

## CITY OF GLOUCESTER TRAFFIC COMMISSION

*A meeting was held on Thursday October 27th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.  
in the third floor Conference Room  
at Gloucester City Hall*

The meeting was opened by Chairman Robert B. Ryan at 6:00 p.m. Attending were members Anthony Bertolino, Larry Ingersoll, Michael Mulcahey and Robert Francis, City Councilors Steven LeBlanc, Melissa Cox and Valerie Gilman, residents Denise Foley, Vincent Mortillaro, Patti Page, Deb Eliason and Brian Darby. Part of the meeting was video taped by Denise Foley.

### AGENDA

*Note: Items were taken out of order at the discretion of the Chairman.*

Approval of minutes from our 9/22/16 meeting

*A MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **APPROVE** the minutes as written.*

Handicapped Parking Requests

- 146 Main Street (*Continued from our August & September meetings*)

*(August Meeting) After speaking to Councilor Cox and a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED (1 negative vote - member Ingersoll) to **CONTINUE** the request until the TC can speak with a representative of Santander Bank.*

*There currently is a handicapped space on Main Street, by the entrance to Bank Gloucester (approx. 60 feet from the Santander entrance) that is used by CVS and the other businesses in that area. There is a bus stop in front of Santander bank. Member Ingersoll feels that **the current space is conveniently located and if it is moved, CVS may come forward asking for a space closer to their business which would result in yet another metered space being removed from Main Street. Santander Bank has 2 spaces in their rear lot, but no handicapped access to the building from that location. Over the past few years, many Handicapped and Loading Zone spaces have been approved for Main Street and the amount of metered parking has been reduced considerably.***

*(September Meeting) At the request of Councilor Cox, this matter was **CONTINUED** as the bank manager was unable to attend and would like to speak on this matter.*

*(October Meeting) No representative from the bank was in attendance. Councilor Cox said that if not approved, she will use the City Council for an appeal. After a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **NOT APPROVE** the request. The TC feels that the current space by the entrance of Bank Gloucester is close enough to serve the many businesses in that area (60 feet from the ramp at Santander) as explained at the August meeting.*

- 18 Summit Street (Continued from our September meeting)

(September Meeting) After speaking to the requestor and a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED (One negative vote-member Ingersoll) to **CONTINUE** the matter until a site visit can be done. Member Ingersoll believes that a site visit should already have been done by members before this meeting and saw no need to continue this as it could have been decided at this meeting without requiring the requestor to come again.

(October Meeting) After a discussion and review, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **APPROVE** the request.

**Order #CC2016-037 (Councilor LeBlanc) ORDERED** that the Traffic Commission conduct a traffic and speed study on Beach Court and that the Traffic Commission make a written recommendation to the Ordinance & Administration Standing Committee on the findings of their review including whether any traffic ordinance amendments are recommended.

(September meeting) After a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **CONTINUE** the matter. The TC has questions to ask Councilor LeBlanc concerning this request and also noted that a speed study has never been done on such a short, dead end street.

(October meeting) After speaking to Councilor LeBlanc, a discussion and review of the results of the speed study which showed that of 1568 vehicles that passed by over seven days time, only 6 of those were over 30 mph and the average speed for all vehicles was 11 mph, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to make **NO RECOMMENDATION** as there doesn't seem to be any speeding issues on the street.

**Order #CC2016-044 (Councilor Gilman) ORDERED** that the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Chapter 22, Sec.22-284 "Service or Loading Zone" be amended by **ADDING:** Holly Street, easterly side from its intersection with Washington Street, beginning at a distance of 60' in a northerly direction for a distance of 40'.

After speaking to Councilor Gilman, a discussion and a resident of the area, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **APPROVE** the order. **The TC asked that the sign note the Loading Zone hours as 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week.**

This order was different than an earlier recommendation to have the loading zone in the dumpster area. This order moves the loading zone directly in front of the Willow Rest building and was deemed safer for trucks unloading. It also, with enforcement, should prevent vehicles from parking in front of the building, which currently has no sidewalks.

**ORDER #CC2016-045** (Councilor Cox) **ORDERED** that the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Chapter 22, Sec. 22-269 “Stop intersections” be amended by:

**DELETING** “Center Street. Southbound traffic on Center Street at Main Street;” and amend Sec. 22-267 “One-way streets-Generally” by **ADDING** Center Street, for its entire distance in a northerly direction.

*After speaking to Councilor Cox, a discussion and reading a letter from Fire Chief Eric Smith noting that he is strongly opposed to this as the fire department uses this street both to access the lower end of Main Street as well as returning to the fire station, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED to **NOT RECOMMEND** the order. Councilor Cox said she will speak to the police department concerning better enforcement of the current no parking ordinances on the street.*

**ORDER #CC2016-047** (Councilor LeBlanc) **ORDERED** that in accordance with Sec. 22-75 of the Gloucester Code Ordinances, that Sec. 22-265 “Turning movements – Generally” be amended by **ADDING** Western Avenue at its intersection with Washington Street, left hand turn prohibited; and by **ADDING** Angle Street at its intersection with Washington Street, left hand turn prohibited.

*After speaking to Councilor LeBlanc, residents and a discussion, a MOTION was made, seconded and PASSED (4-1 vote) to **NOT RECOMMEND** the order. The consensus was that moving any vehicles further down the area to make turns would then add vehicles to the Commercial Street/Rogers Street intersection, not solving anything. Most believed that few vehicles are making the left turn from Angle to Washington and vehicles exiting Main Street already have a Stop sign in place, allowing vehicles coming from Western Avenue to make the turn onto Washington.*

The Commission may also discuss pending plans concerning the Tally's intersection.

*The TC touched on crosswalk plans brought up at a city site visit held this morning. At this time, there are no orders in front of the TC so **NO ACTION** was taken on any of the plans.*

*Resident Brian Darby thanked the TC for their time and attention to the Willow Rest issues*

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.**

**ROBERT B. RYAN, Chairman**

**LARRY INGERSOLL, Secretary**