

JAMESTOWN TRAFIC COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Traffic Committee was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, Council Chambers, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 6:02 PM by Chairman Thomas Tighe.

The following members were present:

Melissa Mastrostefano (arrived at 6:05 PM)
Mary E. Meagher
Vincent Moretti
William Munger

Also present were:

Chief Edward Mello
Denise Jennings, Clerk

Absent were:

David Cain, Committee Member
Timothy Yentsch, Committee Member

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1) **01/20/15 minutes** (regular meeting)

Motion was made by Committee Member Meagher to accept the 01/20/15 meeting minutes. Committee Member Munger stated that he was not present at said meeting and was unable to vote on the approval of the minutes. Committee member Mastrostefano was absent at said meeting also. Committee Chairman Tighe stated that approval of the 01/20/15 would need to be continued the next scheduled meeting on 04/21/15.

OPEN FORUM

1) Scheduled requests to address:

(None)

2) Non-Scheduled requests to address:

Donald Richardson of 12 Davis Street suggested that the speed limit be increased to 35 mph on North Main Road (north of the overpass) and stated that when he travels to the Transfer Station 25 mph seems too slow for this road. Mr. Richardson further suggested that the speed limit be reduced to 15 mph on Narragansett Avenue, as he feels that 25 mph is too fast for this road. Committee Chairman Tighe thanked Mr. Richardson and stated that the Committee would take his suggestions under consideration, but could not comment on them as they are not on the agenda. Committee consensus: To place this matter on the 04/21/15 meeting agenda.

6:05 PM: Committee Member Mastrostefano arrived.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) **On Street Parking Regulations: Jamestown Shores**

Chief Mello stated that he worked with Justin Jobin, the Town GIS Coordinator on developing a map and asked the Committee member to come down to the table and review the map. Chief Mello briefly described the map and stated that currently there is an ordinance in place that states that no overnight parking is permitted.

Margaret Grenier of 65 Hull Street expressed her concerns regarding the number of fishermen that park on Hull Street during the summer and also regarding to traffic congestion and stated that many of the fishermen park on Hull Street and walk to Head's Beach.

Robert Grenier of 65 Hull Street stated that over the past few summers, he has spoken to the police about this problem and they stated that since there is no signage they can't do anything about the parking on Hull Street. Mr. Grenier further stated that the fishermen urinate behind the bushes, leave trash and their car alarms go off. Mr. Grenier stated that he would prefer no parking on Hull Street, but if that is not possible, restricting it to one side of the street would be good. Chief Mello stated that he is trying to come up with a solution. Mr. Grenier stated that he would be happy with the plan as described by Chief Mello.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the accessible public right-of-ways, in the area of Hull Street and other fishing areas on the island.

Committee Chairman Tighe suggested that Chief Mello draft some regulations pertaining to this matter and to report back to the Committee at the next meeting on 04/21/15. Chief Mello agreed. Brief discussion followed regarding parking underneath the Jamestown Bridge. Chief Mello stated that parking underneath the bridge is not permitted. The Committee members returned to their seats.

NEW BUSINESS

1) **Commercial vehicle parking in residential zones:** Additional review of regulations for parking in residential areas (backing up, exhaust fumes, overnight parking)

Committee member Meagher stated that many residents have expressed their concerns to her regarding commercial parking in their neighborhoods, specifically, traffic congestion, noise, exhaust fumes and overnight parking. Chief Mello stated that some of the matters may be a Zoning issue and that he will bring a Zoning Ordinance to the next meeting. Committee consensus: To continue this matter to the next meeting on 04/21/15.

2) **Watson Avenue:** north side **parking restriction** of 40 ft. from the intersection of Pemberton Avenue (possible reduction/relief)

Committee member Meagher stated that there is currently a parking restriction on the north side of Watson Avenue 40 ft. from the intersection of Pemberton Avenue. Committee member Meagher further stated that with many breaks in the curb on this side of the street, this does not allow for many parking spaces in this area. Committee member Meagher asked if this restriction could be changed from 40 ft. to 20 ft. from the intersection to allow for more parking spaces. Chief Mello stated that he would gather information and report back at the next meeting on 04/21/15.

3) **Stop Sign at Seaside Drive and Beach Avenue**

Chief Mello stated that due to the current traffic flow, it would be more appropriate to move the stop sign from Seaside Drive to the Beach Avenue side of the intersection and that he would draft the language for the change and report back to the Committee at the next meeting on 04/21/15. The Committee agreed.

Committee member Munger asked if discussion on the crosswalk between the Recreation/Teen Center and Ferry Wharf could be added to the next meeting agenda. Committee consensus: To add this item to the next meeting agenda on 04/21/15.

Chief Mello reported that due to the extreme winter, many of the signs around town have taken a beaten and that he is currently working with the Public Works Director and taking inventory for replacement.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the Committee's concerns at the property located at 366 East Shore Road.

Committee member Mastrostefano asked for the status of the road repair due to erosion on North Main Road near the reservoir. Chief Mello reported that he has discussed this with the Public Works Director and it will be addressed in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, motion was made by Committee Member Meagher, seconded by Committee Member Mastrostefano to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Denise Jennings
Clerk

xc: Commission Members (7)
Chief of Police
Town Clerk