

**TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1050**  
**Minutes**  
**Planning Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall**  
**June 13, 2019**

**Call to Order.** Called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

**Traffic Board Members Present:** Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; Ray Standish Engineering; Bernice St. Clair, DPW; Councilman Conrad Taylor, 4<sup>th</sup> District, Tito Martinez, Engineering

**Traffic Board Members Absent:** William Yeager, Assistant Chief-BPD

**Also Present:** Dan Correll, Retired BPD-Traffic; William Lescault, BPD; Katherine Hendrickson, BPD; Cindy Paddick, BMTS; Tito Martinez, Engineering; Obed Varughese, Code; Giovanni Scaringi, Councilman; Ron Rogers, Rogers Trucking; Eileen Hughes, resident; Julie Keenan, resident

**Approval of Minutes.** Request to approve the minutes from Traffic Board Meeting 1049, held on **Thursday, May 9, 2019**

Moved by: C Taylor, R Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes J. Kraham, B. St. Clair, C. Taylor, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Items Considered**

**No Parking Overnight Parking on Washington St.** Councilman Taylor is requesting that the No Overnight Parking be removed from Washington Street. He stated that several business owners are complaining that their clients have having difficulty in parking early in the morning due to the overnight parking rules. He also stated that it would benefit the students. Traffic feels that any changes should be on hold until the completion of the Hawley Street project. Councilman Taylor would like the time change from 2am-6am instead of 2am-7am. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, July 11, 2019**

**Market Street.** Mr. Correll reported that after speaking with the Town of Dickinson did not have a preliminary plan for this intersection. Mr. Kraham will reach out to Town of Dickinson Supervisor Michael Marinaccio. A stop sign is posted by Port Dickinson but it is still covered up. Ms. St. Clair reported that Town of Dickinson told her that Binghamton needs to put a sign in on their side. Mr. Kraham will follow up with the Town of Dickinson. City of Binghamton placard needs to be installed per Ms. Paddick. Mr. Kraham indicated that the traffic sign needs to be voted on for traffic codes. However, it is not recommended by BMTS. The Town of Dickinson chose to install the signs.

Adopt a stop sign at Market and Francis with the caveat that we are aware of the opinion of BMTS. The City of Binghamton will notify the Town of Dickinson that their decision does not comply with BMTS recommended in accordance with MUTCD.

Moved by: R. Standish, C. Taylor

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes J. Kraham, B. St. Clair, C. Taylor, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Matthews Street.** Residents Fran McManus and Bob Ondreyko discussed illegal parking during winter alternate side parking rules. BPD reported that they will increase enforcement in the next month and revisit the topic at the March meeting. Traffic reported the following:

*“The Traffic Division received a verbal request from the Traffic Board at its February 14, 2019 Traffic Board Meeting, (#1048), to review the parking rules on Matthews Street, between Harrison and Schubert Streets. Francis McManus, 139 Schubert Street and Robert Ondreyko, 141 Matthews Street, who were both in attendance during that meeting, were expressing a concern about the illegal parking on Matthews Street during the winter months alternate side parking rules. When vehicles are parked on both sides of the road across from each other,*

and snow is piled along the curb line, it is difficult for motorists to pass through the street. They also expressed a concern that, as more student housing is becoming available on the west side of the city, more vehicles are being parked on the street and with more vehicles being parked on the street, it is more difficult and may be more hazardous for motorists to pass through the neighborhood. They're concerned that this could hinder either emergency vehicle access to their neighborhood or create blind or incidental situations for motor vehicle accidents. Their main area of concern is at the summit of a hill on Matthews Street between Harrison Street and Schubert Street. What they would like to see, is not only stricter enforcement of the Alternate Side parking rules during the winter months, but one side prohibited parking, year around, especially at the summit."

"The Traffic Division reviewed of the area in question; Matthews Street is a low volume travelled, thirty-foot-wide, two-way street between Harrison Street and Schubert Street. As stated above, a steep grade rises to a summit, about midblock, making visibility negligible for both the north and south bound traffic, until just prior to the summit. During the normal calendar year, when the Alternate Side of the Street Parking Rules are not in effect, there is parking on both sides of that street. Motorist passing through that area, when vehicles are parked on both sides of the street, must yield as necessary. During the Alternate Side Parking period, the adjustment to yield is less of a hindrance, unless a violator is parked across from another vehicle.

With the regulations as is, one would expect that there would be a high incidence of motor vehicle accidents. However, after a three-year review of the reported number of accidents in that area was done, only two incidents were file:

05/25/16 - Driver inattention – backing out of a driveway into a parked vehicle.

08/03/17 - Driver Changing from Lane Unsafely by dosing off and striking two parked. Vehicles. (Used drugs earlier in the day).

Neither incident was related to the road width or the need to yield to other vehicles travelling through that area.

At this time, it appears that the parking should be limited to only one side of the street. This conclusion is not based on the number of incidents or accidents that occurred, but due to the grade of the hill, the lack of a clear line of sight prior to its summit and the width of the street. However, from the traffic study, it was unknown what side of the street would better serve as the prohibited side. A suggestion to justify a side to support a decision would be the side with the fire hydrant placement. That was determined by a consensus of the constituents meeting with the councilperson.

The Traffic Division, upon conferring with the councilman after reviewing the request with his constituents, recommends that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:

INSERT: Section 23 – No Parking Anytime Zone

Matthews Street – East Side – From 230 feet north of Harrison Street to 676 feet north.

This location would encompass an area to include both the summit of the hill and a prohibited parking, fire hydrant zone. It would run between 132 Matthews Street to 146 Matthews Street."

**Motion to install "No Parking Anytime Zone" per recommendation of Traffic.**

Moved by: R Standish, C Taylor

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes J. Kraham, B. St. Clair, C. Taylor, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Chenango and Bevier Streets.** Intersection review. Residents are requesting No Turn on Red signs at this location. Traffic reported that there are accidents but no pedestrian accidents. Ms. Paddick reported that there were quite a few left turn accidents. She also stated that an installation of a red light might a good idea because of the amount of pedestrian traffic. She will look into it further and report back. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, July 11, 2019**

**VOA Parking.** Parking on Munsell in front of the VOA. According to an agreement with the VOA and the City of Binghamton, cars are not permitted to park in front of the building. Councilman Conrad reported that residents are

complaining that cars are parking there all the time. Residents are asking for No Parking signs to be installed in front of the VOA. Mr. Kraham will look into the agreement to see about the parking issue. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, July 11, 2019**

**Stuart Street.** The north side of Stuart Street does not have regulated parking. During the State Street parking project Mr. Kraham is asking DPW to put up Official Vehicle parking signs. Mr. Correll believes that they need to make it temporary parking until the project is over. North side of Stuart Street, "Official Parking Only" signs to be installed, until August 2019. **Hold until August Traffic Board.**

**7 Grace Street.** Daryl Crampton is reporting that people are parking in front of his house and on his lawn and nobody is doing anything about it. He is requesting that No Parking signs be installed. He indicated that this is also safety issue for the street because emergency vehicles would not be able to get onto the streets because of all the illegally parked cars. Mr. Kraham and Traffic are aware of the issue and will look into and try to find a solution. They will contact Mr. Crampton with an update. Traffic reported the following:

*"The Traffic Board recognized a Mr. David Crampton, 7 Grace Street, at its May 9, 2019 Traffic Board Meeting. Mr. Crampton is requesting to have a No Parking Anytime zone be inserted in the area of his driveway. Mr. Crampton, who is handicapped, states that motorists frequenting a neighborhood business park their vehicles up to and in front of his home, thus obstructing access to and from his residence. He is concerned not only for the general access to his home, but if an emergency arises from his handicapped condition, medical access may be delayed or hampered by those illegally parked vehicles.*

*The Traffic Division responded to 7 Grace Street to review the request with Mr. Crampton. The driveway in question is on the south side of Grace Street, opposite Berlin Street. It is very narrow in width, bordered by that home on the east side and a property line fence on the west side. A second driveway to its west, 5 Grace Street, abuts Mr. Crampton's driveway. Neither driveway appears to be visibly highlighted as driveways, due to the outdated curbing, thus contributing to the motorist parking violation.*

*The Traffic Division therefore recommends that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:*

*INSERT: Section 23 – No Parking Anytime Zone*

*Grace Street – South Side – From the North west extended curb line of Berlin Street to 130 west.*

*This recommendation takes into consideration a ninety degree turn on Grace Street, 115 feet west of Berlin Street, then continuing 30 feet south, as well as a fire hydrant at that turn. "*

**Motion to install "No Parking Anytime Zone" per recommendation of Traffic.**

Moved by: C Taylor, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes J. Kraham, B. St. Clair, C. Taylor, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**287-291 Clinton Street.** Mr. Martinez reported that there is a loading ramp coming off the building which isn't working because it backs up traffic on Clinton St. They have a new project that would require them to connect two curb cuts which would result in one large curb cut which would be about 100 feet in length and 71 feet wide on the east side of the property. By doing this, it would stop them from blocking traffic. Traffic Board would like to see revived plans with pedestrian safety in mind. Mr. Rogers indicated that at 291 they would like a 50 foot curb cut. At 287 and 289 they would like new curb which will extend the current curb to 100 feet. This way the trucks can come into the loading dock and park parallel to the building. This will provide easy access on and off of Clinton Street. Mr. Rogers also noted that this will add to pedestrian safety and reduce traffic on Clinton Street because the trucks will no longer be blocking the street and the sidewalk.

Motion to approve plan as shown by Planning Board.

Moved by: C Taylor, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 3-0-2)**

Ayes J. Kraham, C. Taylor, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager, B. St. Claire

**2 Goethe Street. Traffic reported the following:**

*“The Traffic Division received a request from Loren Puterbaugh, 2 Goethe Street, to insert a handicapped parking zone in front of his home. Mr. Puterbaugh states that he was issued a NYS Handicapped Parking Placard, (#4361589), for his vehicle. He also indicates that he lives in a home on Goethe that has no driveway or accessible off street parking available. Mr. Puterbaugh originally requested a handicapped parking zone in front of his residence back in February, 2017, but was denied due to the fact that a neighbor at 3 Goethe Street, across the street from his location, does have a handicapped parking zone in front of that home. A dependent, who is mentally handicapped and wheelchair bound and in need of assistance when accessing or exiting a vehicle, uses that zone. After further review it was learned that that individual did not live at that location but used it only when visiting. Also, that address is driveway accessible, and off street parking is available in the rear of that home. At this time the handicapped parking zone on the south side of the street has not been removed. A further review of the area is being conducted to justify for either its removal or to maintain it.*

*A handicapped parking zone is not a reserved or private zone for any one person. It can be used by any individual issued and displaying a handicapped placard or license plate.*

*At this time the Traffic Division recommends that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:*

*INSERT: Section 22.3A (2) Handicapped Parking Zone  
Goethe Street – North Side – From 140 feet west of Beethoven Street to 162 feet west.*

**\*\*Motion to install handicapped parking space in front of 2 Goethe Street previously approved at April 11, 2019 Traffic Board Meeting.**

**49 Howard Avenue.** The Traffic Division received a phone request from an unknown resident on Howard Avenue inquiring whether a handicapped parking zone at 49 Howard Avenue could be removed. The message, received in early May, stated that the resident at that location moved and it appeared that it was no longer needed. Traffic recommends **the following:**

*“The Traffic Division received a phone request from an unknown resident on Howard Avenue inquiring whether a handicapped parking zone at 49 Howard Avenue could be removed. The message, received in early May, stated that the resident at that location moved and it appeared that it was no longer needed.*

*The original request for this zone was made by a 94 year old female in November 2018. Several attempts were made to reach her by a given phone number, but there was no answer. The Traffic Division then responded to 49 Howard Avenue to confirm whether the request was accurate. Upon arrival we were unable to make contact with the occupant at that address. It also appeared, from a scan of the outside of the home, that the residence was vacant.*

*A second phone request from an unknown resident on Howard Avenue was again made at end of May for the same issue.*

*At this time the Traffic Division is unable to confirm that the zone is needed any longer. Based on the requests made and the Traffic Divisions review of that location it appears that the occupant is no longer residing there. The Traffic Division therefore recommends the following:*

*DELETE: Section 22.3A (2) Parking for Handicapped Persons  
Howard Avenue – West Side – From 431 feet north of Robinson Street to 453 feet north.*

**Motion to remove handicapped parking spot per recommendation of Traffic.**

Moved by: C. Taylor, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 3-0-2)**

Ayes J. Kraham, C. Taylor, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager, B. St. Clair

**Robot City Crosswalk.** Mr. Kraham reported that Robot City is requesting a crosswalk at their location. Mr. Correll noted that there is a municipal lot around the corner of this location so people are crossing the street midblock without a crosswalk. Mr. Standish noted that a midblock crossing must be a certain distance from corners. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, July 11, 2019**

**Grand Blvd.** Eileen Hughes at 69 Grand Blvd and Julie Keenan at 86 Grand Blvd. Ms. Hughes reported that there was an accident at her house last year. Julie stated that a vehicle crashed into her home very recently. There was also another accident within the past six months. They are requesting that a stop sign be posted at the intersection of Grand Blvd and Matthews because it seems to be in the middle of Grand Blvd. Mr. Correll reported that there were 3 accidents on Grand Blvd in the last 3 years. There was only one reported intersection accident. Mr. Scaringi reported that he lives at one property parcel away from the intersection. He noted that the vehicle that ended up in her front lawn jumped the lane and went up onto her property and her front steps. He has collected 156 signatures from residents that are requesting a stop sign be installed at this location. With 3 incidents in the past 8 months, he believes that this a very important speeding issue. There are a lot of elementary school students that walk on this street. Mr. Correll reported that speed control is not controlled by stop signs per federal regulations. It is controlled by police control. Mr. Kraham noted that they will look into other options to see what can be done to help the problem. They will get input from BMTS and Traffic for further review. Ms. Paddick noted that bike lanes slows down traffic so that is an option. The crosswalks can also be painted. Mr. Kraham stated that Traffic Board will provide a list of recommendations at the July meeting. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, July 11, 2019**

**Conklin Avenue** Ms. Cyndi Paddick of the Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study Group received a request from the South Side Neighborhood Assembly to do a road safety study on Conklin Avenue, near Benjamin Franklin School. The study was conducted on Conklin Avenue from Tompkins Street to Burr Avenue. Ms. Paddick presented her findings to the Chairman Jared Kraham and the Binghamton Traffic Board at its May 9, 2019 Meeting, as attached. Many of the suggestions presented are upgrades to existing regulations and postings, or subject to insertions of ADA compliance, and will be done in a timely manner. Mr. Kraham stated that moving forward all crosswalks will be ladder style instead of bars.

**Eldredge Street.** Mr. Taylor requested that a ladder crosswalk be installed at Eldredge and Emmet. Mr. Standish noted that handicapped ramps should be there if a ladder crosswalk is installed. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, July 11, 2019**

Motion to adjourn at 10:00 a.m.

Moved by: C. Taylor, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 3-0-2)**

Ayes J. Kraham, C. Taylor, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager, B. St. Clair