

TOWN OF SOUTHRBRIDGE  
TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2021  
POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ROOM

Meeting called to order at 4:20 PM

- 1) Roll Call: Paul Soojian (on behalf of Chief Shane D. Woodson), Dale Ferron, and Jon Swenson attending.
- 2) Minutes of February 22, 2022 meeting accepted.
- 3) Old Business
  - a) None
- 4) Review/discuss findings in relation to citizen's request in relation to 144 Pleasant Street.
  - a) Original complaint received indicating issues with people parking too close to or blocking the driveways in the area of 144 Pleasant Street.
    - i) Upon review of the area and the parking issues concerns Chief Woodson has no issues with moving forward with appropriate signage in the area to indicate no parking. Motion was made and approve to refer this to subcommittee for further review/approval.
- 5) Review/discuss ongoing parking issues/concerns on Dresser Street in the area of Goddard Street.
  - a) Original complaint from citizen about parking concerns received during 10/26/2021 meeting. Exceptions made and new parking regulation written and forwarded to subcommittee at 2/22/2022 meeting.
    - i) J. Swenson indicated that vehicles are still parking too close to the intersection and thus causing a hazard. This matter will be reevaluated and addressed at the next meeting.
- 6) Review/discuss previous discussions in relation to Cole Forest Road at Meadowbrook Road in relation to the high volume of accidents.
  - a) Chief Woodson advised that the citizen who brought forth this issue was spoken to and worked with in relation to the concern. This matter has been resolved and the citizen is happy with the outcome at this time.
- 7) Review/discuss current parking regulations for 150 – 170 Worcester Street.
  - a) Parking currently permitted within the range of 150 – 170 Worcester Street. Vehicles are parking within 30 feet of the entrance/exit for Southbridge Gas (176 Worcester Street), causing a hazard. Chief Woodson recommended changing parking regulations in the area to not allow parking within 30 feet of the entrance/exit for Southbridge Gas
    - i) Motion made and approved to forward this to subcommittee for further review/approval.
- 8) New Business
  - a) D. Ferron questioned the project on Main Street and the conditions the roads were left in when the company wrapped up at the end of last year.
    - i) It is believed this project is still ongoing and more work will be happening to the roads prior to the project being considered complete. Confirmation with DPW to see

- if this project will be resuming or if there are plans on pursuing the company to correct the road conditions if the project is complete.
- b) D. Ferron commented on the new traffic pattern on Main Street since the installation of the new traffic lights. Travel time from one end of town to the other is greatly reduced (from approximately 10 minutes now down to 3-4 minutes.) The only concern is still with the pedestrians and the learning curve for the pedestrians and the drivers in the area to be sure to yield for pedestrians when turning.
  - c) D. Ferron questioned if the parking lot across from the old American Optical building on Case Street is going to be used as parking for businesses or residents that will be inhabiting the building once the project is done. If the parking lot is going to be used as such there is a concern about the influx of foot traffic in the area. It is suggested that if this lot is to be used a proactive approach should be used to address pedestrian traffic.

9) Discussion of next meeting date – Tuesday, June 28, 2021, 4:00 PM.

10) Meeting adjourned at 04:44 PM

11) Minutes recorded and prepared by P. Soojian