



CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Dover Public Library Lecture Hall, 73 Locust Street
Meeting Date: **Monday, May 23, 2011**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

1. ROLL CALL

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.

Members Present: Karen Weston (Chair), Jack Flick, Dennis Munson, John Scruton, Marn Speidel (Police), Bruce Woodruff (Planning), Ben Clark (Asst. City Engineer), Jeremy LaRose (COAST)

Members Absent: Maurice Olivier

Others Present: Peter Schmidt, Doug Steele (Community Services Director), Bill Garrison (Ward 2 Councilor), various Nelson Street residents

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review/Approval of minutes from April 25, 2011

Munson moved, Speidel seconded, to approve as drafted. Motion passed 8-0.

B. Safety concern at Locust Street at Nelson Street – sight distance vs. on street parking on Locust

Speidel gave overview of the situation. Ben Clark showed a map of the neighborhood and explained the City Engineer's recommendation, which is to make the first block of Nelson Street a one way. Staff believes this is more favorable than a parking restriction, where there is demonstrated demand for on street parking in this area. Residents expressed their concerns and were generally opposed to a one way, preferred a parking restriction be imposed on Locust Street. Discussion on whether two parking spaces was adequate or more would be needed. Residents also would like to have the paving and pot holes taken care of. Steele stated that that Nelson and Locust Streets are on the list to be repaved within 3-5 years. Flick is opposed to removing any parking spaces. Woodruff supports the City Engineer's recommendation. Speidel stated the police support the recommendation as well. Weston suggested posting temporary no parking signs at two spaces on Locust Street. Bill Garrison/Councilor of Ward 2 suggested additional research.

Weston moved to temporarily restrict two parking spaces on Locust at Nelson Street for a period of a few months to see if the situation was resolved. Seconded by Scruton. Discussion. Clark stated he would abstain, stating a permanent solution needs to be taken. Speidel stated that all were in agreement that a parking restriction would improve the situation, but with demand for parking in this area and expanded downtown metered parking, staff does not support a parking restriction. Motion failed 3-5.

LaRose moved, Flick seconded, to follow City's recommendation of a one way, also for Community Services to review and perform short term paving improvements as appropriate. Discussion. Weston stated she was not in agreement. Motion passed 5-3.



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C. Adoption of Uniform Operating Rules for TAC – General Legal Counsel request

Speidel gave overview of document that is essentially a rewrite of TAC By-Laws into a uniform operating rules format for all boards and commissions. Two additions include sections on E-mail accounts and Nonpublic meetings. Discussion. Woodruff moved, Clark seconded, to approve as drafted. Motion passed 8-0.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on seasonal weight limits

Steele stated that he had polled his counterparts in Rochester, Exeter and Durham on this issue. Rochester and Exeter have not had these restrictions for a number of years. Steele stated that Dover roads are built to certain specifications, with 18” minimum gravel base course and 3-4” hot top to put roadway surface above the water table, which ensures that seasonal weight limits are not necessary. Current exceptions include Tolend and Watson Roads, which are scheduled for rebuilding in near future but could be considered for seasonal weight limits in the interim. Discussion between Scruton and Steele. Woodruff stated that statute provides that CS Director has the option to impose these seasonal weight limits, but that it is his discretion.

B. Discussion on sidewalks vs. roadway shoulders

Steele gave overview of city code requirements, Chapter 155-46 requiring sidewalks in urban core. Further requirements for sidewalks in new subdivisions are the purview of the Planning Board. Discussion ensued, primarily between Scruton and Steele.

4. MEMBER COMMENTS

Speidel gave a list of potential June agenda items.
Flick recommended that someone review the proposal of relocating/adding new crosswalk by the Chamber of Commerce.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING (June 27, 2011)

6. ADJOURN

Munson moved, seconded by Flick, to adjourn at 8:35 PM. Motion passed.