

WESTBROOK POLICE ADVISORY/TRAFFIC AUTHORITY BOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2016

Members Present: Chairman Bonnie Palermo, Michael Polo, Mike Oryl, Tony Fastaia and George Rehberg.
Also Present: DPW Administrative Assistant Colleen Topitzer, Constables Joe Pucillo and Mike McKenna and Constable, Union Representative Ron Suraci and members of the public.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Bonnie Palermo.

2. Approval of Minutes: August 15, 2016:

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 15, 2016, as distributed.

3. Old Business:

a. Request for Crosswalk – 31 McVeagh Road:

Chairman Palermo, as well as other members of the Board went and observed the area for the request now that school has started again. Ms. Palermo presented information to the Board of her findings. The members of the Board still did not feel that a crosswalk is warranted at 31 McVeagh Road.

Upon a motion by George Rehberg, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to take no action on the request for a crosswalk at 31 McVeagh Road.

b. Alternate Fencing – Grove Beach Point Association:

The Board was concerned about vehicles hitting the fencing, who has the right of way and who would be responsible for taking the fencing down when it becomes necessary (flooding, change of season, etc).

c. Unauthorized Signage – Old Mail Trail/Menunketesuck:

DPW Director John Riggio will have the sign removed.

d. Town Traffic Violation Tickets:

Chairman Palermo will contact First Selectman Noel Bishop to find out the status of funding for the purchase of the tickets.

e. Parking Issues – Route 1, Coffee Grind to Westbrook Package Store:

This is an on-going matter and we are waiting to hear from the State.

f. Curb/Island – McVeagh Road/Route 153:

The Town cannot do anything because it is a State Road. Secretary Kelemen is requested to send a memo to the State requesting that they paint the curbing around the island on Route 153 at the intersection of McVeagh Road in order to make the island more visible at night.

g. Update: Policing Issues Report – Invited Guest – Constable Joe Pucillo:

Constable Union President Joe Pucillo was present, as well as Constable Mike McKenna and Ron Suracci, Union Representative. They answered all questions asked by Board Members pertaining to the Union Contract. After several requests from The Board Secretary and the First Selectmen, RST Wayne Buck still has not

provided the information requested regarding Constable shifts. Secretary Kelemen will make another request to the First Selectman.

j. Westbrook Public Beach being advertised as free/Use of Town Parking Lots:

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to send a letter to CT DEEP requesting that information regarding Westbrook Town Beaches to be removed from their website and to request that the Town remove the information from their website as well.

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to send a letter to Director of Park and Recreation and request that the life guards/beach guards that are hired do not give out the information that non-residents can park at the Town Hall and go to the Town Beach at no cost.

i. Crosswalk – Wesley Avenue:

Still waiting for the State to approve the permit to install the crosswalk.

h. Town Parking Lots and Traffic Authority Purview:

Chairman Palermo stated that she is still waiting to have a meeting with First Selectman Bishop regarding the matter.

k. Crosswalk Signage – 1961 Boston Post Road:

Secretary Kelemen sent a letter to the State requesting them to put the proper signage up for the crosswalk as requested by VISTA. The response from the State was that the developers of the site (VISTA) are responsible for installing the appropriate signage as part of the permit.

l. Draft of Rules and Regulations for Road Closures:

Chairman Palermo will contact the Town Attorney regarding this matter.

m. Lighting/Signage – Crosswalk – Boston Post Road by Water’s Edge:

Secretary Kelemen was asked to send a letter to the State requesting them to review the area and install reflective signage or install a street light in the area for safety issues.

n. Any Other Old Business:

None.

4. New Business:

a. Request for Street Light – Magna Lane:

A resident of Magna Lane has requested street lights at the end of Magna Lane. All members were asked to go look at the area and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

b. Issuance of a Parking Ticket – Magna Lane:

A letter was received from Amy Palumbo, resident at 7 Pepperidge Avenue. The letter stated that she received a parking ticket for parking in a handicap spot. She stated that she had made a request years ago to the Traffic Authority to have the sign removed because it was there for the previous owner. She received notification from Jack Eagan who was chairman at the time that the sign would be removed. The sign was never removed, but she has been parking there ever since she purchased the property. She is requesting that the sign be removed and that the ticket she received be removed.

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to request Public Works to remove the Handicap Parking sign located in front of 7 Pepperidge Avenue.

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to waive or null traffic ticket #03235, dated 8/15/16 in the amount of \$25.00.

b. Resignation of Board Member Sal Adorno:

A verbal and written resignation was received from Board Member Sal Adorno.

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by Bonnie Palermo, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to accept the resignation of Board Member Sal Adorno, with regret.

c. Update on Board Positions Available:

No update at this time.

d. Any Other New Business:

1. Request for Approval – Annual Tree Lighting/Parade – December 4, 2016:

Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by Michael Polo, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the Annual Tree Lighting/Parade for December 4, 2016.

5. Approval of Bills:

Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by Michael Polo, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of \$108.05 and \$118.86 to Katie Kelemen for Secretarial duties.

6. Correspondence:

- a. Copy of letter to Board of Selectmen dated 8/23/16 regarding requests from the Board.
- b. Copy of letter to RST Wayne Buck dated 8/23/16 regarding requests from the Board.
- c. Copy of email to the State dated 8/26/16 regarding 1961 Boston Post Road crosswalk signage.
- d. Copy of letter to DPW Director John Riggio regarding request from the Board.
- e. Copy of letter to Constable Joe Pucillo dated 8/25/16 inviting him to the September Meeting.
- f. Copy of Highway Use Permit for Closer to Free Ride on 9/10/16.
- g. Information regarding upcoming session at CT Safety Academy re: Data Driven Safety Analysis.
- h. Copy of email to Mr. & Mrs. Quinn dated 8/30/16 notifying them of the approval to install the requested sign at 4 Mohican Road.
- i. Copy of the Seaside Avenue UConn Research Study dated 6/9/14.

7. Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Michael Polo, seconded by George Rehberg, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen, Secretary