrow with the new sidewalks and there is not enough room for parking on both sides of the street. Mayor Rilling asked if the neighbors have been notified. Mr. Yeosock said “yes” they have received a mailing.

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO TABLE THE APPROVAL OF THE PARKING LAYOUT PLAN FOR CHAPEL STREET.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. RECOMMEND THE 25 MPH SPEED LIMIT FOR WALL STREET AND EAST AVENUE FROM I-95 TO US ROUTE 1 TO OSTA FOR APPROVAL

Mr. Yeosock said the current speed limit on Wall Street is 30 MPH and the average speed limit on Wall Street is 27 MPH and are recommending limiting the speed limit to 25MPH on Wall Street and around the green. He said they have received requests from residents in the area to make it safer and there have been some accidents in the area, and it would also make the speed limit consistent with the lower end of East Avenue.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE TO RECOMMEND THE 25 MPH SPEED LIMIT FOR WALL STREET AND EAST AVENUE FROM I-95 TO US ROUTE 1 TO OSTA FOR APPROVAL.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10. RECOMMEND TO CT DOT EXTENDING THE 2 HOUR PARKING ZONE ON CT ROUTE 136 VAN ZANT STREET FROM 66 VAN ZANT STREET TO 58 VAN ZANT STREET

Mr. Eshraghi said one of the business owners on Van Zant Street has had an issue with people parking in front of his business and is creating difficulty for his customers to park. He said Van Zant Street from East Avenue on the south side to 66 Van Zant Street is two hour parking and the request is to extend the two hour parking to 58 Van Zant Street which is just before the fire department. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked how effective the two hour parking is that is currently in place. Mr. Yeosock said that LAZ Parking enforces the area.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER- CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE TO RECOMMEND TO CT DOT EXTENDING THE 2 HOUR PARKING ZONE ON CT ROUTE 136 VAN ZANT STREET FROM 66 VAN ZANT STREET TO 58 VAN ZANT STREET.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11. APPROVE THE OVERNIGHT PARKING BAN ON HEATHER LANE ALL YEAR LONG.

Ms. Nichols stated the biggest issue is the amount of cars on the street and there is a problem for emergency vehicles getting through, but that is not happening overnight it is happening throughout the day. She said she also has a neighbor that has nine cars and not all of them are residential which blocks her from getting in and out of her driveway.

Ms. Stein stated that she agrees with what Ms. Nichols said and added she has an issue with the Tierney Street residents and business's parking on Heather Lane and the overnight parking ban will not address the issue during the day which is a huge problem. She said the other issue is people using Heather Lane as a cut through when they are dropping their children off at one of the three schools and by making the street a one street would help that.

Ms. Novak asked what a reasonable amount of parking for a home is considered to be. Mayor Rilling said there is no requirement that parking has to be provided on the street for anyone, but they do provide parking as much as possible and when parking is restricted they want to be sure the neighbors have adequate parking either in their driveways or on the street. He said it is dangerous to have parking on both sides of the street and the only other alternative would possibly be staggered parking but he does not think the overnight ban will be very effective.

Mayor Rilling asked if everyone is in favor of making Heather Lane a one way street. It was the consensus to make Heather Lane a one street from Tierney Street to Heather Lane.

Mayor Rilling requested that TMP staff look at making Heather Lane a one way street from Tierney Street to Strawberry Hill and notify the neighbors, and structuring alternate side of the street parking and report back to the Traffic Authority with a recommendation.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO TABLE THE OVERNIGHT PARKING BAN ON HEATHER LANE ALL YEAR LONG.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:41PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
City of Norwalk
Traffic Authority
Regular Meeting
February 5, 2020
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