

JAMESTOWN TRAFIC COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Traffic Committee was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, Council Chambers, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 6:00PM by Chairman Thomas Tighe.

The following members were present:

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

Also present were:

Andrew Nota, Town Administrator
Paula Swistak, Clerk

OPEN FORUM

- 1) Scheduled requests to address:
(None)
- 2) Non-Scheduled requests to address:
(None)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1) **01/20/15 minutes** (regular meeting) (cont. from 04/21/15)
- 2) **03/17/15 minutes** (regular meeting) (cont. from 04/21/15)
- 3) **04/21/15 minutes** (regular meeting)

A motion was made by Committee Member Meagher, seconded by Committee Member Cain, to accept the minutes of the following Traffic Committee meetings:

January 20, 2015 – Abstaining: Committee Members Mastrostefano and Munger

March 17, 2015 - Abstaining: Committee Members Cain and Yentsch

April 21, 2015 - Abstaining: Committee Member Munger

So unanimously voted.

6:05PM: Committee Member Mastrostefano arrived.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) **On Street Parking Regulations: Jamestown Shores** (cont. from 04/21/15)
Town Administrator Nota presented Chief Mello's recommendations for regulating on street parking in the Jamestown Shores (south) for the Committee's consideration.

In accordance with Jamestown Code of Ordinances Sec. 70-87 (Prohibited or restricted parking on specified streets):

On the following streets or portions of streets, parking is prohibited or restricted as indicated, and it shall be unlawful for any person to allow, permit or suffer any vehicle registered in such person's name to stand or park such vehicle in violation of this section:

The recommendations are:

Helm Street – No parking on either side for entire length of street

Hull Street – No parking on either side for entire length of street

Seaside Drive – No parking on either side from Hull Street north to Spindrif Street.
No overnight parking allowed without a parking permit, which be required from 11PM – 6AM in accordance with Section 70-91.

Beach Ave., Stern St., Bow St., Mast St., Deck St., Net St., Jib St., Sail St., Galley St., Boom St., Rub St., Scull St. and Cedar Hill Drive – Parking will be restricted to one side of the street (side to be determined at a later date). No overnight parking allowed without a parking permit, which be required from 11PM – 6AM in accordance with Section 70-91.

Committee Member Moretti asked if there would be a charge for the permits. Town Administrator Nota stated that he is still accessing that issue. The permits will be transferable, color coded and numbered. In the case of an event/party held by a resident in this neighborhood, a parking restriction waiver may be obtained for a 48 hour timeframe.

Tom Ginnerty, 41 Bow St., objected to restrictions on Helm St. stating that it would be a hardship for the people on Helm St. Chief Tighe responded that the decision to have no parking on Helm St. and Hull St. was determined by the width of the road.

Robert Crooks, 7 Hull St., stated that he is against the parking restrictions. He would rather see a speed bump installed to slow traffic down.

Committee Member Meagher stated that Hull St. residents have complained about the current parking situation on Hull St. for some time.

Peter Medeiros, 85 Seaside Drive, stated that there has been no parking on Seaside Drive from the triangle (Beach Ave. and Seaside Dr.) to the farm for over 20 years.

Theresa DeSalvo, 38 Seaside Dr., expressed concerns about the parking of landscaper and service vehicles.

Anita Girard, 39 Seaside Dr., asked if a letter will be sent to all residents of the Shores areas explaining the new restrictions.

Town Administrator Nota responded that the recommendations made by the Traffic Committee will be forwarded to the Town Council for their review. The Town Council will then hold public hearings on the parking regulations. The Town Administration will handle the permits.

Gary Verrill, 2 Seaside Drive, hopes the new signage will not interrupt the rural character of the island. Chairman Tighe commented that the signage will be an administrative decision. Town Administrator Nota would like to locate the new signage at the egresses to the neighborhood.

Mark Girard, 7 Bark St., would like to see no parking on all of Seaside Ave.

Chairman Tighe responded that the committee is addressing the issues on the south end of the Shores first.

A motion was made by Committee Member Moretti, seconded by Committee Member Meagher, to forward the following recommendation to the Town Council:

No parking either side of Hull Street.

So unanimously voted.

A motion was made by Committee Member Meagher, seconded by Committee Member Moretti, to forward the following recommendation to the Town Council:

Restrict parking on Helm Street to one side of the street. Chief Mello will recommend which side parking will be allowed on to Town Council.

So unanimously voted.

Currently, in accordance with Jamestown Code of Ordinances Section 70-87, on Seaside Drive there is no parking allowed on either side from Hull Street north to Spindrift Street.

A motion was made by Committee Member Meagher, seconded by Committee Member Cain, to forward the following recommendation to the Town Council:

Restrict parking to one side of Seaside Avenue from south of Hull St. to Watson Farm. No overnight parking allowed without a parking permit, which be required from 11PM – 6AM.

So unanimously voted.

A motion was made by Committee Member Munger, seconded by Committee Member Meagher, to forward the following recommendation to the Town Council:

Restrict parking to one side of the following streets - Beach Ave., Stern St., Bow St., Mast St., Deck St., Net St., Jib St., Sail St., Galley St., Boom St., Rub St., Scull St. and Cedar Hill Drive. No overnight parking allowed without a parking permit, which be required from 11PM – 6AM.

So unanimously voted.

A motion was made by Committee Member Munger, seconded by Committee Member Meagher, to recommend that under Section 70-91, a permit policy be developed to address restrictions and violations pertaining to the shores proposed parking restrictions.

So unanimously voted.

A motion was made by Committee Member Meagher, seconded by Committee Member Cain, to allow Chief Mello to waive the parking restrictions, Section 70-92, to accommodate residents who are having a large number of guests or landscapers/service vehicles.

So unanimously voted.

2) Commercial vehicle parking in residential zones: Additional review of regulations for parking in residential areas (backing up, exhaust fumes, overnight parking) (cont. from 04/21/15)

Committee Member Meagher stated that this issue is still a work in progress. Chief Mello is still reviewing this item.

A motion was made by Committee Member Cain, seconded by Committee Member Meagher, to continue this item until the next Traffic Committee meeting.

So unanimously voted.

3) **Watson Avenue: north side parking restriction of 40 ft. from the intersection of Pemberton Avenue** (possible reduction/relief) (cont. from 04/21/15)

A motion was made by Committee Member Meagher, seconded by Committee Member Munger, to continue this item until the next Traffic Committee meeting.
So unanimously voted.

4) **Crosswalk at Conanicus Avenue between the Recreation/Teen Center and Ferry Wharf** (cont. from 04/21/15)

Committee Member Munger expressed concerns regarding safety at the location of the side walk at East Ferry and Conanicus Avenue. He said most people cross in front of the Recreation Center which is the natural path of travel. It was noted that the State of Rhode Island (RI) Traffic Commission changed the location of the sidewalk. Chairman Tighe stated that Conanicus Avenue is a state road and a request to change the location of the sidewalk would have to be made to the State of RI Traffic Commission. Town Administrator Nota recommended that Chief Mello review the sidewalk and develop a plan.

A motion was made by Committee Member Munger, seconded by Committee Member Cain, to continue this item until the next Traffic Committee meeting.
So unanimously voted.

NEW BUSINESS

(None)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, a motion was made by Committee Member Meagher, seconded by Committee Member Cain to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Paula Swistak
Clerk

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