

Transportation Advisory Commission, Dover, NH
Minutes of February 23, 2005

The monthly meeting of the Dover Transportation Advisory Commission called to order by Chair at 7:00 PM, Feb. 23, 2005, in the City Council conference room.

Members Present

Jason Hindle	Chairman
Richard Dolbec	Clerk
John Scruton	
Dennis Munson	
Ed Wentworth	

Staff Present

Chris Parker	Planning
Marn Speidel	Police Department

I. MINUTES

1. Acceptance of the minutes of the December 15, 2004 meeting

Action: Motion: "That the minutes of the December 15, 2004 meeting be accepted." Made by Dennis Munson, seconded by Ed Wentworth.

There was some discussion a few changes were made to the draft version.
Vote is to accept as amended - In the affirmative. 5 in favor - Unanimous.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. UNH cycling program update.

Marn Speidel discussed the status of the planning for the event for May 1, 2005.

2. Crosswalk request Back River Road/Garrison.

The request for this was made by the Frost family who were unable to appear at this meeting.

Action: In order to give the citizens an opportunity to be heard. I move that the issue be tabled to our next meeting. Made by Richard Dolbec, seconded by Ed Wentworth. Vote is in the affirmative. 5 in favor - Unanimous - Tabled

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Commercial Traffic Locust Street/Crosswalk request—Eric Spurling 16 Summer St

Mr. Spurling discussed the need for a crosswalk across Locust St. at the intersection with Summer St. The issue is the increased traffic using Locust St and the difficulty pedestrians have of crossing. The speed and the size of commercial vehicles especially the C & J buses. It is a safety issue. There are more pedestrians in the area of Summer St. and the need to cross Locust is more important because the city is only plowing the sidewalk on one side of Locust St. Pedestrians and school children need to cross.

It was noted during discussion that Mr. Jalbert owner of C & J had requested drivers not to use Locust St. as access to the transportation center on Chestnut St. It was also noted that the large buses cannot negotiate the curve on Chestnut near the district court, without driving over the curb and also over the center line into the oncoming lane in the area. It was also noted that the sidewalk plows may be unable to plow areas where there is inadequate clearance between fixed items like fences and telephone poles.

John Scruton brought up a similar issue for the sidewalks along Sixth St. where there are no clearance problems. He asked who at police he could report these hazardous conditions to? Officer Speidel indicated any hazard report can be registered with the police department.

Action: A motion to table to the next meeting, to allow time for staff to review and make recommendations. Made by Dennis Munson, seconded by Ed Wentworth. Vote is in the affirmative. 5 in favor - Unanimous - Tabled

2. Amendment to parking fine schedules, 166-30, housekeeping to clarify handicapped parking offenses.

The NHRSA established these violations be a minimum of \$250 some years ago. The schedule proposed, in keeping with NHRSA, is the current court penalties in such cases.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by John Scruton, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

3. Add new offense (handicap access aisle) to 166-17.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Richard Dolbec, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

4. Stop sign request, Williams Street at Henry Law Avenue.

Discussion on the need for control at that intersection by Marn Speidel. There were some questions and comments, the planning department is in agreement.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Ed Wentworth, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

5. Amendment to 166-40, Contractor Parking.

The language pre-dates removal of parking meters on Central. The change of wording proposed will better reflect the current practice.

Action: Motion is that the words on the second line of Chapter 166-40 "a metered space without payment of parking meter fees." be deleted and replaced by the following words "any area, without regard to meter fees or time restrictions." be recommended to the council. Made by Richard Dolbec, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

6. Amendment to 166-19B, Winter Parking, as to the times for enforcement in municipal lots.

Action: Motion is that the hour on the second line of 166-19 para. B : "10:00 p.m." be changed to "1:00 a.m." and this change is recommended to the council. Made by Richard Dolbec, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7. Housekeeping additions (posted, but never added to Code) to Left Turn Prohibitions at Intersections 166-49:

a. Chestnut NB at Washington

b. Chestnut SB at Third

Clerk's Note: *Under agenda item 7, there are a number of business items. They will be numbered 7-# in order the business is taken.*

7-1 To the City Code Chapter 166-49 Schedule B Prohibited turns at intersections.

A recommended change at the following intersections, add the following left turn prohibitions:

- a. Chestnut NB at Washington
- b. Chestnut SB at Third

Action: Motion is to recommend the council add the above intersections to the schedule. Made by Richard Dolbec, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7-2. To Code 166-50 Schedule C Stop Intersections. Make the following name changes:

- a. Cataract Avenue at Central - Amend Cataract Avenue to Rutland St.
- b. Old Rochester Road at Exit 9 of the Spaulding Turnpike. - Amend Exit 9 of the Spaulding Turnpike to Indian Brook Drive.

Discussion: The above is a result of name changes made by council action in the past year. It seems that these are clerical changes which can be made by the clerk without the need for council action. So recommended.

7-3. To Code 166-50 Schedule C Stop Intersections.

Repeal Oak Street at intersection of Broadway. Reason it is now signalized.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Ed Wentworth, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7-4. To Code 166-50 Schedule C Stop Intersections.

Repeal St. Thomas Street (easterly) at intersection of Atkinson Street.

Repeal St. Thomas Street at intersection of Walnut Street.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by John Scruton, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7-5. To Code 166-50 Schedule C Stop Intersections.

Add St. Thomas Street (westerly) at intersection of Locust Street.

Add St. Thomas Street (westerly) at intersection of Atkinson Street.

Add St. Thomas Street (westerly) at intersection of Belknap Street.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Ed Wentworth, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7-6. To Code 166-50 Schedule C Stop Intersections.

Add Peirce Street at intersection of Broadway.

Add Williams Street at Intersection of Henry Law Avenue.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Dennis Munson, seconded by John Scruton. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7-7. To Code 166-50 Schedule C Stop Intersections.

Repeal Walnut Street at intersection of St. Thomas Street.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Ed Wentworth, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7-8. To Code 166-50 Schedule C Stop Intersections.

Repeal Whittier Street at intersection of Sixth Street (Now signalized)

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Ed Wentworth, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

7-9. To Code 166-51 Schedule D Yield Intersections.

Repeal Littleworth Road and Knox Marsh Road South and turning west on Littleworth.

Repeal St. Thomas Street and Locust Street east on St. Thomas

Repeal Washington St. and Central Ave East on Washington St.

Action: Motion is to recommend the proposed change to the council. Made by Ed Wentworth, seconded by Dennis Munson. Vote is in the affirmative, 5 in favor - unanimous.

8. Transit Study Review

The chair announced that Mr. Steve Wells has resigned from the Commission. A handout prepared for COAST was distributed to the members. The Dover Transit Study CMAC funding and COAST will be on the next meeting agenda.

Public Input & Discussion:

Mr. Rick Hebbard observed that the number of sidewalks which are deep under snow. If Community Services cannot remove the snow then we should not build anymore sidewalks in the community. He also presented sketches of painting schemes which are easier for drivers to see. He said the city should standardize, we have walks of different widths, different paint schemas. They should be uniform throughout the city.

The chair noted that staff are making an inventory of crosswalks and evaluating the safety issues at each.

John Scruton discussed walkable communities. Noted a session put on by Dan Burton where they use 19 year olds to clear the sidewalks of snow. People are forced to walk in the road. In the past we used to walk on the shoulders. He said in Keene they have sidewalks designed so that the wing plows clear them as they go by.

Mr. Wentworth reported on the favorable response from travelers on the HOST program meeting arriving trains at the Transportation Center. Also the improved atmosphere with the current C & J employees working at the center. Travelers especially women appreciate having someone there.

John Scruton said the council should look for ways to get people out of their cars and walking more. The chair encouraged him to set up some workshops

IV ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting is March 30, 2005 at 7:00 PM

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: "That the meeting be adjourned."

Made by Dennis Munson and seconded by Richard Dolbec

Vote in the affirmative – 5 in favor -Unanimous.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Richard E. Dolbec
Clerk