



CITY OF DOVER

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting  
Meeting Location: City Hall Auditorium  
Meeting Date: **Monday, April 28, 2008**  
Meeting Time: **7:00 pm**

Meeting called to order by Glenn Grasso at 7:00 p.m.

**Members present:** Glenn Grasso, Dennis Munson, Peter Schmidt, Bruce Woodruff, John Scruton., Marn Speidel, Ed Wentworth, Councilor Karen Weston and Dave White.

### OLD BUSINESS

- A. Review/Approval of March 24, 2008 Minutes.

Motion to accept March Meeting Minutes:

With addition of adding Bruce Woodruff to Members Present List made by Marn Speidel, as well as, addition of 4<sup>th</sup> Street parking issues that were left out of March minutes.

Motion: Made by Ed Wentworth to approve minutes with noted additions.  
Seconded by Councilor Weston.

Glenn Grasso asked to move public comment section to front. Don Medbery and Allen Storms inquired as to how the City of Dover can enforce any new signs if the Council hasn't specifically authorized them. Marn Speidel explained the city regulations on this issue. Allan Storms of Atlantic Ave. inquired as to where his petition regarding truck traffic on Atlantic Ave. has gone to. Glenn Grasso explained the workings of T.A.C. and what rules the committee follows. The petition became part of the TAC record.

- B. Bruce Woodruff reminded all members that City E-Mail Account paperwork needed to be completed.
- C. Discussion on Crosswalk at Main and School Streets. David White discussed paint striping of crosswalks stated the project is underway for this season. Bruce Woodruff would like to know if crosswalk painting is larger than before (minimum 10 ft wide). More discussion on the location of this crosswalk. Dave White explained the reasoning for location. Marn Speidel explained that the Police Department is okay with this location. Bruce Woodruff added that the Planning department recommends staying with this location as well.

Motion: Made by Councilor Weston to withdraw this item from the table.  
Seconded by Dennis Munson.  
All members in favor of motion.

Discussion: Councilor Weston made note that she has received telephone calls from citizens expressing their concerns about this crosswalk. Also she has received calls from Remax Agency employees informing her about the many near misses at this intersection. Peter Schmidt stated his concerns on



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this matter. John Scruton discussed making crosswalks safer. Citizen Don Medbery talked of ways in which to make citizens more aware of the fact that they are using crosswalks. Glenn discussed how pedestrians need to be more alert when using crosswalks. Glenn Grasso is in favor of leaving the crosswalk where it is located currently. Marn Speidel talked about parking on Main Street. City Council put the brakes on any more actions on the Rizzo Report--funding not available. Returning to how the way parking was and how the traffic used to flow. Discussion ensued on how to redo traffic flow.

- D. Status Report on Council Ad Hoc Committee on Parking Garage Funding. Peter Schmidt reported that the committee is working on three possible ways in which to fund parking garages. Plans are moving forward. The group meets every Thursday at 5pm.
- E. Chapter 166 Vehicles and Traffic Items (outlined in 4/28 Item E under Old Business). Some of these items will be in hands of City Council for their consideration soon. Bruce Woodruff has questions on items that have been passed or recommended. Let's make sure items are all included in this.
- F. Parking permit rates and contractor permits. New agenda items pending (see attached sheet). We reviewed a "draft" of municipal parking permit holders' rates. Marn Speidel suggested that this information should be mailed out as soon as possible if passed by the council. John Scruton inquired as to the cost to run this program. Marn Speidel explained the workings of the program. Contractor parking was explained by Marn Speidel. He would like to have a small fee (currently there is not a fee.) This would require council approval. The fee could be a \$2.00 fee/per space (timed parking) \$5.00 fee/per metered space /per day. Glenn Grasso and Bruce Woodruff would like to see it raised to \$5/for all spaces per day. Bruce Woodruff stated that proposed rates would be lower compared to other surrounding cities and that parking spaces are valuable, therefore the City should consider higher rates.

Motion: Made by Peter Schmidt to recommend raising contractor parking fee to \$5/per space/per day across the board. Seconded by Ed Wentworth. Motion passed. Marn Speidel and John Scruton did not vote.

- G. Fourth Street Parking Issues – Update and Brief Discussion on what to do with area in front of the Bell Center. Bruce Woodruff recommended requiring any new tenant of the Bell Center to primarily use the City's Dover Deelight lot through the planning process or certificate of occupancy process. Peter Schmidt discussed other ideas. John Scruton discussed ways in which to make it better. Marn Speidel explained that Bell Center tenants were asked to park in the Dover Delight Parking Lot, but police couldn't enforce.



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Woodruff stated that it was a condition of approval of a site plan, and that made it a zoning issue which is enforceable by the code enforcement officers. Marn continued to discuss parking issues with Chestnut Street Lot Crosswalk safety issues and asked committee to come up with new recommendations.

Motion: Made by Glenn Grasso to table discussion. Motion seconded by Councilor Weston.

### NEW BUSINESS

Motion: Made by Peter Schmidt to move Item B of New Business to A. Seconded by John Scruton. Vote: U/A

- A. Discussion on drafting of a heavy truck restriction ordinance. Bruce Woodruff discussed issue of heavy trucks using local roads to avoid tolls, avoid weigh stations and drive less miles by using Dover roads and not stay on I-95 and I-495. Discussion ensued as to legality of truck routes. Peter Schmidt would like to make sure we can make changes. Ed Wentworth called attention to the spelling errors in draft. (Asked for corrections). David White would like to make changes in the whereas sections that establish the legal basis for the restriction. Bruce Woodruff does not agree with some of the changes. Glenn Grasso stated that the wording could be changed. Dennis Munson added to be sure local truck traffic can drive thru. Dave explained that Atlantic Ave is in the works to be rebuilt – that it will be built to handle trucks.

Glenn Grasso suggested rewording the ordinance, but get it passed this evening. Peter Schmidt stated that ordinance would have to go to the city legal department, so being 100% correct on wording is not necessary at this point. Councilor Weston inquired as to what type of legal problems will we be faced if we change the routes. Marn Speidel explained how the truck sizes work, what is legal and what is not legal in the Dover area. He continued to explain how the state enforces the truck size and weight and how he would like to make sure there is a truck emergency clause if we do pass these rules. Glenn Grasso would like to see truck driver's receive points on license.

Motion: Made by John Scruton to send ordinance to city attorney. Seconded by Ed Wentworth. Additional issue stated by Glenn Grasso to add a weight limit now instead of later.

VOTE: 7-2 in favor. Bruce Woodruff and David White did not vote.

Glenn Grasso would like a motion to enforce the current truck route signs that are on Atlantic Ave., but there isn't an enforceable ordinance on this yet. Marn Speidel explained that this sign, like others in other locations, are



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advisory only signs, and not regulatory in nature. A regulatory sign requires Council action/authorization which puts it in the code and could then be enforced.

Councilor Weston would like to move on the Atlantic Ave issue.

Motion: Made by Peter Schmidt to recommend adding Cocheco, Atlantic Ave and Rogers Street to list of roads that are restricted to commercial vehicle traffic in Schedule F. Seconded by Councilor Weston.  
VOTE: 7-1. David White opposed. Marn Speidel abstained.

Motion: Made by Peter Schmidt that this ordinance be forwarded (fast-tracked) to the City Council as soon as possible. Seconded by Bruce Woodruff.  
VOTE: 7-1. David White opposed. Marn Speidel abstained.

- A. Schedule Annual Transportation Forum to receive ideas from general public recommended by Bruce. He suggested the August meeting. The consensus was yes.
- B. Discussion of Formation of Traffic Calming Sub-committee. Chair suggested John Scruton be the sub-committee.  
Motion: Made by Dennis Munson. Seconded by Peter Schmidt.  
VOTE: 8-1. David White opposed.

### **MEMBERS COMMENTS**

Accident crash summary for Dover as provided by Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), based on state-reported collision data, which is only a fraction of the total number of crashes in the City. 331 in total stated by Bruce Woodruff.

John Scruton mentioned trucks on Sixth Street.

David White talked about the city's way of paving the streets.

Motion: To adjourn made by Dennis Munson. All in favor.

**NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, CITY HALL AUDITORIUM, 7:00 PM**